



THE BEACON

SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

University of Massachusetts Amherst

Access *The Beacon* online: <http://www.umass.edu/education/publications.htm>. You can also go to the School of Education home page, and click on *The Beacon* in the menu under the News and Events button on the left. **HARD COPIES ARE AVAILABLE IN FURCOLO HALL AND HILLS SOUTH.**



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

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Please take note:

The Beacon will be printed every two weeks for the rest of the summer.



Centennial Celebration: A Marathon of Activity

How would we describe the Centennial Marathon and Celebration Dinner? Eighty Marathon sessions, 120 presenters, 225 dinner attendees, 3 former Deans, standing ovations for 9 alumni who received Awards of Distinction, innumerable conversations about innovation in education, remembrances from alumni who described their experiences with the school as “life-changing,” and a poetry reading by a Massachusetts senator - all of that and more packed into one and a half days.

The richness of our Century-long legacy of preparing educators seasoned the event with excitement and enthusiasm. UMass Amherst Provost Charlena Seymour verbalized that feeling when, at the Celebration Dinner, she issued the cheer: “Go, School of Education, GO!”

Go see what the excitement was about by visiting our web site to see photos from the Centennial. We’ll update the site with more photos, as well as comments, and video and audio clips from faculty, students, and others over the next week or two.

If you attended the Centennial and would like to share your thoughts about it, e-mail us at goodnews@educ.umass.edu, and we will post selections on our web site: www.umass.edu/education.

BEACON DEADLINE:

Please submit *Beacon* announcements to: **Room 121B Furcolo Hall or to jgoodheart@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.



CONFERENCES & CALLS FOR PROPOSALS

ACADAMY FOR EDUCATIONAL STUDIES

Academy for Educational Studies

4th Annual Conference
October 20 & 21, 2008
Branson, MO

"Rethinking education: Is it time for radical change in the public schools?"

Call for Papers

Theoretical, empirical, and practice-oriented proposals are welcomed in both the "theme topic" and "Academy dialogue" strands. All proposals will be blind peer-reviewed and must be submitted electronically. Deadline for proposals: **JULY 14, 2008.**

Send proposals attached as Word documents to:

AcademyEdStudies@missouristate.edu

Subject line: Academy Conference proposal

Keynote Addresses:

Kieran Egan (Simon Fraser University) is the author of *An Imaginative Approach to Teaching* and *The Educated Mind*. **Paul Theobald** (Buffalo State University) is the author of *Teaching the Commons* and *Education Now: How Re-thinking America's Past Can Change its Future* (forthcoming).

Academy Dialogue hosted by Christopher Lucas:

Christopher Lucas (University of Arkansas) is author of *American Higher Education: A History and Teacher Education in America*.

If you have any questions, please contact:

Steven P. Jones, Academy Director
Missouri State University
417-836-5982 • spjones@missouristate.edu

CONFERENCE ON BEST PRACTICES IN SCIENCE EDUCATION

Date: June 24

Location: Campus Center, UMass Amherst

Time: 9:00 A.M. - 2:00 P.M.

"Best Practices in Science Education: Retaining Science and Engineering Undergraduates, Sustaining the S & E Workforce."

This conference will: identify activities that increase the number and diversity of undergraduates in S & E disciplines, highlight curriculum reform and "best practices" for retaining S & E majors, expand the number of graduates entering the Massachusetts S & E workforce, build momentum and visibility for new legislation and funding opportunities.

To register, please visit: <http://www.nsm.umass.edu/conf08/>.

INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR LANGUAGE STUDIES

ISLS Conference Dates: June 11-13, 2009

Location: The Crowne Plaza Orlando Universal; Orlando, Florida

Proposal Deadline: September 1, 2008

Submit your paper and poster session proposals: <http://www.viethconsulting.com/members/proposals/propselect.php?orgcode=ISLS&prid=48559>.

NORTHEASTERN EDUCATIONAL RESEARCH ASSOCIATION (NERA)

NERA Conference Dates: October 22-24, 2008

Location: Marriott Hotel in Rocky Hill, CT.

Questions: neramembers@gmail.com.

Theme: "Strengthening Educational Research"

Note: Papers and posters need not be about the conference theme.

Keynote speaker: Marilyn Cochran-Smith, the John E. Cawthorne Millennium Chair in Teacher Education for Urban Schools from the Lynch School of Education at Boston College.

ASSISTANTSHIPS

EDUCATIONAL POLICY, RESEARCH & ADMINISTRATION (EPRA) ASSISTANTSHIPS

No assistantships at this time.

TEACHER EDUCATION & CURRICULUM STUDIES (TECS) ASSISTANTSHIPS

Part-time (10 hour/week) **Research Assistant position** for Fall 2008: RA will assist LLC faculty member in the following: 1. *Inquiry support* - research and compilation of sources for faculty grants and publications; school-based qualitative data collection, including observations, interviews and focus groups; 2. *Instruction support* - gathering, copying, organizing and posting reading material for diverse courses; 3. *Writing support* - editing and proofreading manuscripts for publication and grant proposals.

Qualifications: A qualified candidate will possess research and organizational skills and ability to work independently. Candidate must have strong skills in reviewing electronic sources and collecting and organizing qualitative data. Knowledge of Excel 2007 and familiarity with diverse resource listing styles including APA required.

To apply: Send cover letter and résumé to Laura Valdiviezo, lav@educ.umass.edu.

STUDENT DEVELOPMENT & PUPIL PERSONNEL SERVICES (SDPPS) ASSISTANTSHIPS

10 hour **Teaching Assistantship** available for Education 698M/701 in Fall 2008 and Spring 2009. Find, develop, and coordinate practicum and pre-practicum sites, and supervise students.

Strong organizational skills required and school counseling background and teaching experience preferred.

This practicum provides individualized instruction and supervision in individual counseling. Admission to a Counseling Master's program and certification of readiness for the practicum by the student's adviser is required before enrollment. All students counsel clients at an off-campus agency or school.

Please send letter of interest outlining qualifications and résumé to **Robbie Calliham:** calliham@educ.umass.edu.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

COMPREHENSIVE EXAMINATIONS

JUAN P. JIMENEZ June 19, 2008, 2:30 P.M., Room 21B Furcolo Hall. **Chairperson: Dr. Margaret Gebhard**

NORMAN PRICE June 25, 2008, 10:00 A.M., Room 230 Furcolo Hall. **Chairperson: Dr. John Clement**

FORMATION OF DISSERTATION COMMITTEE

JEUS JARA

Proposed Dissertation Title: "Boon or Bust? A Study of the Fidelity and Use of Formative Assessment Products in K-12 Schools." Statement of the Problem: The 2001 reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA), No Child Left Behind, brought the use of student assessment data to the fore. This mandate-based and sanction-laden legislation ushered in a new era of accountability rooted in the collection, analysis, and use of student assessment data for educational improvements. As a result, a new boon industry has emerged: formative assessment products. **Chairperson: Matthew Militello**

ELSA WIEHE

Proposed Dissertation Title: "Environmental Education in Mauritius: exploring social intersectionalities." Statement of the Problem: The environmental education curriculum in Mauritius is not value-free. A science-based subject, it claims universalism and authority over ecological matters. Preliminary analysis indicates that the curriculum does not address the more complex social realities of children and the subtle histories of race and class that filter children's perceptions and understanding of place and nature.

Chairperson: Dr. Theresa Austin

FINAL ORAL EXAMINATIONS

SOLOMON ABRAHAM July 9, 2008, 3:30 P.M., Room 151 Hills South. Title of Dissertation: African Migrant Students in African and U.S. Mathematics Classrooms. **Chairperson: Dr. Maurianne Adams**

*All assistantships are
contingent upon funding.*

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Departments

Educational Policy, Research, and Administration (EPRA).....	545.3610
Teacher Education and Curriculum Studies (TECS).....	545.0246
Student Development and Pupil Personnel Services (SDPPS).....	545.2231

Other Offices

Educator Information Office	545.2002
Educator Licensure Office.....	545.2701



Commonly Used University Numbers

Bursar's Office 215 Whitmore.....	545.2368
Continuing & Professional Education (main office) 100 Venture Way, Hadley.....	545.2414
Financial Aid 255 Whitmore.....	545.0801
Graduate School – Registrar/Admissions 534 Goodell.....	545.0024
Undergraduate Registrar 213 Whitmore.....	545.0555

If you know of conferences or about any students or faculty who have received honors or awards, please let me know! Send all information to jgoodheart@educ.umass.edu.