



## Post Fellowship Reporting - Project Summary

**Report Title:** A DREAM, A PROPOSAL, A REALITY: SPEAK FRENCH  
**Name:** Lily Graff

**Other Team Members:**

**Program:** Greater Houston Area Program

**Trip Dates:** 07/07/2012 - 07/27/2012  
**Location Visited:** Annecy, France

**Post Fellowship Reporting Template:** PFR Template 0

**Project Summary:** Last Fall I started to write a nine page proposal to "Fund for Teachers" in an effort to maybe make reality a dream that for long I had envision: to travel to France and take up an intensive course in French and to really have the opportunity to immerse myself in day to day living situations. At the same time I also would learn more about the French culture, perfect my language skills and learn more about French youth. I chose CILFA to do this because I had received very good reviews about its program and because it is linked with the University of Savoy (Institut Savoisien D'etudes du Francais pour Etrangers, ISEFE) located in a small town in the French Alps. For the last fifteen years as a foreign language teacher, I have strived to empower my students with knowledge, not only of the language but also of the culture that comes with the study of French, Spanish and ESOL. I have seen the faces of my students illuminate as they truly try to learn to speak these languages and how they become interested more and more in the countries, the people and the culture of the languages they are taking. On July 7th, I travelled to France and the opportunity of having three weeks of intensive course and cultural visits has allowed me to be a catalyst within my school. But who will benefit the most will be my students. The enthusiasm and love that I already have for French has grown and as I pass this to my students, I too, like my third grade teacher, will make a difference in the way my students see the Francophone world.

**Career Impact:** \* Allowed me to experience in person living in a town in France and dealing with day to day situations in French.

\* Perfected my knowledge of the French language as I attended an intensive daily course in French at the University of Savoie, CILFA.

\* Allowed me to bring back more meaningful and interesting lesson plans to my students as I have been able to acquire and experience direct contact with all the culture, language and people.

\* Has furthered my passion to continue to experience more French culture, hopefully in an other area of France as I become more bilingual in the language.

**Classroom/Community Impact:**\* Students are viewing and following the blog I have created to follow my progress in Annecy, France.

\* Students are gaining more knowledge from my experience in France as they receive direct instruction.

\* Students are receiving a better understanding of the culture as I share my photos, souvenirs and stories from my study in France.

\* My colleagues are also gaining from my experience as I share with them my results and prepare lessons with the other French teacher.

\* I have shared my blog with the school and the principals as a way to create interest and be able to have students become excited about French.

**Open Response:** \* Students are preparing letters of presentation of themselves and their school in French to send to CILFA.

\*I plan to include in my lessons all the knowledge and experience about living in France. Subject that will be included are: shopping at the supermarket and a open market, giving and taking directions, eating out and foods, going out with friends, and also historical facts about the country and region that I have been living in for the three weeks.

\* I will continue to share with my students information about France through the access of literature and newspapers, photos, and the continuation of my blog.

**Quote:** Knowledge of a foreign language is the gate to success and an open mind!

Photos:



Standing in front of my cottage, near the school of CILFA, Annecy Le Vieux



Eating a typical French Alps meal with other students from the University.



The castle in Annecy, Haute Savoie, France



Market day in Annecy: Cheese is the star: inexpensive and delicious!



A "boulangerie" and "patisserie" Bread and pastries are always present!!



In class at CILFA with my fellow classmates. Our teacher was great!



French Alps, Plateau of Glieres: History and culture come together here.



A French Pique Nique ( picnic) Our class experiencing typical products.