



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.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

- Assistantship 1
- Announcements 2,3



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

News on the web

Check out the Faculty News & Current Students web pages on the School of Education's web site at

<http://www.umass.edu/education>.

ASSISTANTSHIP

Department of Education, Policy, Research and Administration

Spring 2009 - 10 hour graduate research assistantship.

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. Qualifications: the ideal candidate must have developed research skills, strong organizational and time management skills, and be able to complete projects independently.

If interested, please submit via email an electronic copy of your resume and a cover letter that highlights your relevant experience and qualifications to: Department Assistant **Robbie Calliham**, calliham@educ.umass.edu, 161 Hills South. Review of applications will begin immediately.

The Beacon Deadline is FRIDAY

Please submit *Beacon* announcements to: **Room 126 Furcolo Hall**

or to dms@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.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE EXAMINATIONS

MELISSA DONOHUE February 3,
2009, 10:00 a.m., Room 157, Hills
South. **Chairperson: Dr. Sharon F. Rallis.**

LIN TANG February 5-6, 2009, 9:00 a.m.
- 5:00 p.m., Room 354, Hills South.
Chairperson: Dr. William Matthews.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF FINAL ORAL EXAMINATION

MUHAMMAD MAJID KHAN February
20, 2009, 1:00 - 4:00 p.m., Room 151, Hills
South. "Issues of Access in Public and Private
Higher Education Institutions in Islamabad,
Pakistan."
Chairperson: Dr. David R. Evans.

FORMATION OF DISSERTATION COMMITTEE

SUZANNE SCALLION Proposed Disserta-
tion Title: "The Voice of Elementary School
Principals on School Climate." Statement of
the Problem: School climate has a more
profound affect on student achievement than
race or socioeconomic status. Principals need
skills to adjust school climate and can utilize
strategies developed by their peers.
Chairperson: Dr. Linda L. Griffin.

AWARD

HYUNJU LEE, doctoral student in the
Department of Teacher Education and
Curriculum Studies, was named by the Equity
and Ethics Committee of the National
Association for Research in Science Teaching
(NARST) as a recipient of one of the 2009
NARST Equity Scholars Awards. NARST is a
worldwide organization of professionals
committed to the improvement of science
teaching and learning through research.

On the SOE web site

right now...

- **SPRING COURSE OFFERINGS**
 - **Student photo gallery**
- **An article about alumnus Edison
Santana**
 - **Story about student Kristin
Rabbitt**
- **School of Education newsletters**
- **Previous issues of The Beacon**

Go to
www.umass.edu/education/
to read more

CALL FOR PROPOSALS

7TH ANNUAL

TEACHERS AS RESEARCHERS CONFERENCE

FRIDAY MAY 8, 2009

UNIVERSITY OF NEW HAMPSHIRE MANCHESTER

DEADLINE: Friday, Feb 27, 2009

Submit proposals to Judy Sharkey:

judy.sharkey@unh.edu

Purpose:

The Annual Teachers as Researchers Conference is sponsored by the Teacher Education Program at the University of New Hampshire. It highlights the valuable role of inquiry in school reform and professional development. The conference serves as an opportunity for interested educators to network with colleagues, share their work, and deepen their understanding of teacher research.

Invitation to present:

We invite classroom teachers, prospective teachers, school counselors, social workers, teacher educators, and administrators to submit proposals in one the following categories:

Teacher research and/or action research projects.

These may be empirical or conceptual studies conducted by teacher/action researchers. They may be individual and/ or collaborative projects.

Developing and/or providing ongoing support for teacher research. These presentations might address how to establish or sustain a teacher research group or network, or report on the role of teacher research in professional development, teacher learning, and/or school reform.

Issues related to the methodology of teacher research. These are intended to help audience members develop their skills as teacher researchers. Topics may include addressing ethical issues, data collection or analysis techniques, how to develop a good research question, etc.

Inquiries/projects related to serving culturally/linguistically diverse populations. These presentations may fit into one of the above categories but we also welcome projects conducted by individuals or groups who have conducted inquires and/or designed innovative projects that might not fall into teacher/action research but address important educational issues.

PRESENTATION TYPES

Paper (45 minutes) An oral summary with occasional references to notes or text, describing and discussing what the presenter is doing or has done.

Demonstration (45 or 75 minutes) The emphasis here is on showing rather than telling. Often the presenter models techniques.

Workshop (45 or 75 minutes) A workshop has minimal lecturing by the leader: the emphasis is on the participants' activity. The leader carefully structures the activity and works with the group.

Panel Discussion (45 or 75 minutes) A formal presentation by a group with audience discussion.

Interactive Poster Session (45 minutes) A number of presenters display posters or other artifacts of their research or practices, standing nearby to explain and discuss, informally, their displayed work. Presenters also provide a detailed summary of their work as a handout to participants.

In-progress discussion group (20 minutes).

Presenters provide a brief overview of an in-progress project. They may share preliminary findings or discuss unexpected challenges and/or insights.

Email Judy Sharkey at judy.sharkey@unh.edu to request a proposal cover sheet which must be completed and e-mailed or faxed to her at 603-641-4342. Along with your cover sheet submit the following:

- An **Abstract** of the presentation (250 word maximum). Be sure to include the purpose and rationale of the presentation as well as key points to be addressed and an overview of the contents of the presentation.
- A **Bio** of each presenter (25 word maximum) exactly as you would like it to appear in the conference Program.
- A **Program Summary** (50 word maximum) exactly as you would like it to appear in the conference program.

DEADLINE: February 27, 2009