



THE BEACON

SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

University of Massachusetts Amherst

Access *The Beacon* online: <http://www.umass.edu/education/publications/beacon.shtml>. 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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FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Departments

EPRA.....**545.3610**
SDPPS.....**545.2231**
TECS.....**545.0246**

Other Offices

Educator Information Office
545.2002
Educator Licensure Office
545.2701



Change in Beacon Deadline:

Please submit *Beacon* announcements to: **Room 121B Furcolo Hall or to jgoodheart@educ.umass.edu** by 5:00 P.M. on Friday for inclusion in the following week's *Beacon*. All assistantships will run for two issues and examinations and dissertation proposals will run for one.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

COMPREHENSIVE EXAMINATIONS

RANI VARGHESE September 17, 2008, 3:00 P.M., Room 151, Hills South.
Chairperson: Dr. Ximena Zuniga

MARLINA DUNCAN September 22, 2008, 10:00 A.M., Room 21C, Furcolo Hall.
Chairperson: Allan Feldman

FORMATION OF DISSERTATION COMMITTEE

KATHY SISNEROS Proposed Dissertation Title: "The Forgotten Voices Behind Designated Diversity Initiatives: Perspectives from Students of Color Living in a Multicultural Residential Community." Statement of the Problem: Colleges and universities have become increasingly diverse since *Brown v. Board of Education* requiring that institutions figure out how to manage a more racially diverse student body. Unfortunately, many predominantly White institutions (PWIs) continue to fall short in attending to the specific needs for students of color to feel included and supported. The primary purpose of this study is to learn more about how students of color experience and make meaning of cross-racial relationships in designated multicultural programs. I intend to specifically focus on the experiences of students of color who have self-selected to live in a designated multicultural community. **Chairperson: Dr. Joseph B. Berger.**

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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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS *(cont. from page 1)*

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.

FY 2009 Funding Opportunities at the Institute of Education Sciences

The Institute of Education Sciences has begun its research grant competitions for FY 2009. Within IES, the National Center for Education Research is conducting one research competition (84.305A **Education Research**) that encompasses two topic areas that may be of interest to you and your colleagues:

Education Leadership

(<http://ies.ed.gov/ncer/projects/program.asp?ProgID=8>)

and Education Policy, Finance, and Systems

(<http://ies.ed.gov/ncer/projects/program.asp?ProgID=9>)

Application deadline: October 2, 2008. [Letters of Intent (LOIs) are optional.]

For additional information on the Education Leadership or Education Policy, Finance, and Systems topic areas contact: Katina R. Stapleton, Research Scientist, Institute of Education Sciences, 555 New Jersey Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20208, 202-219-2154, Katina.Stapleton@ed.gov.

IES also invites applications for research projects that will contribute to its new research program on the **Evaluation of State and Local Education Programs and Policies** (84.305E). For more information about this program, contact Dr. Allen Ruby at (202) 219-1591 or Allen.Ruby@ed.gov.

For application requirements and instructions as well as other funding opportunities, see the Request for Applications located online at <http://ies.ed.gov/funding>.

Graduate Certificate in Latin American, Caribbean and Latino Studies

The Center for Latin American, Caribbean and Latino Studies offers an inter-disciplinary Graduate Certificate in Latin American, Caribbean and Latino Studies. The certificate is offered only in conjunction with a disciplinary master's or doctoral degree program and is overseen by the Center's faculty. It is intended to certify competency in area and language studies. It encourages enrolled graduate students to enhance their professional development by taking courses outside their discipline which contribute to training in internationalism, multiculturalism and foreign language competence.

For additional information on the Center, we encourage interested students to visit Gloria Bernabe-Ramos, the Associate Director and Chief Advisor of the Center for Latin American, Caribbean and Latino Studies, in her office, Thompson 520, and to visit www.umass.edu/clacsl.

Thesis and Dissertation Formatting with Microsoft Word at UMass Amherst

The Office of Information Technologies offers workshops with detailed instructions on how to format a thesis or dissertation to meet the requirements of the UMass Graduate School with Microsoft Word for Windows or Mac. The workshops include margins, footnotes, bibliographies, page numbering, headings, table of contents, etc. as well as advice about electronic submission. There are two workshops: one for users of Word 2007 (including people who will be working in the OIT classrooms), and one for earlier versions of Word (Mac or Windows).

Word 2007 Workshop

Monday, October 27
9:00 am – 12:00 pm

Word (other versions) Workshop

Wednesday, October 29
1:00 pm – 4:00 pm

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ANNOUNCEMENTS *(cont. from page 2)*

Prerequisite

Some knowledge of the version of Microsoft Word that you are using.

Registration

Registration is required and is not complete until you have paid the \$10 fee and told us which version of Word you are using. To register, go to the Administrative Desk in A119 Lederle GRC (545-9730).

For information, email worshops@oit.umass.edu.

Course materials on Web or CD

Course materials are also available on the OIT Web site: www.oit.umass.edu/workshops/tutorials.html Or purchase a course packet and CD from OIT for \$5 plus tax.

Consulting on formatting issues

For more information about these workshops, to discuss which one is best for you, or for other consultation on dissertation and thesis formatting issues, please contact Elisa Campbell: campbell@oit.umass.edu

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



CONFERENCES & CALLS FOR PROPOSALS

INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR LANGUAGE STUDIES

ISLS Conference Dates: June 11-13, 2009

Location: The Crowne Plaza Orlando Universal; Orlando, Florida

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.

Center for Educational Assessment Workshop at NERA

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

"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
School of Education
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.

CONFERENCES & CALLS FOR PROPOSALS *(cont. from page 3)*

School of Education at NERA

SESSION TWO: WEDNESDAY, 4-5:30

Paper Session Title: Learning and Instruction on the College Campus

Discussant: Barker

Chair: Laguilles

Evaluation of the UMass-Amherst Afghan Project Academic success Initiative

by CIE graduate student Bonnie Sylwester and Assistant Professor Rebecca Gajda

ASSISTANTSHIPS

EDUCATIONAL POLICY, RESEARCH & ADMINISTRATION (EPRA) ASSISTANTSHIPS

Fall 2008 **10 hour graduate research assistantship** available in the department of Education, Policy, Research and Administration.

Responsibilities include: Assist in the development of a comprehensive plan to recruit and retain diverse graduate students. Projects would include developing advertising strategy and a mentor program, and to facilitate communications with target schools. Some travel and public speaking is involved.

If interested, please submit via email an electronic copy of your résumé and a cover letter that highlights your relevant experience and qualifications to Department Assistant Celia Miller at celia@educ.umass.edu. Review of applications will begin immediately.

STUDENT DEVELOPMENT & PUPIL PERSONNEL SERVICES (SDPPS) ASSISTANTSHIPS

Part-time (5hr week) **assistantship**, is available for the **Fall 2008** working with Department Chair of the SDPPS. Project assistant to perform data analysis for a total of 20 hrs over a period of 4 weeks.

Responsibilities include: Statistical consultation and data analysis.

Qualifications include: The ideal candidate will have developed research skills in statistical consultation and data analysis. Must be able to complete project independently.

To apply, please send cover letter & résumé to Robbie Calliham, calliham@educ.umass.edu, 413-545-2231.



Part-time (15hr week) **assistantship**, is available for the **Fall 2008** working with Department Chair of the SDPPS. Project assistant for program development project.

Responsibilities include: Research, program development, represent the University for public recruiting, and report writing.

Qualifications include: The ideal candidate will have developed skills in research & public speaking. Background in the field of education required. Must have excellent writing skills and be able to work independently.

To apply, please send cover letter & résumé to Robbie Calliham, calliham@educ.umass.edu, 413-545-2231.

TEACHER EDUCATION & CURRICULUM STUDIES (TECS) ASSISTANTSHIPS

Teaching Assistant for EDUC 512: Methods of Teaching Middle and High School Science

Responsibilities include: Attending weekly class, meeting weekly with instructor to plan/discuss class, facilitating course, instructional planning, helping with grading, and tracking student attendance.

Qualifications include: Doctoral student with teaching experience in middle or high school science. Preference given to students with prior experience teaching in higher education.

Please contact: Prof. Allan Feldman at afeldman@educ.umass.edu



ASSISTANTSHIPS *(cont. from page 4)*

One **half-time** (10 hours/week) **Research Assistant** Position (fall and spring semesters, 2008-09) to work with Allan Feldman on research in teacher education.

Responsibilities include: facilitation of discussion groups data collection including interviewing, and preparation of manuscripts.

Qualifications include: interest and experience in mathematics education, teacher education, and secondary school teaching. Graduate work-study is required. Preference given to TESI doctoral students.

Please contact: Prof. Allan Feldman, 230 Furcolo Hall, at afeldman@educ.umass.edu. Funding for this position is from a University of Massachusetts Amherst Public Service Grant.



(10 hour/week) Research Assistant position available for **Fall 2008:**

Description:

RA will assist TECS faculty member in the following:

1. Designing and implementing classroom-based research sessions on concept development
2. Collecting and analyzing video data
3. Writing, editing, proofreading research manuscripts and grant proposals

Qualifications:

A qualified candidate will possess

1. Experience in qualitative research
2. Experience in collecting and analyzing video data
3. Organizational skills
4. Ability to work independently.
5. Skills in reviewing electronic sources and collecting and organizing qualitative data.

To apply: Send cover letter and résumé to John Francisco jmfranci@educ.umass.edu. **APPLICATION DEADLINE:** September 18, 2008



All assistantships are contingent upon funding.

One **part-time** (10 Hour per week) **TA** for Secondary Teacher Education Program for Fall and Spring 08-09

Responsibilities include: working with STEP Concentration Coordinator on administrative duties; communication within STEP, across campus and with community partners; enhancement of STEP process, recruitment, admissions; and other duties as assigned.

Qualifications: Excellent communication and organizational skills. Knowledge of STEP and of community collaborators. Ability to problem solve and work independently.

Please send résumé and names of two references to Barbara Madeloni, STEP Concentration Coordinator, Madeloni@educ.umass.edu, 413-577-0495. Application deadline Sept. 24, 2008.

OTHER ASSISTANTSHIPS ON CAMPUS

Research Assistant/ 20 hours/week (full time) for September 2008-May 2009

Responsibilities: Assist Center for Latin American, Caribbean and Latino Studies staff and affiliated researchers on a variety of projects, including a Ford-Foundation-supported grant entitled, *Interrogating the Civil Society Agenda: Social Movements, Civic Participation and Democratic Innovation, an Inter-University Consortium on the Americas in Comparative and Transnational Perspective*. This project involves collaboration among researchers in a number of universities in the U.S. & Latin America and the Caribbean, international conferences, & publications. Duties include conducting bibliographic research & creating annotated bibliographies for local & other consortium members; developing & maintaining project website, including links to publications, syllabi & other relevant documents; assisting in the process of preparing an edited collection on social movements in the Americas for publication; conducting research on potential sources of funding & assisting with grant writing; helping to coordinate outreach to local community partners around issues related to the project; and providing support for Center activities, such as presentations of research, conferences, and other events.

Proficiency in Spanish and/or Portuguese required.

If interested, apply immediately by bringing a letter of interest which addresses your qualifications for the position, and a transcript to: CLACLS – RA position, Thompson 522, UMass Amherst.