

British instructors experience life in United States

by Hafidha Acuay
Staff Writer

The Fulbright Teacher Exchange Program has made it possible for three Clackamas instructors to switch jobs and homes with three British instructors for one year.

The three British teachers, who arrived in August, are Alan Sargeant and Rob Woodford, from Sheffield College, and Pat Tamblyn from the Colchester Institute.

Sargeant is here with his wife, Lynn, and their 12- and 10-year-old sons, Richard and David. He exchanged jobs with Karen Stone, director of employment and management development. He and his family are living in Stone's Portland home.

When asked how his job here, which involves developing and teaching employee training courses, was different from the one he'd held at Sheffield, he responded quickly.

In England, he said, his job was not so well-developed. He was pleased that CCC has invested people into his line of work, which is not the case with Sheffield.

"This is a valuable area of work for a college to do. In England we haven't yet grasped the idea that what we have to do in colleges is face the market," he said.

Sargeant wasn't the only exchange teacher who spoke highly of his employment in the U.S.

Tamblyn, 50, has switched jobs with Nancy Mickleton. She is living in Mickleton's Oregon City home and is enjoying her work as a physical education and health instructor.

"Most of the work I'm doing in England is so students can take the examination later," she said. "It's all geared toward helping people toward a career. Students here are mainly taking a recreational course to improve health (and personal fitness)."

Because of finances, the schools in England do not pay for non-examinable courses. Tamblyn only had students that were interested in, or headed for, a career in physical education.

She also notes, "There's less paperwork here." The work that the counselors do here, the instructors must do in England, in addition to their teaching duties.

Woodford also found this to be the case. He is here with his wife, Jane, and their two sons, Tom and Harry. They are living in the Gladstone home of Jan Anderson, whom Woodford exchanged jobs with.

When asked to compare Clackamas to Sheffield, "It's bigger," was the first thing he said. "It has much better resources," was the second. He also commented on the higher quality of the buildings, but said there was less interaction between teachers.

In England, people graduate from lower school at the age of 16. Many of them attend college, which is free, where they may engage in a vocational program or work toward getting



Photo by Anjanette Booth

Alan Sargeant is here from Sheffield College. He is the director of employment and management development, which involves developing and teaching employee training courses.



Photo by Anjanette Booth

Rob Woodford, like Alan Sargeant, is from Sheffield College. He took over the job of Jan Anderson, who was an English Instructor here last year.

degrees in even higher education. He may have the same students in his classes for two years, rather than just 10 weeks. Here, there is a wider range of students, he says. In England, "the students are younger, like high school (age)."

Are you wondering why the three teachers wanted to come to the U. S. in the first place?

Sargeant gave three reasons: "First I just wanted to visit the States again," he said. When he was 18 years old, he had been an exchange student and lived in Los Angeles with a host family. Sargeant had heard nice things about CCC and knew the connection between Sheffield and Clackamas were strong. "Clackamas seemed a good place to get an exchange," he said. What was the third contributing factor? "My wife and two children were keen on coming."

Tamblyn had also visited America before. She came here 10 years ago and liked it. When she was faced with the option of living here for a year, she did.

"I felt I needed a change," Tamblyn said. She thought this was a good way to experience a change without completely altering her life.

Woodford's response was similar. "I wanted a different experience; where things aren't the same," he said. He'd also

wanted to see what the U.S. was like. "I hear a lot about it in the newspapers, and I wanted to see for myself," he said. He is also good friends with Norm Berney and Bill Symes, two Clackamas faculty members he met in England when they participated in the Fulbright Teacher Exchange Program.

Was life in the U.S., Oregon, and the Portland area like you expected, and what do you think of it now, were questions put to all three of the in-

structors.

Sargeant responded with an emphatic no! "I thought I knew what to expect." He found the high summer temperatures to be "uncomfortable." In Sheffield, it's not usually hot for a sustained period of time. "Other than that, I was pretty much expecting the kind of countryside and general appearance to be the way I found it," he explained.

He read up on and saw pictures of Oregon and the Portland area before he came. "It's just as beautiful as I thought it would be," he said.

"I didn't know what to expect, really," was Tamblyn's answer. She found getting around on her own difficult during her early days here, which she described as "frightening." It seemed like people were giving me directions in a different language, she said. "The whole thing was overwhelming."

Fortunately, things have changed for the better. She credited the International Education Committee at CCC for having helped a lot. "Their support has made a tremendous difference," she said.

"Yes and no," was Woodford's reply. One thing he and his family found very different were the many lights and bright signs on major streets in town, such as McLoughlin Boulevard. But he is enjoying himself here and calls the environment "quite good."

Other differences he found were that "the pace is quicker here, parental involvement is higher" and he said the cost of living is lower in the U.S. In England, a gallon of gas would cost about \$3.50.

All three have realized what the Pacific Northwest has to offer, and have traveled. They've visited the coast, central Oregon, Mt. St. Helens and California, where Sargeant took his family to visit the home he lived in as an exchange student more than 20 years ago.

It is interesting to ask people from another country for their thoughts concerning the recent presidential campaign and election. They gave some interesting replies.

Sargeant was to the point. "Too long, too glitzy, and a wonderful result. I don't think I

can say anymore than that," he said.

"A lot of the build-up was similar" to the one in England for general elections, Tamblyn said.

"I didn't care much for it," was Woodford's answer. He was adamant in his dislike of the personal attacks directed toward the candidates. "The big difference between England and the U.S. is you don't have a royal family," he said. Woodford thinks the U.S. press and public have an "unhealthy interest" in the lives of lawmakers. "Let the politicians be politicians," he concluded.

All three instructors will be returning to England in August. Will they be back?

"I'd like to someday," Woodford said.

"I hope so," Tamblyn said. "Up until a few weeks ago, I didn't want to go back. I love the lifestyle here."

"I'm certain I will be back, perhaps sooner than some people would like," was Sargeant's response. "I have no doubt that I will be back. This exchange shouldn't be a one-year program." Sargeant strongly believes the program can serve as a "long-term connection" between CCC and Sheffield.

This is exactly the sort of attitude that Glenn Ferris and Charles Raisner hope to promote here at CCC. So far they have been extremely successful.

Raisner is from the United States Information Agency (USIA), which sponsors the Fulbright programs and says, "The interest in international exchanges is very high at Clackamas. We hope to encourage that kind of interest in other community colleges."

He says CCC is the only school in the country hosting three exchange teachers at once.

Ferris, who is chairman of the college's International Education Committee, says Clackamas has also formed connections with Silpakorn University in Bangkok and is working with colleges in Mexico and Ecuador. According to Ferris, the goal of the sister college relationships is to foster understanding of foreign cultures through exchanges and visits between students and staff.

Portland Saturday Market prepares for twentieth season

by Heidi Branstator
Feature Editor

Portland Saturday Market, the largest open-air crafts market in continuous operation in the United States, will begin its 20th season, March 6.

Regardless of the weather, 269 vendors set up booths around the Skidmore Fountain and under the Burnside Bridge every weekend, March through Christmas. The market has only closed twice since 1974: once for a blizzard and once for a volcanic eruption.

Approximately 750,000 people visit the market annually. Throughout the year, there are approximately 800 artists and small-business owners selling hand-made arts and crafts from their moveable storefronts, 26 food booths and space for a variety of entertainers, ranging from jugglers to musicians, who perform for applause and tips.

During March, anyone who makes a purchase at the market will receive a ticket for a free ride on the Vintage Trolley (\$1 value).

The market's 20th season theme coincides with the na-

tionally proclaimed "Year of the American Craft: A Celebration of the Creative Work of the Hand."

The Saturday Market is open Saturdays 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sundays 11 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Portland's MAX line can be ridden free from downtown's Fareless Square to the Skidmore Fountain Station. Parking validation in the Old Town Garage (S.W. Front and Davis) will be given with a minimum \$15 purchase.