

ogy classes, but is not interested in nursing. She is leaning toward something in dentistry, but has not ruled out working in some capacity with international students.

Foushee has been married for three years to Lexington native Lovell Foushee, whom she met in Belarus. He was doing mission work for Crusades for Christ, and she was an active volunteer.

Vera Foushee said, "Students, all students, can come (in) anytime and I will try to answer any questions they may have."

Wendell Sparks

international students and scholars services coordinator



Entering Wendell Sparks' cubicle is like entering a small personal museum. It is hard not to notice

the beautiful and diverse collections of pictures, dolls, puppets, screens, gourds, bowls and the like that encompass much of his tiny space. International students whom he has helped have given him mementos from their home countries which he proudly displays.

Sparks has two master's degrees—one in international management, and the other in international administration. BCTC students interested in becoming international students as well as faculty thinking a year in a different country teaching would look good on their resumes, should go to Wendell Sparks to get the paperwork started. He can explain what an I-20 is and the difference between that and a J-1. These are forms that international students (I-20), and international teachers (J-1) are familiar with

and are necessary for anyone wishing to become international students and or teachers.

If there are problems with these forms, or the filling out of these forms, he can help.

International students have also relied on his expertise to help with their concerns and problems with the Social Security Office. If anyone needs to know the rules and regulations, or information about how or keep their student status or clarification on communication received from the government, he is indeed the go-to guy.

"I have always been interested in international cultures," Sparks said. He has worked with the exchange student program, arranging the exchanges as well as serving as host family to students.

Sparks was raised in Northeastern Kentucky. His parents still live there, and he travels home often. He is divorced and has no children. He said he speaks, "English, Spanish and Hillbilly."

He has worked in Arizona, Florida and western Kentucky and has lived for five years in Hawaii. He joined the BCTC staff three years ago.

Sparks enjoys going to multicultural events, particularly retreats. He has attended retreats in Blue Lick, Kentucky, and before that at Mammoth Cave. These retreats have a local flavor. For a more worldly exposure, there have been workshops dealing with plane hijacking and terrorist attacks, and a trip to Newport Aquarium to give participants an underwater sea experience.

BCTC students and staff who would like information about spending a year or even a semester in another country for college credit can pick up catalogs from Sparks, who will answer any questions they might have.

Sparks pointed out that, "International Education Week is the week of November 18. All students and faculty are invited to come see, enjoy and learn."

The location of the exhibits will be announced at a later date.

James Chambers

diversity outreach coordinator



James Chambers, Diversity Outreach Coordinator, is a graduate of Eastern Kentucky University and is

currently working on his master's degree in sports administration. He worked for three years at the Martin Luther King Alternative School in Lexington. He has been on staff at BCTC since January.

Chambers is well traveled. He hails from Shelbyville, Kentucky, attended Henry Clay Senior High, where in his senior year he played basketball. He then went to EKU on a basketball scholarship. The next stop was France. He lived in France for 18 years, 15 of those years were spent playing basketball. While in France, he met and married a North African woman, who is now a teacher in Lexington. They have two sons, ages 19 and 4.

Chambers believes "physical fitness and education go hand in hand." He has started soccer and basketball intramural teams at BCTC. He plans to add volleyball, table tennis, and maybe softball in the near future.

The Cooper campus teams are slated to compete against the Leestown campus teams; the plan is to eventually have teams at each BCTC campus playing against each other. Teams are open to men and women.

As diversity outreach coordinator, Chambers is not limited to sports projects.

One of his pet projects is a tier-based mentoring program entitled 100 BMW (Black Men Working). The program starts with 25 BMW, that is black men with jobs, who mentor to 25 college men, who

mentor to 25 high-school students, who mentor to 25 middle-school youth. These men come from all walks of life and many different professions, including athletes, doctors, maintenance, accountants, professors, mechanics and lawyers. Of 100 BMW, Chamber says, "Its aim is to teach young men responsibility and to let them know that a successful man can obtain a two-year degree or attend trade school. Not everyone is four-year degree material, but that does not mean give up. There are more options than the streets."

Students and faculty who are interested in the sports programs, 100 BMW or who would like to help should contact James Chambers at the Multicultural Affairs office, Room 211 of the Oswald Building.

Erin Howard

hispanic outreach coordinator



Erin Howard, Hispanic outreach coordinator, describes herself as a highly motivated, creative young professional. She is articulate in English and Spanish, as well as functional in Portuguese. She left out that she is also very busy.

In addition to her job at BCTC, she serves as a community liaison for the college and the Hispanic community. She also publishes a biannual bilingual newsletter about educational issues that affect Hispanics. She is working with the Cardinal Valley Center and other community members to bring basic Spanish literacy programs and Adult Education programs.

Howard serves on various community and college committees: Mayor's Hispanic Task Force, Agency for Substance Abuse Policy, ESL Action Team, Advocate for Educational rights

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