

Athletic Director: Jim Gerwitz

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Jim Gerwitz, former MAC baseball coach and current MAC criminal justice instructor, was named Mineral Area College's new athletic director on Sept. 13. He fills the vacancy left by Mike Overman, who recently joined St. Louis Community College as its athletic director.

Gerwitz has worked at the college since 1997, when he began working as part-time assistant baseball coach while he finished his bachelor's degree. He was head baseball coach from 2004-11, and has been a full-time criminal justice instructor since 1999.

"I'm really looking forward to carrying on the tradition of MAC athletics," he said. "You know, I've never worked anywhere else Mineral Area College gave me an opportunity 20 years ago with a full time job and I've been here ever since."

Gerwitz has an associate degree from MAC (1994-95), a bachelor's degree in criminal justice from Central Methodist University (College, at the time: 1999) and earned his master's degree in criminal justice administration from Lindenwood University (2013). He graduated from Hazelwood Central High School in 1993.

After graduating from Hazelwood Central High School in 1993, Gerwitz began his college playing career at East Central CC. He was an All-Conference and All-Region player as a catcher, and then transferred to Mineral Area College for the 1994-1995 season. He continued his All-Conference and All-Region statistics at MAC, but this time as a third baseman. After graduation, he transferred to the Southeast Missouri State University and had two more successful seasons playing under a former MAC player, Mark Hogan. Gerwitz played multiple positions at Southeast (First, Third, and Catcher).

Near the end of his senior season at Southeast, Gerwitz received a phone call to come back to MAC as an assistant coach. He finished his degree in Criminal Justice through Central Methodist College at MAC while fulfilling his coaching duties. Gerwitz was hired full-time in 1999 as a Criminal Justice Instructor and assistant coach. Gerwitz took over the head coaching job in 2004, and coached eight seasons as the Cards' skipper. Coach Gerwitz finished his best season with a record of 31 wins and only 18 losses. This was the first 30 win season since 1997. Coach Gerwitz was named MCCAC Coach of the Year in 2008.

He is a member of Missouri Community College Association, and Missouri State High School Activities Association (baseball umpire/basketball referee).

He and his wife, Dione, live in Farmington. They have three daughters: Chelsea, 26, Kaylee, 14, and Zoey, 12. They are members of St. Joseph Catholic Church in Farmington.