

Features

FOREIGN LANGUAGE ASSISTANTS

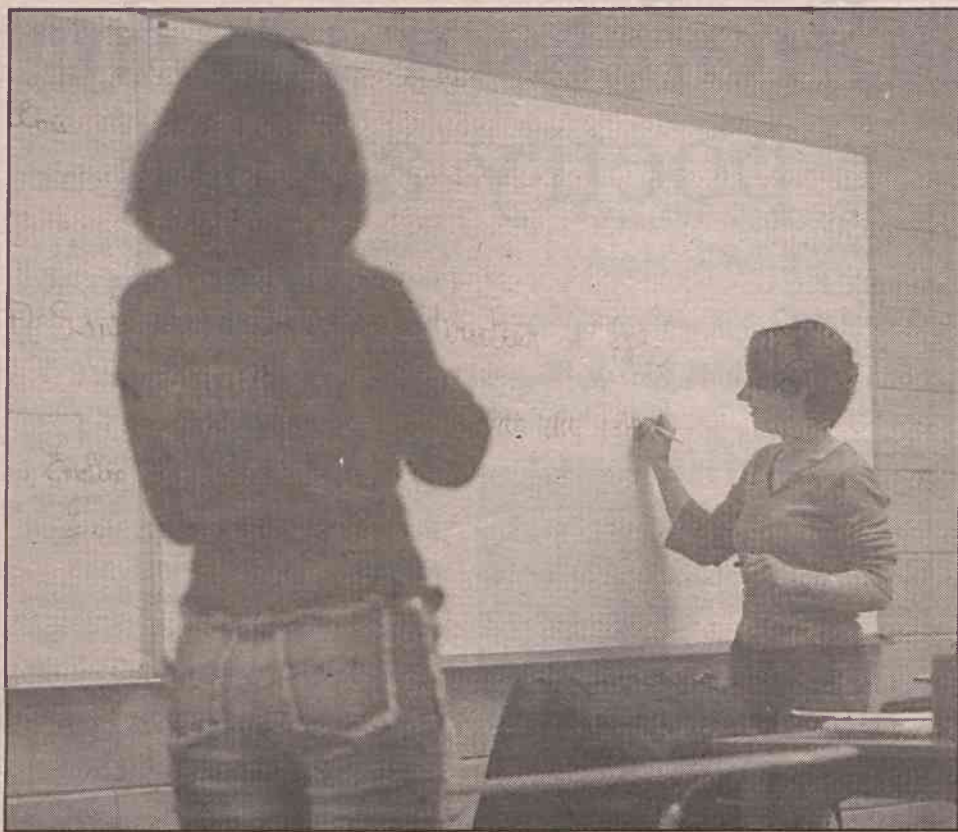


Photo by Stephanie Alexander

Teaching assistant Caroline Bonnassiolle instructs students in a French 101 Lab. Caroline is from Southwest Nay, France. Teaching assistants not only provide extra help during labs, but also create a type of cultural experience.

Adjusting to America

Brenda Goodbrad
Pilot staff

If you have not had the opportunity to meet the foreign language assistants for Spanish and French, you might want to seek them out.

Elizabeth Flores, Fabiola Flores and Vivian Dulcey are all instructors for Spanish labs at Gardner-Webb, while Caroline Bonnassiolle stands as the French lab instructor.

They arrived here in mid-August without knowing each other (except for Elizabeth and Fabi, who attended the same University in Puebla, Mexico). They immediately became friends as they tried to arrange their house and belongings together.

Since they all love to dance, they have cleared the front room of their house and made it into a dance floor. They have dance parties with their favorite music and invite the international students to come as well.

The girls are in their mid-twenties and were recommended by teachers of their universities and selected by the IIE (Institute of International Education) to come to the states.

Though Bonnassiolle had the opportunity to go home for Christmas, Elizabeth, Fabiola and Dulcey have not been home since August and will remain in the states until May. However, they are all enjoying their

time here and said that it has not been too hard to adjust.

The main thing they all agree is different here is the food. Bonnassiolle has had her first waffle since she has been here, and it is one of her new favorite foods. Fabiola says she loves barbecue and mashed potatoes with gravy.

Elizabeth and Fabiola came from a very large city and agree that the change was a challenge to move to the small town of Boiling Springs.

"It is like I am on vacation... in a beautiful house surrounded by trees, in nature, with almost no one around," says Fabi.

Elizabeth agrees that "people are very private" here not like the "touchy and talkative people" back home.

Bonnassiolle comes from a small town with a population of only 4,000 and is used to the slower pace of life.

Bonnassiolle began learning English at age 11 and has taught children English as young as two or three. She now has seven hours a week of labs here at Gardner-Webb and enjoys teaching college students as well.

Fabiola said what she enjoys most is "when people see me and talk to me in Spanish, and when they are interested in learning words so that they can talk to me."

GETTING INVOLVED WITH INTRAMURALS



Photo by Christina O Grady

Josh Parrott, senior, dribbles past Robbie Clark, freshman, at a recent basketball intramural game.

Skiing, frisbee offered

Erin Aldridge
Pilot staff

Have you ever, at some point in time, wondered what in the world the deal is with those guys on campus walking around in Swolliosis shirts? What about those Caucasian Invasion people? The Rough Riders?

Well, these interesting names, along with many others, are actually claimed by intramural sports teams here at Gardner-Webb University.

Perhaps you have seen the shirts and heard about the games and wondered how to get involved with intramurals here on campus, and exactly what all sports there are to participate in.

Intramurals Director Will Buchanan says that it is actually very simple to become involved in intramurals.

"Watch out for sign-up dates for the sport you want to participate in," said Buchanan. "Then come by the Student Activities Suite to sign up."

Buchanan advises that you have an idea of what team you wish to play on, or that you have a team formed. "Talk to some friends, get together, and form or find a team," said Buchanan.

Sports to get involved in range from snow skiing, to flag football, to Frisbee golf. They are organized according to season.

"If there is enough interest to create a new intramural sport, it can be done,"

said Student Activities Director Karissa Weir.

Intramurals actually play a big part in student involvement at Gardner-Webb. Many students have had very positive experiences with intramurals.

Senior Kyle "Smiley" Robinson, who has played in 5 on 5 basketball all four years at GWU, said, "Intramurals are a good way to spend quality time with friends and get to know people."

Sophomore Jeff Davis also spoke fondly of intramurals while discussing the recent intramural ski trip to Beach Mountain.

"GWU paid for the lift tickets, so all we had to do was bring our own equipment or pay for rentals," said Davis. "I really enjoyed the opportunity to ski free and ski with a big group of Gardner-Webb friends."

Even if playing an actual intramural sport does not interest you, there are still other ways to get involved in intramurals. All teams need coaches, referees (or umpires) and scorekeepers.

Senior Justin Alston says that he has really enjoyed being a coach for intramurals. "There is a pretty care-free atmosphere, and everyone tries to be fair and enjoy themselves," said Alston.

Most importantly, all teams need fans to come out to support and cheer them on.

If you have any questions about getting involved in intramurals, contact Buchanan in the Suttle Wellness Center at ext. 3552.