

THANK YOU kindly for the warm welcome to OLM. Each day I arrived at school this week, a minimum of five people greeted me with open arms. You all are an incredible group of people. I am lucky to be a part of this community.

Secondly, I would like to let you know what my role is at OLM. I have been hired to be the Senior Thesis Coordinator and the MAP Testing Coordinator--both areas of academic interest with which I am very excited to work. Beth Freire, et. al. have done an incredible job of setting up a very unique, challenging, and reputable program in the senior thesis. OLM graduates are certainly entering universities with an edge on their colleagues. You can be proud of this work. It is not my aim to make major

changes to this program. With my expertise in English, it is my aim to work beside you all and continue to further develop the program.



I have a Bachelor's degree in English, with a communications minor and a Master's degree in Education--Literacy and Learning. I was a classroom

teacher and literacy coach for 11 years in public schools in the states of Texas and Minnesota and have spent the last 5 years at the American School here in Rio as the 8th grade English teacher and more recently as the trainer of teachers on strategies for differentiation in the classroom and increasing student literacy skills.

I started working, this week, with LS teachers and Ms. Barrie Pinto to determine my duties regarding MAP testing. It was a joy to sit in on the 5th grade classes and feel the energy of OLM students.

Sara Wicht

Editor's note: Ms. Wicht is at OLM all day Mondays and Wednesdays and after lunch Tuesdays and Thursdays. You can find her in the Math/Science office on the fifth floor.

Mr. Carlos Henrique Reif de Paula is our new 6th and 7th grade Science teacher. He was born in Rio de Janeiro and has always lived here in the city that he loves. He graduated in Biology from *Universidade Santa Úrsula* and got his Master's degree in Botany from UFRJ.

Professionally he also does some research on plant taxonomy and is a consultant for environmental impact assessments.

His favorite activities, besides working, are swimming for Fluminense F. C. and hiking whenever he can. He very much believes in education and a better relationship of mankind with nature as essential for a better world.

Editor's note: You can find him at OLM everyday all day.

