

## **Paula Wilder** **Director of International Programs**

Paula Wilder is the Director of International Programs at Greensboro College. A graduate of the MA in TESOL (Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages) program at GC, Wilder began teaching in the program and working as a tutor in 2014. As a member of the Alumni Board, she continually had an active role on campus as a volunteer, tutor, and adjunct instructor.

In 2023, the opportunity to work full-time at the college came as director of international programs. "I love GC, and it is within walking distance of my home, so it seemed like an easy decision," she remembers, and she assumed the role in January of 2024.

"Sometimes there are challenges, especially when I am leading in regions that are still male dominated, but these experiences create opportunities for me to model resilience and to be able to advocate for inclusivity at all levels."

**Paula Wilder**  
**GC Director of**  
**International Programs**



Wilder began working with international students more than 15 years ago and says she has always enjoyed learning more about students' home countries from their perspectives. "I love their overall passion for their education and dedication to completing their studies. I love listening to their stories of home, traditions, and family. I feel so lucky to be in a position that I can be part of their journey and be a part of helping them meet their goals."

"As a woman working in the international field, I believe that gives me special insights in how to foster relationships and make people feel comfortable within a variety of cultures. I don't believe that I am automatically better at my job just

because I am a woman. However, I believe that part of who I am - my personality, my disposition, and my basic core, has been shaped in a certain way because I am a woman. My role demands that I foster collaborations between international partners, faculty, staff, and students. Therefore, I need to listen and empathize as I navigate, at times, complex cultural dynamics. Sometimes there are challenges, especially when I am leading in regions that are still male dominated, but these experiences create opportunities for me to model resilience and to be able to advocate for inclusivity at all levels. I believe that having diverse leadership - in my case as a woman - enhances global education because through these different perspectives we are able to represent a variety of people and different cultures."