

# GOVIE GAZETTE



VOLUME III ISSUE V

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# Colloquium

Left: Dr. John Morse and his wife Right: Senior Zachary Berry presents the research that he conducted in cancer biology

by **Jacqueline Tobin**

Colloquium, which took place on January 31st, 2015, was an overwhelming success. The GSSM Class of '15 presented their research from the Summer Program for Research Interns, which they conducted during the summer of 2014. Colloquium was the culmination of all their hard work: performing six weeks of full-time research in a lab, writing a scientific paper showing the results of their work, and preparing a ten minute presentation.

Many seniors' research had even further accomplishments.

Leslie Galvez, who did her research at Clemson University, presented her research at the SC Entomological Society meeting in October and won the "Best High School Research" award for her presentation. Jay Sridharan became a co-author on a publication accepted into the AIP Advances in 2014. Taylor Buckner, Jessica Collins, and Elizabeth Mugo will also be co-authors on papers that will be submitted for publication in 2015. Meanwhile, Jack Runge, who conducted research at the University of South Carolina, was named a semi-finalist in the 2015 Intel Science Talent Search.

For the first time in SPRI's twenty-six year history, the Distinguished Research Leadership Award was presented. The award went to Dr. John C. Morse, a professor of Emeritus of Entomology at Clemson University.

The junior class supported their seniors by attending presentations and helping run the event by working with registration, with setup, and within presentation rooms. After being exposed to the exciting atmosphere of Colloquium, they are eager to perform their own research this summer!



# Teacher Profile:

by **Emily Babb**

Dr. Kristin Walker is GSSM's newest physics and engineering teacher. Walker grew up on a dairy farm in a small town called Gordon, just north of Boston. She majored in both physics and math for her undergraduate education, and then went to UNC Charlotte for graduate school, as she was interested in optical engineering. Optical engineering works with light, telescopes, photography, and so forth. She also took an interest in acoustics, since she plays the trumpet. After completing her doctorate, she worked at Pfeiffer University for five years. Given her friend, Dr. Riddle's, urging and the desire for motivated students, Walker decided to take a job at GSSM. Currently, Walker plays the trumpet in the Coker band, hikes, camps, plays the guitar, and does a little bit of photography. She also has an interest in quilting, as it combines both geometry and art. She is a world traveler, having spent a summer in Poland teaching English, and going to Indonesia, Ireland, and England. In addition, she spent the past summer in Morocco. She has visited forty-four of the fifty states, but she hopes to see all fifty. Dr. Walker has fit seamlessly into the GSSM community, and all of her students know her for her kind, bubbly exterior.



# Quote of the Month

*"If you are going through hell, keep going," Winston Churchill.*

by **Selen Berkman**

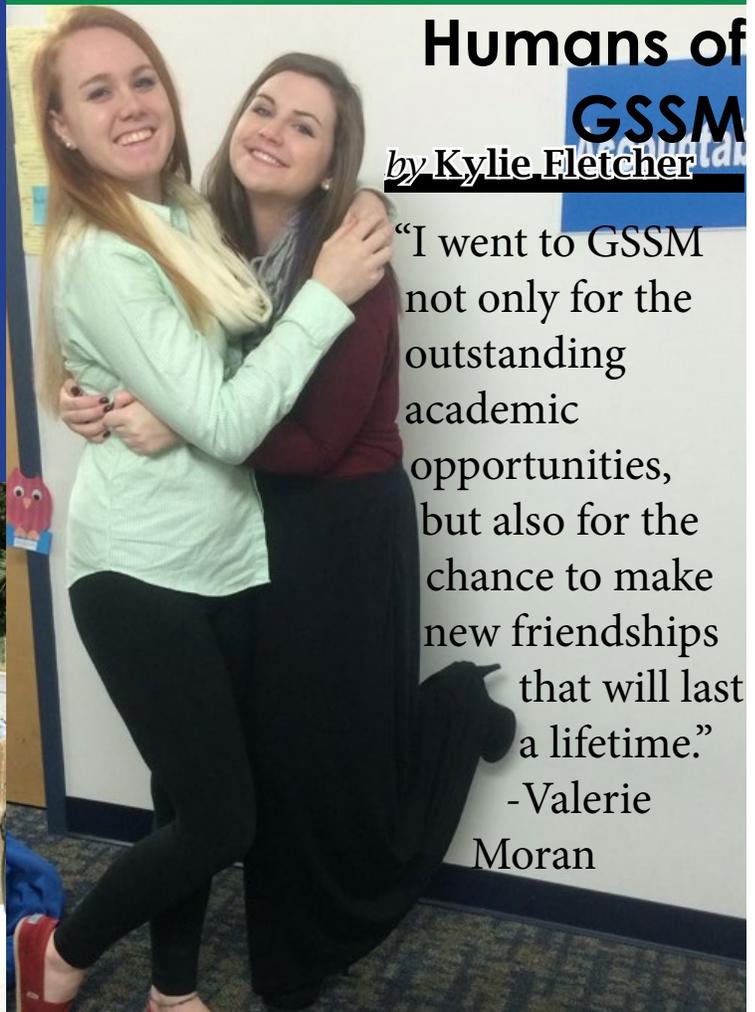
Sometimes, we run into challenges that seem like they will never end, but we need to remember to keep going. Some weeks feel that way at GSSM: you've got test after test after assignment after paper after quiz after other obligations. It feels like you're drowning in a sea of responsibilities that you're not sure you have the strength or mental capacity to keep. Remember to keep your head up and keep going; all times like this end, and we promise you'll get a Saturday to sleep in till noon.

# Humans of GSSM

by **Kylie Fletcher**

"I went to GSSM not only for the outstanding academic opportunities, but also for the chance to make new friendships that will last a lifetime."

-Valerie Moran



# Govie Positivity

by Emily Babb

Our teachers are awesome! Sometimes, in our fight to obtain that perfect grade, we can lose sight of this. We represent the best of the best, and so it can often be difficult to accept a less than perfect grade. Many times, students will resolve to blame the teachers, but the teachers are far better than they are given credit for. Only by way of Dr. Kroeger's

teaching could I count the number of hours I have spent back in the teachers' offices. My teachers act happy to see me time and time again, and gladly give up hours of their day to help me in my struggles. Teachers hold review sessions long after hours, not eating dinner until nine o' clock, hoping to help us pass the test. I have never passed a teacher in the hallway without them smiling at me and asking about my day, even if they are not my teacher. Our teachers care, and they care

a lot- where else would a teacher give you a piece of her husband's homemade cake just because you were stressed out about your chemistry test?



## GSSM's Student Council Update

by Dixie McCollum

Currently, the benches and swings for Student Council's Beautification Project reside outside of the North Lobby. While Student Council plans to recruit students to help paint and move the benches to different locations, students should feel free to use the benches at any time. Student Council is also awaiting the arrival of the "Govie Bikes", bicycles that will be available to all GSSM students. Furthermore, the council is searching for the perfect graduation speaker for the class of 2015, working on a Branching Out Proposal that will connect GSSM with other high schools in the area, and reorganizing the Clean Campus Committee. If any students, faculty or staff have an idea to further improve the school, feel free to talk to a Student Council representative or drop a note in the StuCo Suggestion Box located in the Cubby Room.

## Upcoming Events

by Crystal Sylvester

The Queen of Hearts competition will be held Wednesday, February 11th. Every guy is given a heart with his name on it that day. The rules of the competition dictate that he has to give his heart to the first girl he talks to. The girl with the most hearts at the end of the day is crowned the "Queen of Hearts." Note: The competition doesn't count for class, so guys can talk to girls in class and won't be required to give up their hearts.

The Sadie Hawkins girls-ask-guys dance will be held Saturday, February 21st, in the GSSM Dining Hall.

The annual GSSM-GSAH gathering will occur Saturday, February 28th. This year, GSSM students will have the opportunity to visit the GSAH campus; next year, the reverse will take place. Sign-ups will be available.



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