



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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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>.

Events, awards, achievements, features, photos

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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SCHOOL ACADEMIC MATTERS MEETINGS

The following are the dates for the fall semester School Academic Matters (SAMC) Meetings --

Wednesday November 12, 11:30-1:00

Wednesday December 10, 11:30-1:00

Meetings will be in Hills S 151. Department Academic Matters Committees and faculty should be mindful of these dates for the purposes of having more timely course reviews. Thank you for your consideration regarding this "matter."

RESEARCH OPPORTUNITIES

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.

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.

RESEARCH OPPORTUNITIES

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

GRADUATE STUDENT TRAVEL GRANTS

The Graduate School will be awarding a limited number of student travel grants for graduate students who will be presenting at recognized conferences during the 2008-09 academic year. The application and expense summary can be downloaded from:

http://www.umass.edu/gradschool/files/Travel_Grant_GPD_Form.pdf

Student's Procedure:

- Submit your application materials by email to Dr. Linda Griffin, Graduate Program Director for the School of Education (lgriffin@educ.umass.edu).
- On page 3 of the application (GPD Approval Form), complete form with all of your information. Submit a written recommendation from your advisor or chairperson.

Applications will be considered exclusively for travel to recognized conferences for the purpose of presenting the results of research conducted while during graduate coursework at UMASS Amherst. Criteria for nomination include merit of the project, prestige of the conference or event and financial need of the student. Awards are for presentations rather than just attendance at a conference or event.

Awards will be made to the individual student rather than for a project (divided among several students.) Students are eligible for one grant per year, although the Travel Grant Committee may not be able to fund all nominations that are forwarded for consideration

Grant amounts are up to \$ 300.00 for domestic and \$ 400.00 for international travel. Students receiving awards must present their receipts to the School of Education's Business Office (125 Furcolo) within 30 days of travel. **Applications are considered on a rolling basis for the 08-09 academic year.**

LECTURE

The Center for Research on Families (CRF) at University Massachusetts Amherst

**2008 TAY GAVIN ERICKSON
LECTURE SERIES**

**Thursday, November 20, 2008
4:00 p.m.**

620 Thompson Hall

Suzanne M. Miller, Ph.D.

Fox Chase Cancer Center, Philadelphia

To See or Not to See: Monitoring vs. Blunting Styles of coping influence how individuals and their families respond to health challenges

Dr. Suzanne M. Miller is Senior Member, Division of Population Science, at Fox Chase Cancer Center in Philadelphia and Director of the Psychosocial and Behavioral Medicine Program, the NCI-funded Behavioral Core Facility, and the DoD-funded Behavioral Center of Excellence in Breast Cancer. She is Director of the Intervention Development and Measurement Core of the NCI-funded Cancer Information Service Research Consortium. She obtained her Ph.D. in Clinical, Personality, and Health Psychology from the Institute of Psychiatry, University of London, and is Adjunct Professor at the University of Pennsylvania, Temple University, and Rutgers University.

Dr. Miller's recent books include *Individuals, Families, and the New Era of Genomics: Biopsychosocial Perspectives* and the *Handbook of Cancer Control and Behavioral Science: A Resource for Researchers, Practitioners, and Policy Makers*. Her funded research focuses on applying biobehavioral principles to promote the uptake of cancer prevention and control technologies.

She received the Partners in Research Award from NCI's Cancer Information Service and the Cancer Control Award from the American Cancer Society, and has been a distinguished visiting professor in Japan, Australia, China, Italy, Holland, and Switzerland.

Are you in our online photo galleries? Check www.umass.edu/education/student/gallery.shtml and the SOE homepage for links.

SAMUEL F. CONTI FELLOWSHIP

Nomination Procedures for 2009-2010 Award

The University of Massachusetts Amherst Samuel F. Conti Faculty Fellowship Awards consist of a cash award of \$3,000 and a year's leave of absence to encourage award recipients to concentrate on activities related to graduate education, research, creative work and scholarly attainment.

Selection of the awardees will be based on demonstrably outstanding accomplishment and potential for continued excellence in research and scholarly or creative activity.

Awards will be recommended by a committee comprising members of the Research Council. The Awards Committee will normally consist of representatives from each of the three divisions of the College of Arts and Sciences plus two different professional schools. Recommendations will be forwarded to the Vice Provost for Research after Research Council approval has been given. Names of those receiving 2009-2010 Faculty Fellowship Awards will be announced in late Spring 2009.

Before January 23, 2009, Department Heads/ Chairpersons will consult with elected Personnel Committees to select names of nominees to be forwarded to their academic Deans. By February 27, 2009 (NO LATER), Deans are asked to submit to the Research Council, c/o Bev Strakose, Office of Research Affairs, Research Administration Building at least two nominations of faculty members up to a maximum of a rounded 1% of their respective faculties when those exceed 200. Each nomination is to be accompanied by a brief statement (not to exceed 1,000 words) from the candidate on how released time would be put to scholarly use, a complete curriculum vita, (supporting letters from the nominee's department head) and a list of reviewers (no more than five) from whom our office will request recommendation letters.

CONTI, cont'd.

Pursuant to a rules change effective FY87 the present nominating procedures and qualifications for Faculty Fellowships have been retained with the understanding that other nominations, including self-nominations, may be sent directly to the Research Council (before January 23, 2009), which in turn will be sent to nominee's Dean for recommendation. Self-nominations should include a brief description of how the released time will be used, a curriculum vita and a letter in support of the nomination from a colleague.



ASSISTANTSHIPS

EDUCATIONAL POLICY, RESEARCH & ADMINISTRATION (EPRA) ASSISTANTSHIPS

NONE at this time.

STUDENT DEVELOPMENT & PUPIL PERSONNEL SERVICES (SDPPS) ASSISTANTSHIPS

NONE at this time.

TEACHER EDUCATION & CURRICULUM STUDIES (TECS) ASSISTANTSHIPS

NONE at this time.



Students and faculty at a recent lecture.