



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

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

ANNOUNCEMENTS	1 - 2
CONFERENCES & CALLS FOR PROPOSALS	2 - 3
ASSISTANTSHIPS	3

Please take note:
The Beacon will be printed every two weeks for the rest of the summer.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ATTENTION SEPTEMBER 2008 DEGREE CANDIDATES

The next degree-granting period will be September, 2008. Listed below are deadline dates to apply for graduation for M.Ed., C.A.G.S., Ed.D., and Ph.D. candidates who will have completed requirements for a September 2008 degree.

M.Ed. and C.A.G.S. Candidates

The Degree Eligibility form must be completed and returned to Linda Guthrie in the Graduate Program Office, 123 Furcolo, no later than August 22nd, 2008. This is to allow time for processing and obtaining the necessary signatures of Linda Griffin, the Graduate Program Director and Dean McCormick.

The Eligibility form must be accompanied by the School of Education Completed Program of Study form (Master's Form M-2 or CAGS Form C-2). Your advisor must sign the School of Ed form, but NOT the Eligibility form.

Forms can be downloaded from the following URL:

http://www.umass.edu/education/academics/advising_guidelines.shtml

(Continued on page 2)

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.

Correction on Room # for Final Oral Defense:

ANDREW KOERNER August 21, 2008, 3:00 p.m., **Room 1085**, W.E.B. DuBois Library. "The Utility of the Individual Reading Evaluation and Diagnostic (iRead) Inventory. A Specific Skills Assessment for Treatment Design and Implementation." **Chairperson: Dr. John Hintze.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS *(cont. from page 1)*

Ed.D. and Ph.D. Candidates:

The Doctoral Degree Eligibility form must be submitted to Linda Guthrie in Room 123 Furcolo, along with the D-9 form (Result of Final Oral Examination) no later than August 22, 2008. It can be downloaded from: <http://www.umass.edu/gradschool/files/Doctoral%20Degree%20Eligibility%20Form.pdf>. Please note that the Degree Eligibility form is 2 pages. Linda will submit this form to the Degree Requirements Office after it is signed.

Two copies of the dissertation signature page must be signed by Christine B. McCormick, Dean of the School of Education. **Students should submit their signature pages to Linda by August 24th, and she will obtain the Dean's signature.** She will then return these pages to the student for inclusion with the dissertation.

Dissertation copies, fees and materials must be submitted to the Office of Degree Requirements (Room 534 Goodell) by 5:00 p.m., August 29th, 2008. **THIS IS A FIRM DEADLINE!**

IMPORTANT: If you do not file for graduation by the degree deadline date, you must pay the Continuous Enrollment fee of \$275.00 to maintain continuous enrollment until you graduate.

DOCTORAL FELLOWSHIP

Commonwealth Corporation is offering a **fellowship** for a Massachusetts doctoral student to conduct research on workforce development in the long-term care sector. Please click on the link below to access the description and application (**due October 1, 2008**). Questions can be directed to info@commcorp.org.

<http://www.commcorp.org/researchandevaluation/pdf/CommCorp-SEatonFship2008.pdf>

The fellowship is offered in memory of Professor Susan Eaton, an activist and researcher who dedicated her career to work and labor issues and made important contributions to the field of workforce development in the long-term care industry.

CONFERENCES & CALLS FOR PROPOSALS

ACADAMY FOR EDUCATIONAL STUDIES

Academy for Educational Studies

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

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

Keynote Addresses:

Kieran Egan (Simon Fraser University) and Paul Theobald (Buffalo State University).

Academy Dialogue hosted by Christopher Lucas (University of Arkansas)

If you have any questions, please contact:

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

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.

(Continued on page 3)

CONFERENCES & CALLS FOR PROPOSALS *(cont. from page 2)*

CENTER FOR EDUCATIONAL ASSESSMENT WORKSHOP AT NERA

October 22, 2008 (Wednesday)
4-5:30 P.M.

Hartford Marriott Rocky Hill, Rocky Hill, CT)

“Reporting Test Scores in More Meaningful Ways: Some New Findings, Research Methods, and Guidelines for Score Report Design”

Presented by Ronald K. Hambleton & April L. Zenisky
Center for Educational Assessment
University of Massachusetts Amherst

Goals for this workshop include a discussion of the current state of score reporting practices, including promising ideas for communicating test results to audiences, as well as an overview of research in the area and exercises to gain experience in both constructively criticizing score reports and designing better score reports.

ASSISTANTSHIPS

EDUCATIONAL POLICY, RESEARCH & ADMINISTRATION (EPRA) ASSISTANTSHIPS

The Center for Educational Assessment in the Department of Educational Policy, Research, and Administration expects up to 14 **full-time graduate student research assistantships** for the **2008-2009 academic year** associated with five contracts: Measured Progress (research on the MCAS), the Massachusetts Department of Education (Adult Basic Education project), The College Board (Research on Advanced Placement Exams), Pearson Educational Measurement (Research on K-12 testing), and USAID (Indonesia).

All assistantships require expertise in psychometrics and statistical modeling. Responsibilities include: conducting multivariate statistical analyses; equating analyses; simulating data; editing technical reports; attending project meetings; writing computer code for psychometric activities such as item calibration, score scale linking, and population invariance

studies; performing literature reviews on equating, scaling, standard setting, and score reporting; and co-authoring research reports. All candidates should have extensive knowledge of item response theory, multidimensional scaling, plausible values methodology, test construction, and test validation research.

To apply, please contact Dr. Stephen G. Sireci, (413) 545-0564 (Sireci@acad.umass.edu).

STUDENT DEVELOPMENT & PUPIL PERSONNEL SERVICES (SDPPS) ASSISTANTSHIPS

No assistantships at this time.

TEACHER EDUCATION & CURRICULUM STUDIES (TECS) ASSISTANTSHIPS

TA assistantship Educ 500-STEP Supervisor-Fall 08

Ten hour per week teaching assistantship available to supervise science/math student teachers in Secondary Teacher Education Program, Department of Teacher Education and Curriculum Studies.

Responsibilities include: Supervision of 5 student teachers, site visits to schools, conferences with students and supervising practitioners, observation reports, weekly email contact, attendance at monthly supervisor meetings, review of student teaching portfolios, maintaining contact between schools and university, timely completion of ongoing documentation of student performance. For more info go to: <http://www.people.umass.edu/madeloni>

Qualifications: Excellent organizational and communication skills. Classroom teaching experience. Preferences given to students who have or are taking Educ 851.

Applicants should submit letter of interest, résumé, and names and contact information for two references to Barbara Madeloni, Director of STEP Student Teaching, 413-577-0495, madeloni@educ.umass.edu.

Application deadline: August 26, 2008

*All assistantships are
contingent upon funding.*

