Upcoming Conference!

We're moving on up…
to the midlands, that is.

Make plans to attend
the
South Carolina Science Council
38th Annual Conference
November 4-6, 2015
at the Columbia Metropolitan Convention Center
Gearing Up for the New Standards

Remembering A Legend

His students are now professors, engineers and brain surgeons.

They have impressive degrees of their own, hold chairs in academia, are experts in their fields.

This is Michael Farmer's legacy.

A retired teacher who had taught physics at Riverside High School, Greenville Technical College and the Governor's School for the Arts & Humanities, Farmer died Tuesday in a car wreck not far from his home. He was 73.

News of his death spread quickly as former students took to Facebook to remember a mentor who pushed them and inspired them, who wore tie-dye lab coats and neckties depicting famous pieces of art and who was so close to becoming the first teacher in space.

"He was a force to be reckoned with and drove me to strive for, and perhaps beyond, my potential," said Scott Owens, a 1980 Riverside High grad with an electrical engineering degree from Clemson. "I thank him, blame him and credit him."

Farmer was at Riverside in 1985 when he applied for NASA's Teacher in Space program, hoping to become the first teacher in space on the 1986 Challenger mission.

He was selected as an alternate to Christa McAuliffe, one of seven crew members killed when the space shuttle broke apart 73 seconds after take off.

"It was one of the saddest days of my life," Farmer later told The Greenville News.

Still, his fascination with space travel never diminished.

"Most science fails," he said in a 2003 News story that ran the day after the Columbia space shuttle explosion. "If you have a setback, you can't stop."

Farmer applied for the space program again that year while he was the chair of the science department at the Governor's School for the Arts.

Julie Allen, dean and vice president of arts and academics, said Farmer was recruited by the school's founder, Virginia Uldrick, because of his proven teaching abilities.

He was popular with students because he was able to take a subject like physics — all mechanics and gears and formulas
Making a Difference One Hand at a Time

Students in Jonathan Scrivner’s Gateway to Technology Class at Gettys Middle School in Pickens are in the process of constructing a prosthetic hand for their 7th grade assistant principal, Strickland. Strickland, was born without a hand and a portion of his arm. Using 3D printing technology, students are printing and assembling him to use! “This has been an awesome experience for our students. They have seen the fun of 3D printing. Now they see the life impact of 3D printing. We are excited to have this opportunity and forward to getting to work on the hand/arm combination for Mr. Strickland, our 7th grade principal!” says Scrivner.

At Carver Middle School in Spartanburg, students engaged in printing 3D hands to be used by young children until they receive permanent adult-size hands. The 3D hands are affordable and quickly replicated so that growing children can receive new devices to meet the needs of their growing bodies. “The prosthetic hand project has allowed my students to see how 3D printing can be used to solve real world problems and can be used to improve someone's quality of life,” says Carver Middle School teacher Andy Youngblood. The 3-D hand project is just one initiative of the Upstate STEM Collaborative. The Collaborative is managed by South Carolina’s Coalition for Mathematics and Science at Clemson University, and partners with Upstate businesses, students, and communities to bring awareness and access to science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM)-related experiences for K-12 students. The Collaborative was instrumental in connecting the students with retired engineers from IBM, Milliken, and other fields to advise and mentor them through the process. The retirees worked with E-nabling the Future, a non-profit that not only provides blueprints for 3D-printed prosthetics, but also connects makers with people who need them. The project is having an impact on student engineers as well as the prosthetic recipients. Students were inspired by the real world application of their STEM skills. According to one Carver student, “It’s awesome to see technology being used to help people.”

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**Presidents Report**

**What has SC 2 been up to since November?**

*One of our main goals for this year is to update our website. We are working hard to make it a better place for you as members and perspective members to go to. We want our website to be a hub of information to keep our teachers in the know to help them grow as science educators. Look for communication from us very soon that we can get feedback from you on our new website.*

*We want to congratulate 5th grader Christina Werts from Catawba Trail Elementary School in Richland School District 2. Christina competed in the USC Central South Carolina 56th Annual Region II Science & Engineering Fair on March 13th. She presented an awesome engineering project entitled "Does Packaging! Really Deliver?" Christina received a certificate of achievement from the fair and $50.00 from SC 2. We also want to congratulate her 5th grade teacher Jodi Thompson for her mentorship. Congrats Christina and we look forward to seeing more great things from you!*
South Carolina Science Council

Call for Presenters November 4-6, 2015
Columbia Metropolitan Convention Center

Proposals are now being accepted for the following:

- Presentations
- Short Courses
- Hands-On Workshops (ticketed* and non-ticketed)

* Ticketed workshops allow for some reimbursement for materials and help to control the number of participants. Only ticketed events may charge a fee.

Available Strands
Due to the upcoming implementation of SC Academic Standards and Performance Indicators for Science 2014, the focus of this year’s program will be on A Framework for Science Education, specifically the Crosscutting Concepts, Science and Engineering Practices, and the Disciplinary Core Ideas.

Session Lengths
Depending upon the nature of the presentation and the engagement needed from participants, time availabilities will be 45 minutes or 1 hour 15 minutes.

Intended Audiences
South Carolina Science Council’s Annual Conference attracts k-12 science educators, preservice teachers, and informal science educators.

The South Carolina Science Council program organizers will review all proposals and determine the best fit for time and date. All special requests will be considered. Chosen presenters will be notified by August 1, 2015

To register as a presenter, visit http://goo.gl/dj2JHB

Contact Information: Debbie Bishop, dlbishop@laurens55.org
A Boiling Springs High School science teacher could be hours away from becoming the S.C. Teacher of the Year.

The winner will be announced during a gala Wednesday night in Columbia.

Hunter Jolley is one of five teachers competing for the honor. He was named a finalist in March by State Education Superintendent Molly Spearman.

Spearman announced the finalists by dropping by their schools and delivering the news in person. While attending a recognition ceremony for Upstate teachers a few weeks ago, Jolley said he was excited just to be a finalist.

As a finalist, Jolley received a check for $10,000. If he wins the state award, he will win the grand prize of $25,000 and a new BMW to drive for one year.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XURfGhtCJg8

Know of something note-worthy going on in our SC science classrooms? Send the information to the attention of the (SC)2 newsletter editor Hunter Jolley at hunterjolley@msn.com. We LOVE to highlight the great educators and students of South Carolina!