



THE BEACON

SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

Access *The Beacon*, on-line at: <http://www.umass.edu/education/publications.htm>. If you have problems accessing this link, go to the School of Education home page, click on *The Beacon* button on the left. Earlier issues may be found by going to *Publications* on the School of Education home page. **HARD COPIES AVAILABLE IN FURCOLO HALL AND HILLS SOUTH.**



Reflective Practice...Multiple Ways of Knowing
Access, Equity, & Fairness...Collaboration
Evidence Based Practice

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

IMPORTANT GRADUATE STUDENT NOTICES	1
FACULTY/STAFF/STUDENT NEWS, ACTIVITIES, HONORS, AND AWARDS	2
SPRING 08 ASSISTANTSHIPS	3
UPCOMING CONFERENCES/WORKSHOPS	4
CALL FOR PROPOSALS	5
CENTENNIAL MARATHON PROPOSAL FORM	8

ANNOUNCING THE SCHOOL OF EDUCATION'S INITIAL CALL FOR PROPOSALS

The School of Education is excited to be celebrating 100 years of preparing educators at the University of Massachusetts Amherst and 51 years of the School of Education. As part of the celebration the School will be hosting a **Centennial Marathon on June 13 and 14, 2008**, a two-day conference bringing together faculty, students, alumni, and friends to exchange ideas, share innovative educational practices, strengthen connections, and honor the School's legacy of supporting excellence and equity in education.

We have opportunities for a variety of session formats including:

- Poster sessions
- Paper sessions (individual papers)
- Symposium (multiple papers on a theme)
- Interactive session
- Panel discussion
- Other format suggestions welcome!

The sessions are on Friday, June 13 from 1:00 p.m. to 4:30 and Saturday, June 14, from 9:00 a.m. to noon. We will be hosting multiple, simultaneous presentations and will have poster sessions throughout the program.

To assure a place in the program, please complete the *Call for Proposal* form on the last page of the Beacon or go to: http://www.umass.edu/education/about_soe/ProposalForm.pdf. Forward the proposal form to Sahra Santos, Dean's Office, 124 Furcolo Hall, School of Education, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, MA 01003 or marathon@educ.umass.edu.



BEACON DEADLINE: Please submit *Beacon* announcements to: **Room 123A Furcolo Hall or to lascell@educ.umass.edu**. The deadline remains 3:30 p.m. on Monday. All assistantships will run for two issues unless otherwise indicated. Examinations and dissertation proposals run for only one issue.



FACULTY/STAFF/STUDENT NEWS, ACTIVITIES, HONORS, AND AWARDS

DIMMITT ADVISING ON CONTENT FOR ONLINE EDUCATION LIBRARY

Carey Dimmitt, assistant professor in Student Development and Pupil Personnel Services, is among three national content experts selected to advise the Education Resources Information Center (ERIC), an online digital library of education research and information.

Dimmitt, who is also associate director of the Center for School Counseling Outcome Research in the School of Education, focuses on helping school counselors gain access to research and evaluation data about counseling and educational interventions to make them more effective in their work with K-12 students.

Sponsored by the Institute of Education Sciences of the U.S. Department of Education, ERIC is intended to provide a comprehensive, easy-to-use, searchable, Internet-based bibliographic and full-text database of education research and information that also meets the requirements of the Education Sciences Reform Act of 2002.

Dimmitt and the other ERIC content experts will advise on aspects of acquiring subject-specific, education-related resources for inclusion in the ERIC database. Using the selection standards and criteria developed with the guidance of the steering committee, they will recommend journals to be included in ERIC as well as sources and types of non-journal materials, conferences and dissemination strategies.

Dimmitt is the co-author of "Evidence-Based School Counseling: Making a Difference With Data-Driven Practices," published last year by Corwin Press. The other authors are Jay Carey, associate professor in the School of Education and director of Center for School Counseling Outcome Research, and Trish Hatch of San Diego State University.

Resource: <http://www.umass.edu/loop/people/articles/71740.php>



ACCELA STUDENT RECEIVES AWARD

Virgenmina Viera, a student in the ACCELA Interdisciplinary Inquiry into Linguistically and Culturally Diverse Communities, Bachelor's of General Studies has won the

award for Outstanding Student in a Continuing Education program in UCEA New England Regional Competition.

UMASS School of Education Associate Professor Theresa Austin, Director of the federally funded Title VII and I Program, reported that the purpose of the award is to "honor a student enrolled in an undergraduate program offered through a division of continuing education who has demonstrated outstanding achievement and an unusual will to learn—not only to enhance his/her own career—but also to add to the quality of life for him/herself, the family and community."

Winning students have achieved a minimum grade point average of 3.5 on a 4.0 scale. Virgin Viera was one of 21 bilingual students who distinguished herself through her studies in the ACCELA program. Her projects in the community have been presented in several conferences at the national and regional level.



WOMEN, RACE AND CULTURE LECTURE SERIES SPRING 08

Storming the Borders: Anti-Racist Activisms in the Americas, a program for the Study of Women and Gender, presented at Smith College:

Erika Lee, Associate Professor of History, University of Minnesota, "Asian Exclusions and Migrations in the Americas: Border Making, Border Crossing, Border Communities" on Thursday, March 6, 2008 at 4:30 p.m. in Neilson Browsing Room.

Tanya K. Hernandez, Leroy Sorenson Merrifield Research Professor of Law, George Washington University Law School, "The Role of the State in the Regulation of Race in Latin America" on Tuesday, March 11, 2008 at 5:00 pm in Seelye Hall 201.

Annelise Orleck, Professor of History, Dartmouth College "Storming Caesars Palace: What Happens When Poor Mothers Demand a Share of the American Dream?" on Tuesday, April 8, 2008, 5:00 pm in Seelye Hall 201.

For more information, <http://www.smith.edu/swg/wrclecture.html>. All events are free and open to the public.



(Continued on page 3)

KAPPA DELTA PI

The School of Education has an active international honor society in Education called KAPPA DELTA PI. This honor society is currently accepting applications from undergraduate and graduate students with an overall GPA of 3.4

Criteria for Acceptance – UNDERGRADUATE Student

- A minimum of 45 completed semester hours
- At least 12 of these credit hours must be at UMass
- Commitment to the field of Education
- A 3.4 GPA

Criteria for Acceptance - GRADUATE student

- Minimum of 12 semester hours
- Commitment to the field of Education
- Minimum 3.4 Grade Point Average

If you have interest, simply email the chapter advisor, **Clement Seldin** caseldin@educ.umass.edu and a letter of invitation will be emailed to you.

Application deadline is Friday, March 28, 2008.



GRANT SPACE

GrantSpace, the blog home of the **Graduate Student Grant Service** is the place to discuss the trials and triumphs of the hunt for funds. Go to the **POST YOUR MESSAGE** tab to post questions about finding and applying for grants and fellowships; share tips and experiences; vent and make suggestions. Grant Services will be monitoring and providing as much help as possible.

Click on the tabs above for the schedule of upcoming workshops, updates to the *Grantscape* newsletter (the selected list of grant opportunities, available in your departmental office or at 517 Goodell), and proposal writing tips. Some links to major grants are listed in the blogroll, to the right. If there's something else related to grants you'd like to see, send an email to: gsgs@grad.umass.edu, or post it on the **POST YOUR MESSAGE** page.

Check out the website, <http://www.umass.edu/gradschool.gsgs>, for helpful links and guidance.

To access searchable funding databases — available from any UMass computer or on your laptop if you're on campus and logged on to the UMass server — click on: <http://www.umass.edu/gradschool/gsgs/>

databases.html

If you need help getting started with database searching, post a message, give Grant Services a call or send an email. They will be happy to consult with you. (See **ABOUT GSGS** for their contact info.)



EPRA EDUCATIONAL POLICY FORUM

This year the event will feature a discussion with Dr. Max Page, associate professor at UMass and President of the Mass Society of Professors, entitled: Educational Policy in Massachusetts: How can Faculty make a difference? The forum will be held on **Tuesday March 4, 2008** in 151 Hill South at 3 p.m. Dr. Page is also an active leader in PHENOM, the Public Higher Education Network of Massachusetts, which is a collaboration of students, faculty, staff and alumni working together to promote support for higher education in the Commonwealth.

All are welcome to attend.

SPRING 08 ASSISTANTSHIPS AVAILABLE

All positions contingent on funding.

There are not positions available at this time.

ATTENTION: GRADUATE ASSISTANTS

A copy of the School of Education Graduate Assistantship Appointment and Reappointment Policies and Procedures, revised as of February 2007, is available at the Provost's Office at <http://www.umass.edu/provost/appoint/index.html>.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

FORMATION OF DISSERTATION COMMITTEE

AIAH A.S. MBAYO Proposed Dissertation Title: "Beyond School Inputs and Resources: An assessment of the impact of a quality education delivery strategy on learning outcomes in REBEP's targeted schools in Sierra Leone." Statement of the Problem: Since the EFA Conference in Dakar-2000, considerable progress has been made by some countries to expand access to education. However, this increased investments and resources is yet to have any significant impact on learning outcomes, particularly in fragile states like Sierra Leone.

Chairperson: Dr. David R. Evans.



UPCOMING CONFERENCES/ WORKSHOPS

NEW ENGLAND EDUCATORS RESEARCH ORGANIZATION

Registration for the 2008 conference is now open. The 40th annual NEERO Conference will be held April 9-11 in Hyannis, Massachusetts at The Cape Codder Resort and Spa.

NEERO has moved to online registration this year. You may access the online registration form at **www.neero.org**. After completing the registration form, you may either submit your payment immediately by credit card via PayPal or send a check through the mail.

NEERO is pleased that they were able to respond to members' requests and can accept credit card payments this year. You do not need a PayPal account to submit a payment, and you will be able to print a receipt for your payment.

Please register early to obtain the discounted registration fee.

Please visit **www.neero.org** often for updated conference information.



AMERICAN EDUCATIONAL RESEARCH ASSOCIATION (AERA) ANNUAL MEETING AND EXHIBIT

The 2008 AERA Meeting and Exhibit will be held on Monday, March 24 – Friday, March 28 in New York City. The 2008 AERA Program Theme: Research on Schools, Neighborhoods, and Communities: Toward Civic Responsibility.

This year's Annual Meeting theme provides an intellectual space for scholarship focused on schools, neighborhoods, and communities. Examples of relevant research topics include, but are not limited to (1) higher education and community development, (2) education and social service partnerships, (3) community-based teacher education, (4) project-based learning in metropolitan settings, (5) juvenile justice and opportunity to learn, (6) fiscal policy and planning, and (7) educational role of the professions (e.g., health, law, and engineering).

For more information go to: **http://www.aera.net/meetings/Default.aspx?menu_id=342&id=2936**



INTERNATIONAL ALLIANCE OF TEACHER SCHOLARS

In 2008, the *International Alliance of Teacher Scholars* will host its 20th annual Lilly Conference on College & University Teaching on March 21 & 22 in Southern California. We call for your proposals and hope you will be able to participate. More information is below.

For almost 30 years the international and national Lilly Conferences have provided a forum for learning about, reporting, and discussing the results of the *Scholarship of Teaching & Learning*. Lilly Conferences are retreats that combine *Scholarship of Teaching and Learning* sessions, and major addresses, with lots of opportunities for informal discussion about excellence in college and university teaching and learning. Internationally-known scholars join new and experienced faculty members and administrators from all over the world to discuss topics such as gender differences in learning, incorporating technology into teaching, encouraging critical thinking, using teaching and student portfolios, implementing group learning, and evaluating teaching. Information on the International and other National Lilly Conferences can be found at Lilly Conference Information.

The welcoming "Lilly Spirit" and the high level of scholarly attention to teaching and learning enable everyone to contribute to the forum. You are invited to join as a presenter or an involved participant.

For General Information: http://www.iats.com/conferences/west2008_info.html

For Registration Form – Early Registration through October 15: http://www.iats.com/conferences/registration_west2008.html

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS/ PROPOSALS

CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS TO CALICO MONOGRAPH SERIES 2009

Lara Lomicka (University of South Carolina) and **Gillian Lord** (University of Florida) are editing a volume on social networking and online collaboration for the CALICO Monograph Series 2009 and are currently accepting chapter proposals for the chapters presented below. If you are interested in any one of them, please submit to lomicka@sc.edu and glord@rll.ufl.edu a one- to two-page description of the chapter you would like to write based on the general outline below. Please refer to the topics we have provided as a general guideline; you can amend aspects of the chapter as you see fit. Submissions should combine SLA theory, research and practice of relevant applications, such as those listed below. The book will focus on practical and theory-based applications and how they relate to SLA and CALL theory, as well as empirical studies detailing their usefulness to CALL. The deadline to submit proposals is March 31, 2008.

Website: <http://secondgenerationcall.edublogs.org>

Wiki: <http://secondgenerationcall.wikispaces.com>
(Authors will have pages created for their chapters and will be invited to join the wiki so they can share their ideas with the other contributors.)

The Second Generation: Online collaboration and social networking in CALL

VOLUME DESCRIPTION

In recent years the landscape of CALL has been drastically altered, thanks to what have become known as Web 2.0 applications. The phrase "Web 2.0" was coined by O'Reilly Media in 2004 and refers to the second generation of the Internet, in which the emphasis is on online collaboration, networking and sharing among users. With Web 2.0 applications, language teachers have a variety of tools available to use in new and creative ways, and the potential to make us rethink how we act and interact in our lives and in our classrooms. This volume addresses the changes implied in these new applications, focusing

on the social and collaborative aspects as well as the theoretical constructs informing their use, the benefits for students from a language perspective, and successful projects implemented in the language classroom.

Chapter topics open to submissions:

Social networking/online communities (FaceBook, MySpace)

Flickr, YouTube, other social media-sharing sites
Chatbots (i.e., Fryer & Carpenter, 2006)

Tagging and folksonomies

RSS (really simple syndication) and feed aggregators
Social bookmarking

Other forms of many-to-many publishing

Other social software applications

The volume will also contain five invited chapters, with the following topics:

Gaming

Blogs

Wikis

Podcasting and audioblogging

Virtual realities

Timeline

March 31: Submission of chapter proposal & commitment to timeline

April 28: Acceptance notices and comments from the editors on chapter descriptions

May 31: Authors post outline and work in progress to wiki

June 30: Authors provide feedback and comments for each other via wiki

August 25: Submission of full chapter to editors and to post wiki

October 6: Comments and requested revisions from the editors on full chapter

November 3: Resubmit final version of chapter to editors and post to wiki

*The volume is expected to go to press in time for the 2009 CALICO conference.



JOURNAL OF CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION

The Journal of Curriculum and Instruction would like to invite you to submit or review for our 4th Issue, which focuses on action research. Below are the details.

Our journal can be located at www.joci.ecu.edu. If you are interested please contact Amanda Liles, the graduate assistant, at agl1027@ecu.edu.

(Continued on page 6)

The Call for Manuscripts:

The Journal of Curriculum and Instruction (JoCI) is a peer-reviewed, electronic journal that provides a forum for the dissemination of articles focused on research, practice, and related issues relevant to teaching and learning in the Pre K-12 environment. JoCI is supported by the Department of Curriculum and Instruction, in the College of Education at East Carolina University.

Audience & Contributors:

The audience for this journal includes higher education faculty, Pre K-12 teachers, graduate students in education, pre-service teacher education candidates, school administrators, and educational policymakers with an interest in curriculum and instruction. Contributors to the journal include classroom teachers, researchers and other practitioners from Pre K-12 schools, colleges, and universities.

The Journal Layout:

Research Forum - This peer-reviewed section includes empirical and action research, case studies, qualitative research, research reviews, reviews of the literature, empirically-based position papers, and policy analyses. Manuscripts are evaluated on the basis of their innovation, quality of scholarship, and contribution to the field of curriculum and instruction.

Practitioner's Platform:

This peer-reviewed section includes practical and descriptive articles that are evaluated on the basis of their innovation, quality of professional writing, and contribution to the field of curriculum and instruction. An emphasis is placed on publishing those articles providing clear and replicable examples of research-based practice applied in Pre K-12 settings. While a detailed literature review and analysis of underlying theory are not required for such articles, manuscripts for this section must describe a literature-supported practice and provide citations that document the relevant literature.

Perspective:

This section includes peer-reviewed commentaries or articles describing research-supported perspectives related to issue themes. Innovative approaches and ideas are particularly appropriate for this section.



**HARVARD GRADUATE SCHOOL OF
EDUCATION STUDENT RESEARCH
CONFERENCE (SRC)**

The Harvard Graduate School of Education Student Research Conference will be held on **March 14, 2008**. The HGSE Student Research Conference is a student-run conference designed to provide professional development for presenters who will gain valuable insights from Harvard faculty and colleagues into how to enhance their own research. The call for proposals will be on the SRC website **www.hgse-src2008.org** starting on November 26, 2007.

This year's theme is: "*The Power of Educational Research: Translating Knowledge into Action.*"

- How can we focus our research so it impacts the lives of students, teachers, schools and communities?
- How can we, as the next generation of educational researchers, create work that brings together research, policy and practice?
- Finally, and perhaps most importantly, how do we use our work to generate meaningful and positive social change?

Are you working to create a new curriculum or technological intervention in order to make a difference for kids? Are you focusing on how children learn? Are you studying international or domestic issues on systemic school reform? Are you hoping to mobilize families and communities to reform education? All of these represent ways in which educational research can be translated into action and all (and more) are topics on which you can present at this year's SRC!

In the meantime, please sign up for our mailing list and continue to check the website for updates on proposal submission, training sessions and other conference-related announcements. For further information email: **trichairs@hgse-src2008.org**



**UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS
AMHERST
MAUREEN FLANAGAN SCHOLARSHIP
ENDOWMENT**

Are you a student (preference given to women):

- At UMass Amherst
- With financial need?
- Interested in travel, internships, or service that complements your campus course work?

Here's a scholarship that may help:

Scholarship Description:

The purpose of this endowment is to establish scholarships for undergraduate students, with a preference for women, who have financial need as demonstrated in the content of their Financial Aid Application. The scholarships will offer students opportunities above and beyond the standard college experience such as, but not limited to, study abroad, research, summer Internships, alternative spring breaks, community service, or other initiatives that complement and enhance the chosen course of study of the students selected. Each year, the Director of Stewardship will remind the Schools and Colleges, via their respective Directors of Development, and other relevant departments about this scholarship.

How to Apply:

Student applicants must prepare a one-page proposal, which describes the initiative and the projected costs, and submit the proposal to the Financial Aid Office by **March 31, 2008**. Proposals may be submitted via e-mail as an attachment or in person. The Associate Director of Financial Aid Services and the Director of Stewardship will review the statements and select the scholarship recipient(s). The number of recipients may vary each year.

Questions may be directed to:

Ms. Anne Peramba, Assoc. Director of Financial Aid Services, Financial Aid Office, 243 Whitmore Building, 413-545-2886, peramba@finaid.umass.edu

Or, Ms. Janet Muzzy, Director of Stewardship, Development Office, Memorial Hall, 413-545-5473, jmuzzy@admin.umass.edu



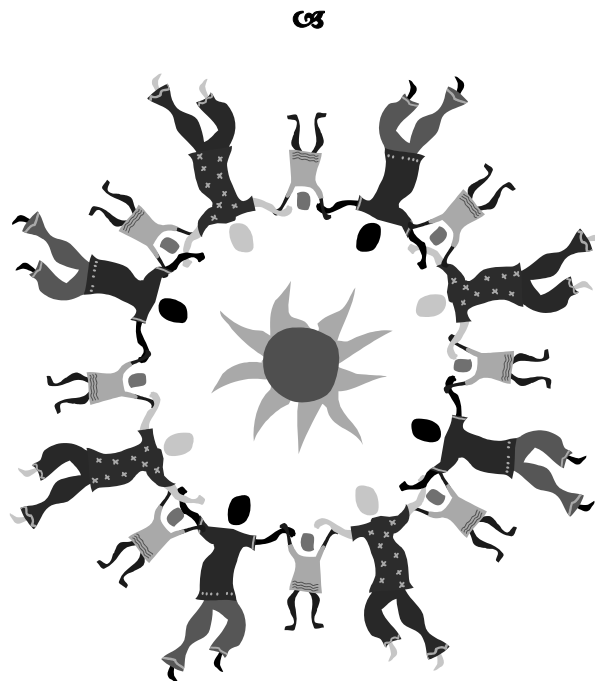
**NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF
MULTICULTURAL EDUCATORS**

The CALL For PRESENTERS is now available on the NAME web site for the 2008 Annual Conference in New Orleans, Nov. 12-16, 2008.

Please go to www.nameorg.org and CLICK on CONFERENCES to download the Call for Presentations.

You can also submit your electronic proposal at the web site: www.nameorg.org. Proposals to present in New Orleans are due: MARCH 31, 2008.

The conference theme is **Beyond Celebrating Diversity: ReACTivating the Equity and Social Justice Roots of Multicultural Education.**



CALL FOR NEWS

If you know of a student, faculty, or staff member who has been honored with an award or is involved in an interesting activity, please email **Linda Neas at llas-cell@educ.umass.edu**.

Thank you for your assistance!



School of Education UMass Amherst Centennial Marathon Initial Call for Proposals

Primary Presenter/Contact:

Title:

Contact information:

Phone:

Email:

Address:

Affiliation: Faculty Alumni Student

Other presenters:

Session Preference

Full Session (75 minutes): requires multiple participants
(e.g. symposium, panel discussion, practical session, co-presenters)

Short session (20 minutes):
(these will be organized into Full Sessions thematically, when possible)

Poster Session

Time/Date Session Preference

Friday, June 13th 2 Sessions, starting 1:00 p.m.

Saturday, June 14th, 2 Sessions, starting at 9:00 a.m.

No preference

Session Title:

Brief Description – (100 word minimum)

Equipment needed:

Overhead projector LCD projector Flipchart Markers Other: