



## Lift2 Teacher Recalls Experience at SGH, Discusses Lessons Applied In the Classroom

**September 29, 2009** – Since 2006, Simpson Gumpertz & Heger (SGH) has been participating in the Leadership Initiatives for Teaching and Technology (LIFT2) program, which promotes careers in science, technology, engineering, and math to students throughout the state of Massachusetts. As part of the program, SGH sponsored our fourth Lift2 teacher this summer, sixth-grade teacher Kelly Robinson, who returned to SGH today to provide feedback on her experience here through a lunchtalk presentation.

At the time of her externship at SGH, Robinson was the third teacher SGH sponsored from Pollard Middle School in Needham, Massachusetts (Robinson is now teaching at High Rock School, also in Needham). During her time at SGH, Robinson visited many project sites, learning about the design, investigation, and rehabilitation elements of structural engineering. Robinson paired with SGH staff members to observe construction at the Church of Latter Day Saints in Cambridge, water testing at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), and the investigation of the Longfellow Bridge, among other things. Robinson also worked in-house in the SGH lab observing concrete mixing, cutting foam, and measuring storm resin chambers in our warehouse.

In her presentation, Robinson shared the lessons she learned through her experience working with SGH staff, her excitement about the exposure to numerous aspects of SGH's work, and the methods she is using to integrate what she learned into her classroom curriculum. The objective of the Lift2 externship program is to provide motivation for students to pursue science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) college majors and ultimately, careers in those industries.

Lift2 externships place teachers in challenging and exciting work environments appropriate to their curriculum focus and professional interests for five to eight weeks in the summer. Through these externships, teachers observe math and science principles applied in everyday industry settings; are exposed to the use of information technologies in data collection, analysis, problem solving, and communication; and experience the culture of today's workplace that emphasizes collaborative teamwork, critical thinking, global perspectives, and multi-media communication.

Robinson will return to SGH in the spring to participate in SGH's Engineering Day, another event SGH is involved with through the Lift2 program.

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### About Simpson Gumpertz & Heger Inc.

Simpson Gumpertz & Heger Inc. (SGH) is a national engineering firm that designs, investigates, and rehabilitates structures and building enclosures. Our award-winning work encompasses building, transportation, water/wastewater, and nuclear/science/defense projects throughout the United States and in more than 30 other countries.

SGH has offices in Boston, Los Angeles, New York City, San Francisco, and Washington DC. For more information, please visit [www.sgh.com](http://www.sgh.com).

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