

## TEACHER FEATURE

By Emily Babb

Dr. Whitbeck is one of GSSM's great physics teachers. His father is a physical chemist, so when Whitbeck decided that he didn't like physics, his dad convinced him to give it another try. Whitbeck took AP Physics in high school, but found that he liked it in college with the more challenging courses. Initially, he intended on majoring in math, but unable to decide, Whitbeck double majored in math and physics. When applying to graduate schools, Whitbeck had to choose between the two subjects, and he chose physics. He found physics to be more engaging, as it explains the reasoning behind nature's phenomena.

Outside of the classroom, Whitbeck enjoys origami. He has taught this interim class for two years, and designs some of his own origami models, the most complex of which includes a deer with antlers. He also enjoys hiking with his dog. Whitbeck has found time management to be the most difficult part of teaching. It can be difficult to balance preparing for lectures, grading, and helping students, especially here with dozens of students living on campus. He has had to learn how to slow down and enjoy life, not allowing the school to burn him out. Having felt the effects of feeling burnt out, Whitbeck would encourage seniors to enjoy the rest of their time at GSSM. Moreover, stop counting the days, he says, as waiting for a change creates anxiety. To the juniors, he would suggest taking fewer classes in the subjects of high interest. Also, he would suggest finding something outside of class that they enjoy, as there is more to life than class. Though this school is hard work, Whitbeck enjoys the liveliness of the school. He cites that there are always students studying and joking throughout the school. This is true in both the academic year and the summer, as the school hosts several summer camps. GSSM is lucky to have Dr. Whitbeck, as he makes a fantastic addition to the physics department.



Top: Dr. Whitbeck. Bottom: Career Day.

## CAREER DAY 2015

By Jacqueline Tobin

On April 11th, the GSSM Foundation hosted Career Day for the junior class. The event began with a Q-and-A session between the students and four graduates from the Class of 2014. Justin Abbasi, Cormac Kelly, Patrick Gorospe, and Alexis Meyers gave current students advice on how to choose a college, the transition between GSSM and college, and their favorite memories of GSSM.

The juniors then broke up into smaller sessions led by graduates ranging from the Class of 1991 to the Class of 2006. Students were able to attend informative sessions on possible careers in education, military, engineering, legal, medical, business/technology, and biology/science. The day gave students an insight into post-GSSM life and the possibilities for their careers. Grace Brueggman attended the Medical session and found it to be extremely informative—Dr. Ty Coleman, an Allergist, gave an overview of the medical school experience. In the Engineering Session, Mrs. Jennifer Gissendanner, a civil engineer with SCANA, opened the floor entirely to questions and showed pictures of her gas line projects throughout SC. Further, the five attorneys present discussed a wide range of careers available for law school graduates.

# GOVIE GAZETTE



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## SCJAS 2015—FURMAN UNIVERSITY



Left: Logan Robinson in his presentation room. Middle: Dr. Walker speaking to faculty from other schools. Right: Zachary Berry and Dixie McCollum, pictured in front of Furman University's picturesque lake and Bell Tower.

By Crystel Sylvester

On April 11th, seniors rose bright and early to travel to Furman University for the annual South Carolina Junior Academy of Science meeting to present their summer research. Students competed in both the oral and written categories, submitting their papers prior to the competition and presenting at the competition. SCJAS is split into two broad categories, mentored and unmentored, and then further split by subject matter, such as Consumer Affairs, Math & Computer Science, Environmental Science, etc. After presenting, students were free to see other presentations or to participate in the other activities prepared by SCJAS, such as a planetarium show, a tour of Furman's science departments, and a "Journey to the Center of the Atom."

Seniors brought home many awards, storming each category in both the written and the oral components. In Engineering, Katie Duchinski took home 1st place for oral and 2nd place for written, and Cameron Maes took 3rd place for oral. In Mathematics & Computer Science, Aida El Kouri took two prizes, 2nd for oral and 1st for written, and Zach Wyman won 1st place for oral. Alexia Junker won 1st place for her oral presentation in Psychology. In Chemistry, Anya Bali scored

2nd place for her oral presentation and Zac Scott and Hansen Mou took 1st and 2nd place, respectively, for their essays. Katie Kraichely took two prizes in Environmental Science: 1st place for oral and 2nd for written. Also in Environmental Science, Emily Navin won 1st place for her essay. Even though we're a school for math and science, GSSM students did excellently in the Consumer Affairs category—Joshua Bingham took 1st place for his oral presentation, and Sydney White and ChaCha Amphan took 1st and 2nd place, respectively, for their essays. In Zoology, Leslie Galvez took 1st place for her oral presentation. In Cell & Molecular Biology, Sydney Hart won second place for her oral presentation, and Katherine Bishara won 1st place for her essay. In Botany, Charles Chase Ison won two prizes: 2nd place for oral and 1st place for written. Also in Botany, Olivia Smithson won 1st place for her oral presentation. Taylor DeHart took 1st place in Microbiology for both the written and oral events. Finally, in Physiology & Health, Ramsey Coyle won 2nd place for her oral presentation and Troy Hodge won 1st place for his essay. Congratulations to all the winners, and juniors, good luck at Winthrop next year!

# HUMANS OF GSSM

By Selen Berkman

“What have you learned since coming to the Governor’s School?”

“Sometimes, you have to let it go.”

- Valerie Hinsch



## PROM 2015 ADVICE

By Kylie Fletcher

Q: Since prom is coming up soon, what are some good places to take pictures and go eat?

A: If you would like to stay in Hartsville for prom night, Bizzel’s and Bow Thai are both within walking distance and are great places to eat! Shug’s Smokehouse is also located in Hartsville, but is not within walking distance. You can take pictures at Kalmia Gardens or Prestwood Lake. Also, Laurel Oak Street is a popular destination for prom pictures. In Florence, there are many more options for dinner. Examples include Percy and Willie’s, Fatz, Red Lobster, Olive Garden, Stefano’s Pizza, LongHorn SteakHouse, Miyami Japanese Steakhouse, and Red Bowl Bistro, among many other restaurants.

## TRACK UPDATE

By Jacqueline Tobin

On March 26th, the GSSM track team competed against Darlington, Lamar, Lakewood, Timmonsville, and Marlboro High Schools. Outstanding Individual Placements included:

Coby Jeffcoat--6th mens’ discus throw  
Jack Collins--2nd 3200M, 5th 1600M  
Johnny Peterson--3rd 3200M, 4th 1600M  
Nicole Johnson--3rd girls’ 3200  
Danni Arega—1st 800M  
Risden Altman—12th 800M  
Crystal Carpenter—3rd 800M  
Rae Lee—12th 400M  
Grace Brueggman—13th 100M

The team traveled to Darlington High School for a dual meet on April 7th, and Lamar High School on April 9th. Most team members are first year track runners but have shown great potential. Coach Gary Dent hopes for a few of the more experienced runners to advance to the state competition based on individual times. The team will also begin to compete in the pole vaulting event now that poles have been purchased by the athletic department.

## HOROSCOPES

By TK Cornish

*Aries* There seems to be love in the air for you. Don’t just shy away from it because it is the end of the year. Who knows? This could be your soulmate I’m taking about.

*Taurus* I hope you are ready for the money that may be coming your way. With graduation and the summer just around the corner, that money could be useful.

*Gemini* I see some last minute scholarship money heading your way. For juniors, success in the college search is near.

*Cancer* I know it may feel like you haven’t had much say in what you can do, but try to have fun through it all, because the end of this year is approaching very quickly.

*Leo* You have probably had a lot of good luck this year with love and relationships, but don’t be surprised to see that come to an end. However, when times get tough, try to stay positive.

*Virgo* You may feel like you are in a place where people don’t understand your situation, but that is not the case. Take the time to really get to know your classmates in the last few weeks.

*Libra* Have you been feeling distance in your relationships? Yes? Well, that will soon end. The attachment you once had with your friends will soon become stronger.

*Scorpio* Things will soon become pretty straight forward and very black and white, so don’t try and complicate everything in your life.

*Sagittarius* Try not to get too crazy in these last few months of school. No matter how much you fun you feel like it will be, remember to maintain your cool.

*Capricorn* Take this time at the end of the year to stop stressing. Having fun is the best way to end the year, so come out of your room and go out with your friends before it’s too late.

*Aquarius* You have positivity coming your way, but don’t let that positivity get to your head. If you remain levelheaded, the end of the school year will be a smooth ride.

*Pisces* Communication issues may be somewhat of a problem for you, but don’t let this get to you. Just take life one day at a time. Your communication issues will resolve themselves on their own.

## QUOTE OF THE MONTH

By Palak Trivedi

*“There is no medicine like hope, no incentive so great, and no tonic so powerful as expectation of something tomorrow.”*

*-Orison Swett Marden*

This quote is brought to you from Dr. Orison Swett Marden who was an American author who wrote inspirational works on success in life and how to achieve it. I wanted to include this quote because we are almost at the end of the year. Seniors, your time at this school is almost to an end. Juniors, we have just a couple months left until we are the leaders that will be setting an example for the incoming juniors next year. It’s a stressful and emotional time, but we all know that things are going to come together. I heard from many seniors that they finally feel things coming together with their incoming acceptance letters and the process of choosing their college to attend. Seniors, we have much hope for you. Your future is filled with success. Juniors, we still have some time, but I think that we have received much hope from watching our seniors grow and become future college students. Hang in there, guys. It may be tough right now, but keep looking forward and know that we are all headed for a bright future.



Right: Dr. Orison Swett Marden, b. 1850 and d. 1924.