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Dr. Giorcelli is an active researcher and has been awarded over \$530,000 in research grant funding from the National Science Foundation (NSF), NASA West Virginia Space Grant Consortium, and the West Virginia Higher Education Policy Commission Title II program. Prior to her arrival at FSU, she gained over 10 years of experience in research and development in the field through positions held at the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) and the Institute for Scientific Research, Inc. (ISR).

Rebecca teaches fitness classes for the Fairmont State Falcon Center in addition to local fitness facilities. She enjoys traveling, playing piano, and spending time with her two sons, Trey, and Tyler.

## Dan Hollis, Faculty

Dan Hollis is an award-winning Marshall University professor and journalist. He is only the second faculty member to earn each of the three major awards for teaching the university bestows--the Charles E. Hedrick Outstanding Faculty Award, the Marshall and Shirley Reynolds Outstanding Teacher Award and the Pickens-Queen Teacher Award. He was also named the 2012 West Virginia Professor of the Year by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching and the Council for Advancement and Support of Education and is a two-time finalist for the Faculty Merit Foundation West Virginia Professor of the Year. He will find out if he gets to call himself a two-time West Virginia Professor of the Year in September. His creative work focuses on telling West Virginia stories, and he has earned three prestigious Edward R. Murrow regional awards for his journalism. His story topics range from square dancing to whittling to road bowling to pickleball.

This will be his 21<sup>st</sup> year on the GHA faculty. That's right, he has been teaching at GHA longer than any of you have been alive.

## Cody Hood, Faculty

Cody is a recently promoted Teaching Assistant Professor for the School of Mathematical and Data Sciences at West Virginia University. In 2021 he earned his Ph.D. in Mathematics with an emphasis in Research in Undergraduate Mathematics Education focusing on student understanding of the definite integral in an application context. He received his Bachelor of Science degree in Math in 2013 along with his Master of Science degree in Math in 2015, both at WVU. Cody is an assistant coach for the West Virginia National Math Team, where every year 20 of the top performing high school students across the state travel to Penn State for a national math competition. Cody has taught at the Governor's Honors Academy since 2014 and he looks forward to sharing his knowledge and gaining even more. In addition to relishing his time at GHA, Cody has a particular interest in running and statistical and data analysis, with an emphasis on fantasy football.

## Britton (Cody) Lumpkin, Faculty

Cody Lumpkin was born in North Georgia, around hog-killing time. He grew up in the community of Sixes at the southern end of Appalachia. His mother and father used to take him to the local cineplex to see *Star Wars* (The Original Trilogy) and *Raiders of the Lost Ark* in the early 1980s a lot. When he was a teenager, Cody worked in his family's mom and pop video store where films like *Babe*, *Annie*, and *Grease* often played. His love of film and literature led him to earn undergraduate degrees in both English and Philosophy at the University of West Georgia. He would later go on to earn an MFA in creative writing at Purdue University and a PhD in English at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. He just completed his tenth year of teaching at Marshall University where he has taught courses in Appalachian literature, *Star Wars*, James Bond, the Marvel Cinematic Universe, Christmas films, and creative writing.

## Nathan Myers, Faculty

Nathan Myers is an Associate Professor in the Department of Humanities at Fairmont State University. He teaches courses in literature, writing, film, and sustainability.

## Ian Nolte, Faculty

Ian Nolte lives in Huntington, West Virginia and teaches for the English Department at Marshall University. He is passionate about writing, filmmaking, and digital media—and how those things intersect. His classes explore the nuts-and-bolts of how stories are put together. This is his fourth time teaching at the Governor's Honors Academy, and he is excited for this year's experience.

## John O'Connor, Faculty

I knew I was going to be a history teacher when I was a freshman in high school. I changed the focus to theatre when I auditioned for and was cast in my first production when I was a high school senior. Three degrees and many years later, I am blessed to be doing what I was created to do, and what I love to do. In addition to over 30 years teaching college theatre and communication, I have been on the GHA faculty twice, and served as the GHA Associate Dean thrice. I have directed 40 productions and have acted in 37 university, community, and professional productions.

Favorite quotes:

"Imagination is evidence of the Divine." --William Blake

"If you want to work on your art, work on your life." --Anton Chekhov

"The object of education is not to know, but to live." --James Rhoades

## John Shirley, Faculty

After attending GHA as a student in 1995 and being named a United States Presidential Scholar in 1996, John Shirley earned a BA in English, with minors in theatre and communications, from Bridgewater College, as well as both an MLitt and an MFA in Shakespeare and Renaissance Literature in Performance from Mary Baldwin College (now Mary Baldwin University).

He has over two decades of experience teaching in both traditional and non-traditional settings, including public and private high school and college classrooms. Since 2016, John has served as resident dramaturg and director of education for the Rustic Mechanicals – West Virginia's only touring Shakespeare company – and has been involved with productions of half the Shakespeare canon. He also recently served as guest dramaturg for Shakespeare productions at West Virginia Wesleyan College and Theater Alaska.

This is his twenty-third Governor's Honors Academy.

## Doug Squire, Faculty

Doug is from Charleston, WV, attended GHA in 1998 at WVU, and has taught at GHA since 2011. He graduated from Nitro High School and has a B.A. and an M.S. in mathematics from WVU. Doug was on the mathematics faculty at WVU from 2006-2021 and now teaches at George Washington High School. In 2010, he won the Eberly College of Arts and Sciences Outstanding Teaching Award, and in 2011, he won the WVU Foundation Award for Outstanding Teaching. He was debate team captain at WVU and has coached debate both at WVU and Pace Academy in Atlanta, GA. He is coauthor of the textbook *Applications of Calculus*. Doug is now a member of the Leadership West Virginia Class of 2019. He likes to play racquetball and ski and is a huge WVU fan. Let's Go Mountaineers!

## Angelica Starcovic, Faculty

Angelica Starcovic is a practicing artist currently based in Syracuse, New York. She graduated from Fairmont State University in 2021 with a BS in psychology and is currently an MFA candidate at Syracuse University. Most recently, she has spent the past five months living, working, and creating as an artist in residence at the Syracuse University Graduate Turner Residency Program in Los Angeles, California. She works with ceramics, photography, and found materials to explore portrayals of self in the world. Angelica attended the Governor's Honors Academy in 2016 and the Governor's School for the Arts in 2015. When she is not working away in the studio, she can be found cooking new recipes she discovered on Pinterest, in the middle of the woods somewhere, or thrift shopping with her friends.

## **Allen Cervenak, Head Resident Assistant**

Allen is a recent graduate from Fairmont State University with a degree in English and a focus in literature. He served as an RA for three years in the Honors Hall, and as Assistant Resident Director his senior year. He also worked as an editor for the school's undergraduate literary and art journal, Whetstone. For activities, Allen enjoys reading and writing, and long afternoon walks. You can frequently find him typing away on his phone or computer with music on full volume in the background. After GHA, Allen is excited to find work as an editor where he can get paid to read good books, and he is always up for talking about anime or videogames.

## **Meg Ambrose, Resident Assistant**

Meg is a Political Science major and a junior at WVU from Harpers Ferry. She loves learning about the law as well as her Women and Gender studies minor. She is a second-year RA in Towers. Although it can be difficult between RA duties and all of the papers and policy briefs she writes Meg loves all things books, tv, and movies. She will try and get in as much time for her hobbies as she can and has been known to bring her knitting to the desk with her. Meg is involved with the Women in Politics and Government organization as well as the Horticulture club on campus. She hopes to get her law degree and work in either international law or with an organization like the ACLU.

## **Victoria Blickenstaff, Resident Assistant**

Victoria is a marketing major in her junior year at Marshall University. She is a resident advisor in the first-year dorms, as well as a member of Delta Zeta and FIDM Fashion Club. Victoria enjoys spending time outdoors, traveling, and watching Major League Baseball (Go Yankees!). In her free time, she likes to binge-watch Dance Moms and Gossip Girl, make Tik Toks, and play board games. Victoria's dream job would be working for a Marketing Agency in NYC. During high school, she attended Rhododendron Girls' State, HOBY, RYLA, and Fall Student Council Convention. Victoria is looking forward to sharing her first Governor's School experience with you in her hometown.

## **Emily Budik, Resident Assistant**

Emily is a Psychology and Art Therapy double major with a minor in Human Services going into her junior year at West Virginia University. She attended GHA in 2019, made exceptional friends during the time, and is so excited to participate in the program again. During her time at WVU she has done various jobs including working as a Therapeutic Boxing coach, a Psychology research intern, and is continuing to be involved in Art Therapy research with her professor in the upcoming semesters. Emily joined the Russian and Eastern European Club and has enjoyed her time participating in all of the enriching events. She is going to be an Eberly Scholar for the 2022-2023 school year and is thrilled to continue her educational journey. For fun, Emily likes to indulge in self-care techniques, which for her may include going to a coffee shop with friends or enjoying the simplicity of slowing down life by laying in the grass and enjoying nature.

## **Taeshon Crudup, Resident Assistant**

Taeshon is a criminal justice major from Morgantown, WV who just graduated from Fairmont State University and is planning to come back and get his master's degree in criminal justice. He is a resident assistant in Prichard Hall at Fairmont State and back home is a pre-school teacher at Presbyterian Child Development Center. Among his friends and co-workers, he is known as laid back and very approachable and dependable. Taeshon is a huge sports fan in particular football, basketball, and baseball. He loves traveling, especially visiting North Carolina to visit family. His dream job would be working as a youth correctional counselor.

## **Olivia Dowler, Resident Assistant**

Olivia is a rising junior at West Virginia University with majors in History, Spanish, and Philosophy. At WVU, she is involved all over campus. Olivia is the President of Students for Reproductive Justice, an officer in the Global Medical & Dental Brigades, a Presidential Student Ambassador, and outgoing President Pro Tempore of the Student Government Association. She is also a member of A Moment of Magic, Women in Politics & Government, the Honors LGBTQ+ Affinity Group, and Active Minds. She also works on campus as a Tour Guide and New Student Orientation Leader. You

can always find her at a local coffee shop or at Barnes & Noble. After college, Olivia plans to become a Human Rights Attorney. Olivia attended GHA in 2019 at Marshall University and met some of her closest friends there that are still in her life today. She considers GHA to be one of the greatest experiences of her life and where she first felt comfortable being her authentic self. A fun fact is that she has five tattoos— one being the outline of West Virginia.

## **Zachary Fancher, Resident Assistant**

Zachary is a graduate student at Fairmont State University working toward a Master of Arts in Teaching with an emphasis in Secondary Social Studies Education. In 2021 Fancher graduated from Fairmont State University summa cum laude with a Bachelor of Arts in History with a minor in Women's and Gender Studies and a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science. His undergraduate research focused on the glass ceiling and its effects on women in/running for elected office. While an undergraduate student at Fairmont State, he was active in Student Government, Falcons w/ PRIDE, College Democrats, and a variety of social justice oriented activities/groups. Fancher currently works as a substitute teacher in Marion County, WV. He thoroughly enjoys working with young people, particularly the students at West Fairmont Middle School. He is incredibly passionate about education and having a positive and lasting impact in the individuals he encounters. Fancher enjoys going on adventures with his girlfriend and snuggling with his dog Gus.

## **Caomi Fitz, Resident Assistant**

Caomi is a Fairmont native, and is enrolled in Fairmont State University. They are majoring in Art and Psychology, with a minor in Women and Gender Studies, and they keep extra busy with three jobs on campus, as a lead editor of the student publication journal Whetstone, as an Assistant Resident Director of Prichard Hall, and as a Monitor in Prichard Hall. Caomi has also been active within their Sorority, Delta Zeta since 2019, and has held numerous positions since their initiation. They love making earrings, learning about new ways to craft and make art, and adding to their many collections. They are looking forward to helping to make GHA a positive experience for everyone! A fun fact about Caomi is that when they attended GHA in 2018, they made a bracelet that over the past 4 years, they have only taken off when necessary.

## **Lars Lehman, Resident Assistant**

Lars is a recent graduate of Fairmont State University with a bachelor's degree in Accounting and two minors, one minor in Creative Writing and one in Women's and Gender Studies. While attending Fairmont State University, he was an honors student and enjoyed the opportunities provided by the honors program. In the Fall of 2018, Lars helped start Falcons w/PRIDE, the LGBTQIA+ organization on campus. From Fall of 2018 to Spring of 2022, he held multiple leadership roles within the student organization, including Vice President and President. Lars worked in ResLife for four years, two years as a Resident Assistant and two years as an Assistant Resident Director. He is from the small Swiss town of Helvetia, WV. Friends often compare him to a golden retriever because he is so loyal, but a friend recently said he's more of a lab than a golden retriever. During the summer, Lars enjoys going on dirt bike rides, camping, and spending time with his dog.

## **Savanna Overstreet, Resident Assistant**

Sav is about to enter her senior year at Fairmont State University. Sav is a double major in criminal justice and psychology, hoping to continue on in criminal psychology after she graduates. She has been a Resident Assistant for two years now and has recently gotten promoted to Assistant Resident Director. Sav has been doing marching band since freshman year. She was accepted into Psi Chi (the national honorary for psychology students) and became part of the psychology and sociology behavioral association. She has kept a steady 3.84 GPA, right now resting on magna cum laude, hoping to bump it up at least one .1 to achieve summa cum laude before she graduates. After Sav graduates she hope to apply for a doctorate program in clinical psychology, that way she bypasses her masters. Her dream job is to do criminal psychology, working with criminals after they've been caught and delving into the psychology of their crimes. Sav attended GHA in 2018 at Marshall University, she wanted to come back in order to see the program from both sides. During her free time, Sav enjoys all sorts of creative things, especially working on her novels.

## **Ally Quigley, Resident Assistant**

Ally is an incoming senior at Fairmont State University. She is an English Literature Major with a minor in Professional Writing. She has been a tour guide at the Fairmont State Recruitment Office in the past. Currently, she is president of two student organizations including the Honors Association and the Creative Sustainability Council. In her free time, she enjoys hanging out with her friends and family and playing the guitar.

## **Jasper White, Resident Assistant**

Jasper attended GHA as a student in 2019 and is thrilled to be returning as an RA. They also attended GSMS in 2015 and GSA in 2018. Jasper is currently getting ready for their junior year of college at Fairmont State University with a degree in studio art. While at college they also work on campus as an RA in one of the traditional residence halls. When not busy working on art projects, Jasper spends a lot of time reading or playing video games. They can likely answer any question related to the videogame Hollow Knight as it is their favorite videogame to play and talk about.

## Frequently Asked Questions

- 1. Can I miss any part of GHA?**
  - A. No. The commitment to GHA is for the full program, and you will be excused only for a verified emergency. Everyone is expected to attend the entire time with no exceptions for weddings or other planned events. Extenuating circumstances will be considered on a case-by-case basis by the Deans of the GHA.
- 2. Will there be time to check e-mail?**
  - A. Yes. There are times during the day when students may go to a number of places to check e-mail or to do computer research. In addition, the campus has Wi-Fi, so you can use your personal devices to check for messages.
- 3. Can my parents or friends visit during GHA?**
  - A. No. GHA is designed so that you can be totally focused on the activities planned for you. Parents, other family members, and friends are not permitted to visit. Those from the Fairmont area need to pay special attention to this.
- 4. Will I get the classes I request?**
  - A. Possibly. The classes are assigned on a first-come, first-served basis. We do attempt to see that students are enrolled in their first or second choice in either the broad-based or intensive class. Although you may not get your top choice, there are no bad choices.
- 5. Can I choose my roommate?**
  - A. No. GHA assigns roommates on a random basis, and deliberately attempts to separate students who attend the same school or county. This is designed to encourage you to meet new people and engage with others outside of your comfort zone.
- 6. Will attending GHA enhance my scholarship opportunities?**
  - A. *Some* colleges and universities award financial aid over and above other scholarships for students who complete GHA. You will need to check with the respective institution financial aid office to see if they offer such a scholarship. Scholarships are not financed by the Governor's Schools--neither are they guaranteed.
- 7. Will I receive college credit for the GHA classes?**
  - A. No. The classes at GHA are for your enjoyment and intellectual and academic enrichment. Although you will work hard in the classes, they are not designed to meet the requirements of a college-credit course.
- 8. Will I really enjoy living with all these rules?**
  - A. Of course you will. Students who attend GHA say that they are the best experiences of their high school career. You will not be "giving up" your summer; instead, you will be gaining tools and making memories for a lifetime.

**Contact Information**

**Mailing Address:**  
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c/o Honors Program  
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Fairmont, WV 26554

**Robin Payne**  
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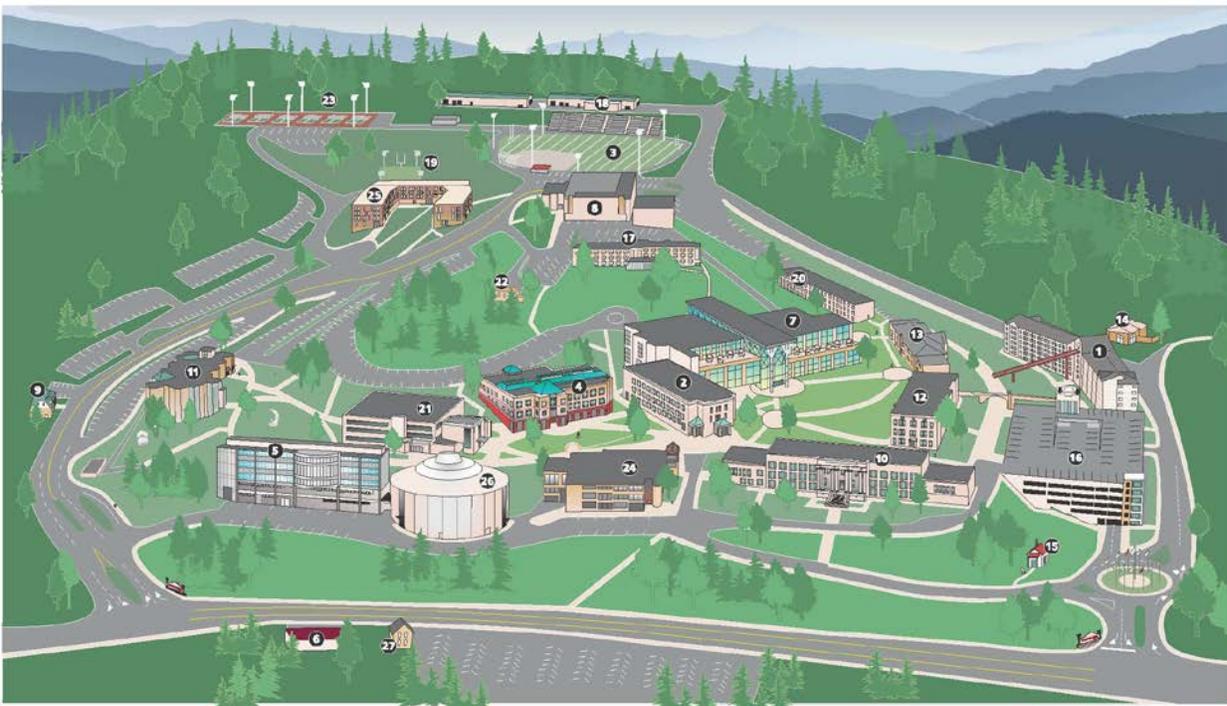
## Directions and Campus Map

When Driving I-79 South:

- I-79 South to Exit 132 (South Fairmont Exit). At light, turn right onto Route 250 North.
- Follow 250 North and at 2nd light turn left onto Country Club Road.
- At 1st light, turn right onto Locust Avenue.
- At 3rd light, turn left at the main entrance to campus and proceed up hill to parking.

When Driving I-79 North:

- I-79 North to Exit 132 (South Fairmont Exit). At the light, turn left onto Route 250 North.
- Follow 250 North and at the 4th light turn left onto Country Club Road.
- At 1st light, turn right onto Locust Avenue.
- At 3rd light turn left at the main entrance to campus and proceed uphill to parking.



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|---|---------------------------------|---|
| 1. Bryant Place (BP)                            | 10. Hardway Hall (HB)           | 19. Practice Field                      |
| 2. Colebank Hall (CH)                           | 11. Hunt Haught Hall (HH)       | 20. Prichard Hall                       |
| 3. Duvall-Rosier Field                          | 12. Jaynes Hall (JH)            | 21. Ruth Ann Musick Library (LI)        |
| 4. Education Building (ED)                      | 13. Morrow Hall                 | 22. Shaw House                          |
| 5. Engineering Tech. Building (ET)              | 14. Newman Center               | 23. Tennis Courts                       |
| 6. Erickson Alumni Center                       | 15. One Room Schoolhouse Museum | 24. Turley Student Services Center (TC) |
| 7. Falcon Center (FAL)                          | 16. Parking Garage              | 25. University Terrace                  |
| 8. Feaster Center (FC)                          | 17. Pence Hall                  | 26. Wallman Hall (WH)                   |
| 9. Frank & Jane Gabor WV Folklife Center (FOLK) | 18. Physical Plant Building     | 27. Wesley Foundation                   |



**FAIRMONT STATE  
UNIVERSITY™**