



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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We've started something new !

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

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

Events, awards, achievements, features, photos

ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS OFFICE (IPO) TUITION WAIVERS FOR SPRING, 2009

Nominations for tuition waivers for current and new international graduate students are now being solicited by the International Programs office. As there are very few waivers available, they are only for students who have enormous potential but have no immediate financial assistance from their program.

CURRENT STUDENT ELIGIBILITY: Current students must be in a **full-time** graduate degree program

- . Minimum 3.25 GPA
- . Demonstrated financial need
- . Must **not** be a citizen or permanent U.S. resident

These waivers are for TUITION ONLY for the SPRING, 2009 term. Recipients are **not** automatically entitled to renewals, but may reapply for one additional year.

Completed nominations are to be submitted to Linda Guthrie, Graduate Program Coordinator, in Room 123, Furcolo. Linda Griffin, Graduate Program Director, will review and nominate those applications that she believes are the strongest.

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Change in Beacon Deadline:

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.

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS *(cont. from page 1)*

CURRENT STUDENTS MUST SUBMIT:

1. Formal application form (student can pick up form at the International Programs Office, 467 Hills South or download it from: http://www.ip.o.umass.edu/_customtags/ct_FileRetrieve.cfm?File_ID=03054E06727474777172706906700609157C0708061475050604047274060702750400037303)

2. Financial documentation proving student has sufficient funds to cover all academic fees and living expenses other than tuition, (based on an estimated amount of \$23,800 for the 2008-09 academic year).

3. **Recommendation letter from student's advisor or chairperson.**

Note: For those nominated, GPD will send a memo attached to nomination to IPO.

CURRENT STUDENT DEADLINE TO SUBMIT COMPLETED APPLICATIONS FOR SPRING, 2009 is NOVEMBER 7, 2008.



NEW STUDENT ELIGIBILITY:

- Must be accepted into a **full-time** graduate degree program
- Have demonstrated financial need
- Have verified access to funds for all non-tuition related expenses, estimated at \$23,800 for 2008/2009 academic year. Must **not** be a citizen or permanent U.S. resident.

NEW STUDENTS MUST SUBMIT:

1. Copy of complete graduate application, signed by concentration head and department chair

2. **Recommendation letter from student's advisor or chair, in Word document format.**

Note: Tuition Waiver Nomination Form will be completed by Linda Guthrie

Completed nominations are to be submitted to Linda Guthrie, Graduate Program Coordinator, in Room 123, Furcolo. Linda Griffin, Graduate Program Director, will review and nominate those applications that she believes are the strongest.

These waivers are for TUITION ONLY for the SPRING, 2009 term. Recipients are **not** automatically entitled to renewals, but may reapply for one additional year.

INCOMING STUDENT DEADLINE TO SUBMIT COMPLETED APPLICATIONS FOR SPRING, 2009 is OCTOBER 24, 2008.

IMPORTANT: ALL NOMINATIONS MUST BE RANK ORDERED BY CONCENTRATION AND DEPARTMENT.

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

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 workshops@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

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 at campbell@oit.umass.edu.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS *(cont. from page 2)*

Graduate Student Grant Services (GSGS)

Graduate Student Grant Services (GSGS) helps graduate students at UMass Amherst seeking extramural support for their studies, and provides the following services: Personal Consultations, Departmental Workshops, GrantScape Newsletter, Information Sessions

Visit the following website for more information:
<http://www.umass.edu.gradschool/gsgs/>

RESEARCH OPPORTUNITIES

NEW

Development and Learning Sciences (DLS)

National Science Foundation, Directorate for Social, Behavioral, and Economic Sciences (SBE); Division of Behavioral and Cognitive Sciences (PD 08-1698)

Application Receipt Target Dates: January 15, 2009 & July 15, 2009

http://www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm_summ.jsp?pims_id=8671

Helen M. Robinson Award

International Reading Association, Research Grants and Awards Program. Application Receipt Date: January 15, 2009

http://www.reading.org/association/awards/research_robinson.html **Subject area:** Dissertation research in the area of reading and literacy



CONFERENCE S & CALLS FOR PROPOSALS

New England Educational Research Organization (NEERO) 2009 Conference

Portsmouth, New Hampshire
 May 6-8, 2009
 Sheraton Harborside Hotel

Call for proposals

For details about types of presentations and proposal requirements, and to submit all proposals, visit www.neero.org. Please review the CFP before submitting a proposal.

Deadline: October 30

More information about conference registration and hotel reservations will be available later this fall at the NEERO website.

Pioneer Valley STEM Education Showcase and Symposium

Thursday, October 23, 2008
 4:00 - 6:00 PM
 Kittredge Center
 Holyoke Community College

More Information: <http://umassk12.net/pvnet>
 kbaker918@aol.com 413 545-0010

Registration: <http://bit.ly/Showcase>

Registration deadline: October 10, 2008

Showcase

- Come to the poster fair to learn about what schools, colleges, museums, and businesses are doing to improve STEM education students and teachers in the Pioneer Valley.

- Bring a poster that describes what your institution is doing for STEM education in the region.

Symposium

- Hear what a panel of Pioneer Valley superintendents have to say and learn from representatives of the MA Department of Education what is happening on the State level.

**Massachusetts Association of Colleges for
Teacher Education (MACTE)
CALL FOR PRESENTATIONS**

MACTE/COMTEC/MAECTE Conference
November 21, 2008
Sturbridge Host Hotel & Conference Ctr. in Sturbridge
Deadline for submissions: October 17, 2008.

Theme: Educating Diverse P-12 Students.
Presentations focusing specifically on this topic should address the role our teacher preparation programs can play in improving the equity and access to quality education for all children & adolescents in Massachusetts. This includes the recruitment of diverse candidates to teacher preparation programs and issues of language differences, ethnicity, poverty and cultural diversity.

Submit your proposal electronically to Vera Ossen at vera_ossen@uml.edu. Include session organizer, institutional affiliation, contact information, additional presenter(s), title of proposed session, a brief abstract of your presentation (approx. 300 words), and a 50 word summary of your presentation for the program. 4th Annual Conference.

Academy for Educational Studies

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

October 20 & 21, 2008 in Branson, MO

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

For more information: <http://www.isls-inc.org/>.

**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 Dr. 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 & exercises to gain experience in both constructively criticizing score reports and designing better score reports.

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 Sylvester and Dr. Rebecca Gajda

CONFERENCES *(cont. from page 4)*

**RE-ENVISIONING WRITING ASSESSMENT:
RELEVANCE, DIVERSITY AND ACHIEVEMENT**

A conference for educators, pre-K-college hosted by UMass in collaboration with the Western Massachusetts Writing Project

November 1, 2008. 8:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m.
Southbridge Hotel and Conference Center
Southbridge, MA

The program includes sessions for all grade levels on classroom, state-mandated, and placement assessments on such topics as: Equity in Assessment, Assessing Visual and Multi Modal Texts, Collaborative and Self-Assessment, Professional Development, Assessing English Language Learners Response to Mandated Assessments.

See conference website for full listing of concurrent sessions, conference schedule, and online registration.
<http://www.umass.edu/reenvision>

ASSISTANTSHIPS

**EDUCATIONAL POLICY, RESEARCH
& ADMINISTRATION (EPRA) ASSISTANTSHIPS**

No assistantships at this time.

**STUDENT DEVELOPMENT & PUPIL
PERSONNEL SERVICES (SDPPS) ASSISTANTSHIPS**

No assistantships at this time.

**TEACHER EDUCATION & CURRICULUM
STUDIES (TECS) ASSISTANTSHIPS**

One TA for SPR09- EDUC 482 - **20 Hour Teaching Assistantship** to place pre-practicum undergraduate students in area elementary schools. The TA will act as a liaison between university and public schools, communicate with supervising practitioners, and respond to student's journals three times during the semester. Prerequisites: Experience in placing and supervising students, familiarity with education minor.

TAs SPR09 for Program Supervisors for CTEP and Bridges; supervising students seeking early childhood and elementary licensure in their practicum (student teaching). Duties include observations, giving verbal and written feedback, problem solving with and supporting practicum students, communicating with supervising practitioners, conducting three-way meetings, attending weekly program supervisor meetings, and enrollment in EDUC 873 – Resource Person Seminar on Wed. from 1:30-4:00 P.M. Applicant must have teaching and/or supervision experience.

Contact Masha Rudman @ 413 545-1116 or Camille Cammack @ 413 545-5734

ALL ASSISTANTSHIPS ARE CONTINGENT UPON FUNDING.



The School of Education on FACEBOOK

Connect with
prospective, current, and alumni students
from UMass Amherst's
Teacher Education &
Curriculum Studies Department
under Student Groups/Classes and Departments
<http://www.facebook.com>

HERE'S MORE GOOD NEWS

We post good news on the web and in
The Beacon.

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

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