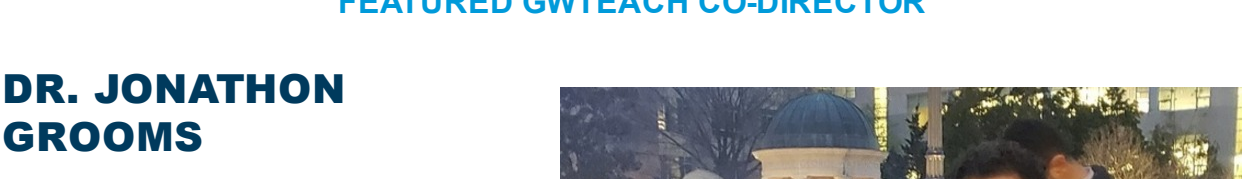


GW Teach NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2020

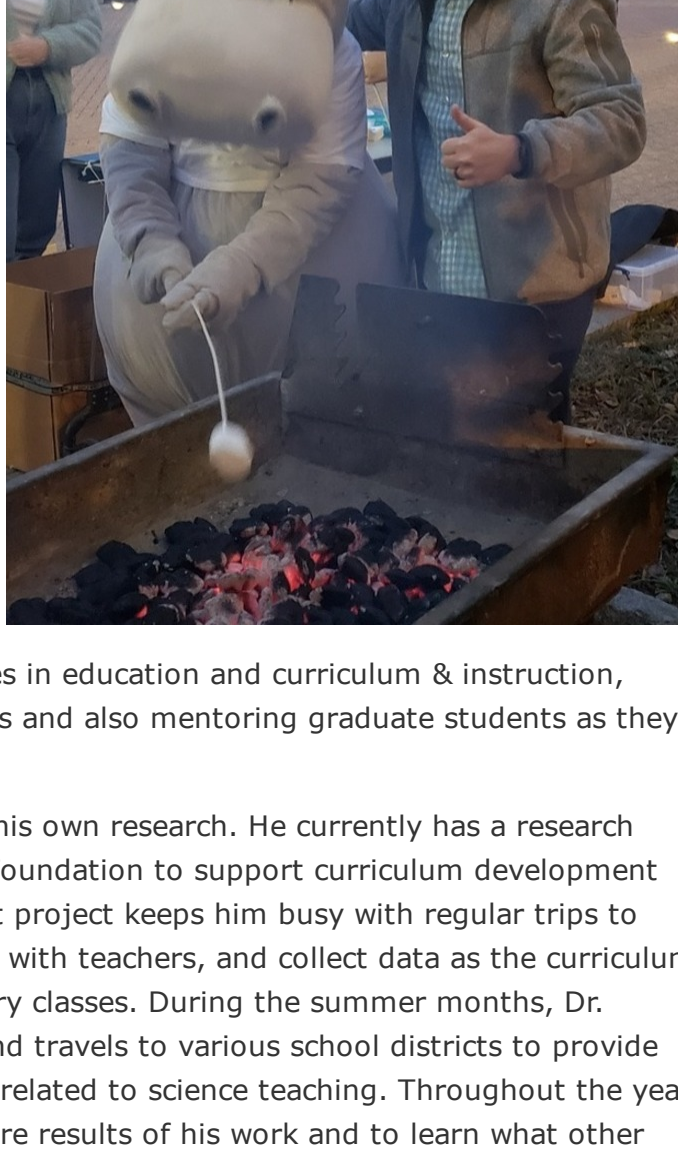


FEATURED GWTEACH CO-DIRECTOR

DR. JONATHON GROOMS

Dr. Jonathon Grooms, co-director of the GWTeach program, works closely with GWTeach Master Teachers, other co-directors in the Columbian College of Arts and Sciences (CCAS), faculty from CCAS and the Graduate School of Education that teach GWTeach courses, and various Deans and departments in CCAS and GSEHD to ensure that GWTeach has all the resources it needs to support its students. He has quite the role!

Outside of GWTeach, Dr. Grooms serves as a faculty member in the Department of Curriculum and Pedagogy within the Graduate School of Education and Human Development. He works with Masters and Doctoral students pursuing degrees in education and curriculum & instruction, teaching courses within these programs and also mentoring graduate students as they conduct research.



Dr. Grooms is also heavily engaged in his own research. He currently has a research grant funded by the National Science Foundation to support curriculum development work with Baltimore City Schools. That project keeps him busy with regular trips to Baltimore to meet with his team, work with teachers, and collect data as the curriculum is implemented in high school chemistry classes. During the summer months, Dr. Grooms continues his research work and travels to various school districts to provide professional development for teachers related to science teaching. Throughout the year he attends research conferences to share results of his work and to learn what other innovations are happening in science education.

How did such a busy person end up here at GWTeach? Dr. Grooms comes from a family of teachers, so it's no surprise that he too became a teacher. His father was a teacher for nearly 30 years, his mother retired from the school foodservice industry, and both of his older sisters are teachers. Some of Dr. Grooms's formative teaching experiences came during his senior year of high school when he was a teaching assistant for chemistry and consistently found himself teaching classmates in his A.P. chemistry course. He also participated in a program called Teacher Cadet where he got to go into a middle school science classroom and teach lessons. Those experiences set the stage for studying education during college.

Dr. Grooms went on to earn a degree in chemistry and physics education. His first teaching job was director of a science outreach program – kind of like a traveling “Bill Nye the Science Guy.” While doing that work across several counties and working with teachers and students in grades K-12, Dr. Grooms decided to return to school and pursue his Ph.D. in Science Education. During graduate school, Dr. Grooms had the opportunity to work on several research projects and teach at the university level.

Dr. Grooms's dissertation was the first research project that he conceptualized from start to finish and something he's very proud of. Since then, he's gone on to secure federal funding for various projects -- each time, it is very rewarding for Dr. Grooms. The review process is very rigorous and the funding rates are very low, so any time grant proposals are funded it is quite the accomplishment! One of Dr. Grooms's goals as a researcher is to help contribute to our understanding of teaching and learning and then help teachers use practices in their classrooms that are based on research evidence. Dr. Grooms and his colleagues have written several books to support teachers in bringing scientific argumentation into their classroom, which have been very popular. Each book in the series has appeared on the National Science Teaching Association's top-25 best-seller list. (Check out the Argument-Driven Inquiry books in the GWTeach office!!)

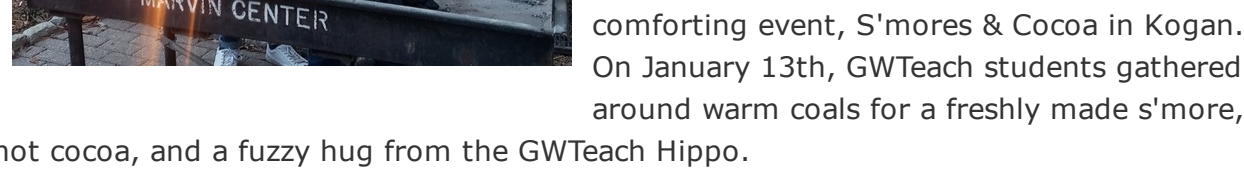
After graduate school and post-doctoral work as a researcher, Dr. Grooms joined the faculty at GW in Fall 2015, when the GWTeach program was just being launched. Dr. Grooms was first exposed to the UTeach program while he was a graduate student at Florida State University, one of the first universities to replicate the program model. There, he was able to teach in their program and learn about the UTeach model. Since coming to GWTeach, he has taught GTCH 3101: Knowing and Learning and became a co-director in 2016.

What keeps a phenomenal person, such as Dr. Grooms, at GWTeach? Now that GWTeach is in its 5th year, Dr. Grooms looks forward to seeing each new cohort of students completing the program and celebrating their graduation. For Dr. Grooms, it's an exciting time to reflect on how much each class of GWTeach graduates has developed during their time in the program and look ahead to the impact they will have in the community after graduation. Though he knows not all GWTeach graduates will become classroom teachers, Dr. Grooms is motivated by knowing that the skills developed by students in the GWTeach program will serve them well in whatever path they choose.



SCHOLARSHIPS

GW Noyce Scholarship: Scholarships up to \$20,000 per year are available for juniors and seniors admitted into the Noyce program, which supports STEM majors on their journey to become teachers in high-need schools after graduation. **For more information or to apply visit <https://noyce.columbian.gwu.edu/>.**



GWTEACH PAST EVENTS



S'MORES & COCOA IN KOGAN

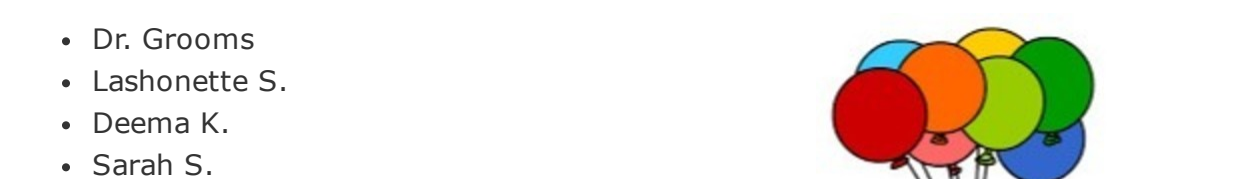
Not knowing where your classes are, overwhelming syllabi, never-ending waitlists -- the beginning of the semester is a hectic time for everyone! Though wading through the college chaos can be tough, it's nothing a warm, gooey s'more can't fix.

GWTeach kicked off the semester with a comforting event, S'mores & Cocoa in Kogan. On January 13th, GWTeach students gathered around warm coals for a freshly made s'more, hot cocoa, and a fuzzy hug from the GWTeach Hippo.

Those who stayed later into the night even had the opportunity to play Cornhole and Jenga with the Hippo. Though the Hippo looks cuddly, they have a competitive streak!

"The Hippo was doing really well with the Jenga," stated Michael Farina, a sophomore in the GWTeach program. "We were waiting for them to make the tower fall, but they just kept making it taller and taller!"

Upset you missed S'mores in Kogan with GWTeach? Visit us at https://www.instagram.com/gw_teach to stay updated on GWTeach happenings and be the first to know where on campus the hippo will visit next!



TEACHING RESOURCES

SCIENCE BUDDIES

Ever looked at a Common Core or NGSS standard and thought to yourself, "How will I ever teach this standard in my awesome inquiry-based, student-centered classroom?"



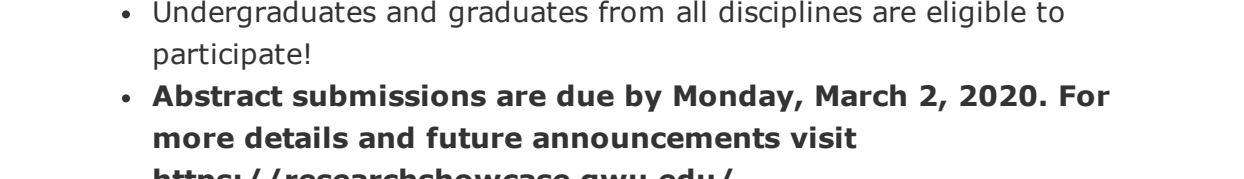
Look no further than Science Buddies! Though it may seem like a website for elementary-school students to find their science fair projects, Science Buddies can be a great resource for teachers looking to enhance their science classrooms with inquiry-based lesson plans.

SCIENCE BUDDIES

Activities listed on Science Buddies tend to be affordable, utilizing materials and technology that frequents classrooms. Many of the science-education apps recommended by Science Buddies are free to download. Material alternatives are also listed for classrooms that do not have access to laptops or smart-phones.

Furthermore, you can search for these activities by NGSS standards, grade level, and/or topic. This categorization makes finding lesson plans ideas easy, filtering out anything that isn't relevant to your classroom!

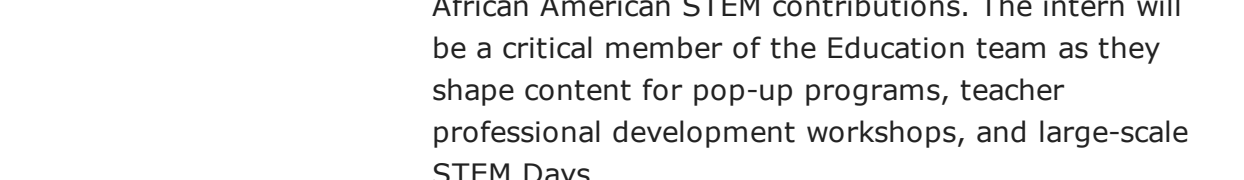
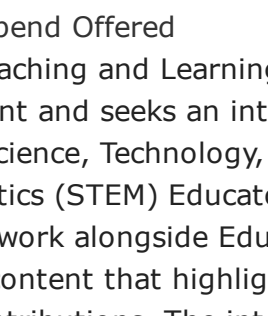
Science Buddies is free to use and may be accessed at sciencebuddies.org



GWTEACH BIRTHDAYS

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO...

- Dr. Grooms
- Lashonette S.
- Deema K.
- Sarah S.



VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES & JOB POSTINGS

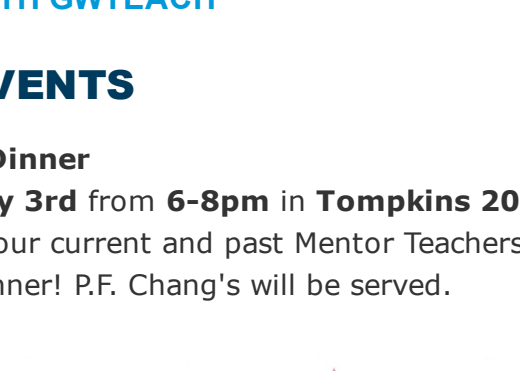
DC STEM FAIR - SEEKING JUDGES

- Saturday, March 14th, 2020
- Dunbar High School (101 N St NW, Washington, DC 20001)
- At the event, students will showcase their research skills and compete for a variety of awards and prizes, including the opportunity to represent the District at the 2020 International Science and Engineering Fair and Broadcom Masters Competition.
- **Register to be a judge at <https://www.dcstemnetwork.org/dc-stem-fair/secondary-stem-fair/>**



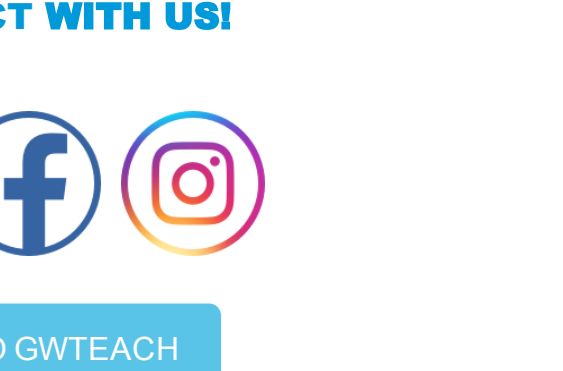
GLOBAL S.T.E.M. NIGHT

- Friday, February 21st, 6pm-8pm
- Cora Kelly School (3600 Commonwealth Avenue)
- Hosted by the Mount Vernon Community School and Cora Kelly School for a Math, Science, & Technology, the GLOBAL S.T.E.M. Night is a event full of science activities and experiments for kids! Free dinner will be provided for volunteers and attendees.
- **Register to be a volunteer by contacting Laura Engel at lce@gwu.edu**



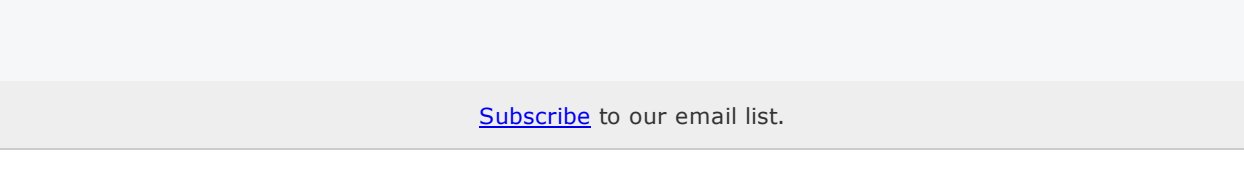
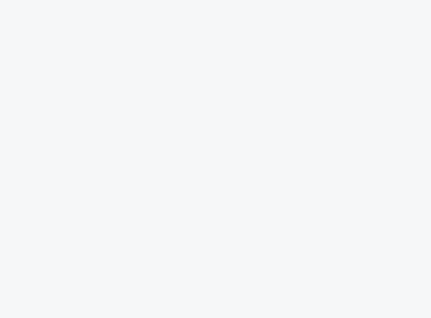
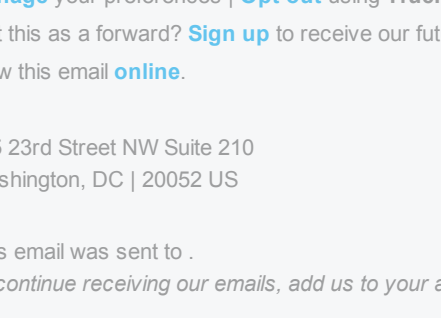
GW RESEARCH SHOWCASE

- Tuesday, April 7th, 2020
- Formerly GW Research Days, this event will be held on one day instead of two and is moving to the Charles E. Smith Center.
- Undergraduates and graduates from all disciplines are eligible to participate!
- **Abstract submissions are due by Monday, March 2, 2020. For more details and future announcements visit <https://researchshowcase.gwu.edu/>**



STEM EDUCATOR INTERNSHIP

- May 4-August 7, 2020, Stipend Offered
- This position is with the Teaching and Learning Unit in the Education Department and seeks an intern to work with the museum's Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) Educator. The STEM Educator Intern will work alongside Education staff as they develop new content that highlights African American STEM contributions. The intern will be a critical member of the Education team as they shape content for pop-up programs, teacher professional development workshops, and large-scale STEM Days.
- **Successful candidates will be a pre-service teacher working to complete a degree in education with a STEM focus** or be a STEM educator with less than 5 years of service.
- **Apply here: Applications due Sunday, March 15th.**



KEEP UP WITH GWTEACH

UPCOMING EVENTS

- **Mentor/Mentee Dinner**
Monday, February 3rd from 6-8pm in Tompkins 208
Come meet with your current and past Mentor Teachers at the Mentor Teacher Dinner! P.F. Chang's will be served.

CONNECT WITH US!

GIVE TO GWTEACH

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