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An Introduction to  
My Work



by  
Simone Buob

Hello, my name is Simone Buob. I would like to introduce myself to you and tell you about my work at GPTS. I was born and raised in the German speaking part of Switzerland and lived there pretty much all my life.

The question that I am asked the most is, “Why did you come to Greenville, SC?” To answer that question, I need to reach a little bit further back in time. I attended a teacher’s training college in Switzerland. The training lasted six years. The fifth year was set aside for different internships. My fourth internship brought me, in the spring of 2001, to a sheep and pig farm near Christchurch, New Zealand. The farmers there, Paul and Sally Davey, were used by God to introduce me to his mighty word. After having spent 3 months with daily Bible readings and long evening discussions, it was hard to return to a country like Switzerland, which is completely deserted when it comes to the Reformed Faith. Presbyterian churches are unknown; Zwingli and Calvin have been forgotten.

Paul and Sally, knowing of my struggles within this Non-Christian society, contacted Dr. Joseph Pipa, who is a good friend of theirs. The result was an invitation to come to Greenville Seminary, to learn more about our Savior Jesus Christ. By that time I had started to work in a public primary school in Switzerland. I loved my job and I must confess that the thought of going to “some kind of a theological seminary” seemed rather strange. I was convinced that I would never go to Greenville, but God taught me that our lives do not rest in our hands and that we



**As we approach the end of our fiscal year we are in need of extra General Fund donations to finish out the year. Many have already responded to our appeal but we need to raise an additional \$238,292 to reach our year-end goals. This amount will enable us to pay back to our General Fund money that was used to pay for Capital Campaign expenses and also sustain us through the summer months when donations generally decrease. Please prayerfully consider whether or not you are able to help us out at this time. Checks can be sent to GPTS, PO Box 690, Taylors, SC 29687. If you would prefer to give by credit card or have any questions please contact Brenda Benson at [bbenson@gpts.edu](mailto:bbenson@gpts.edu) or (864) 322-2717, ext. 318.**



In the month of May we received donations totaling \$35,550. The contributions were \$14,483 under budget. Donations for the first eleven

do not live for our own pleasure, but for God's glory alone. By His mercy, God brought me to such despair that I quit my job, packed my suitcase, and got on a plane to Greenville, determined to learn more about God and his word.

Even though I had left Switzerland to come to Greenville, I planned to attend only one year of study, from August 2006 – to August 2007. I intended then to return to Switzerland and get back into teaching. However, God, once again, taught me that this was not His plan. From my very first day in Greenville I was eager to explore the world of theological studies. I wanted to learn more, and to understand better. The more I understood, the more I wanted to serve and honor Him. My American roommates alone know how frustrated I was trying to understand a text written by Dabney or Van Til with my limited English. However, the professors were kind and willing to help me in whatever regard they could. People urged me to consider an M.A. degree at the seminary, to stay in Greenville rather than returning to my home country.

Developing a love for mission work and realizing, how much I could serve and honor God by entering a mission field as a Christian primary school teacher, I decided to pursue the M.A. degree. Not because it is required for possible work in a mission field, but, much more, because I realized how little I know and how much more there is to learn. I still needed to support myself while living in the United States. Dr. Pipa offered me the work as receptionist at GPTS,. A job I can perform while pursuing my studies. This made my return possible.

In both work and study, I rejoice! As a receptionist, my main job is to guard the phone – my main, but not my only task. Whether it is helping with the registration during The Spring Theology Conference, organizing plane tickets, working on power point presentations, or distributing mail, I enjoy it all. God has blessed me abundantly in so many ways. And He has blessed the Seminary beyond measure with wonderful friends and supporters. Thanks to you all for your help!

months of the fiscal year are \$528,682. Contributions for the year are \$37,201 more than this time last year. Donations so far this fiscal year are currently under budget by approximately \$13,985, and our general expenses are \$38,258 over budget.

Income for the Capital Funds Campaign has reached \$1,928,067 and we anticipate another \$1,050,192 in outstanding pledges. As mentioned in previous months, due to inflation and the interest on our loan, we need to raise an additional \$500,000 in new pledges to complete the objectives of the Campaign.



So whenever you call the seminary and get to hear that strange sounding accent on the other side of the line, you now know how it came about that a Swiss ended up at the receptionist desk of GPTS.

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