



THE BEACON

SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

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

IMPORTANT CHANGE IN DOCTORAL FINAL DEFENSE ANNOUNCEMENTS

All doctoral students scheduling a final oral defense must submit the D-8 form (from the Doctoral Advising Guidelines) to **Linda Guthrie in the Graduate Program Office, 123 Furcolo, 4 weeks in advance.**

FACULTY/STAFF/STUDENT NEWS, ACTIVITIES, HONORS, AND AWARDS

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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 2007-08 academic year. Applications will be considered exclusively for travel to recognized conferences for the purpose of presenting the results of research conducted during graduate coursework at UMASS Amherst. Awards are for **presentations** rather than just attendance at a conference or event.

The application and expense summary can be downloaded from: [http://www.umass.edu/gradschool/memo to graduate students.htm](http://www.umass.edu/gradschool/memo_to_graduate_students.htm)

You should also complete the information on the Graduate Program Director's Approval Form from the top of the page up to the Sources of Funding Section.

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BEACON DEADLINE: Please submit *Beacon* announcements to: **Room 123A Furcolo Hall or to llascell@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 issue.



PREPARING EDUCATORS
School of Education

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NOTE:

The procedures for applying for this grant have changed for this academic year. Be sure to read and carefully follow the directions outlined from the above site.

Criteria for nomination include merit of the project, prestige of the conference or event, and financial need of the student.

Awards will be made to the individual student rather than for a project (divided among several students). Grant amounts are up to \$ 300.00 for domestic and \$ 400.00 for international travel and will be considered for the fall and spring semesters. The Travel Grant Committee may not be able to fund all nominations that are forwarded for consideration

If you anticipate presenting at a conference this fall, and would like your application given the best possible consideration, please email one copy of your application to your advisor and one copy to Linda Griffin, Graduate Program Director, (lgriffin@educ.umass.edu) no later than NOVEMBER 5, 2007.

All applications will be reviewed and rank ordered by your department chair before the final approval by Associate Dean Linda Griffin.



INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS OFFICE TUITION WAIVERS for SPRING, 2008 FOR CURRENT STUDENTS

Nominations for tuition waivers for current 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 who have no immediate financial assistance from their program.

ELIGIBILITY: . Current students must be in a full-time graduate degree program

- Minimum 3.25 GPA
- Demonstrated financial need
- Non-immigrant visa status.

These waivers are for TUTION ONLY. Recipients are not automatically entitled to renewals, but can reapply for one additional year.

CURRENT STUDENTS MUST SUBMIT:

1. Formal application form (student can pick up form at the International Programs Office, 467 Hills South or from: umass.edu/ipo/docs/tw_app.pdf)
2. Financial documentation proving student has sufficient funds to cover all academic fees and living expenses other than tuition, estimated at \$ 23,000 for Spring, 2008.
3. **Recommendation letter from student's advisor or chairperson.**

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

DEADLINE TO SUBMIT COMPLETED APPLICATIONS FOR SPRING, 2008 IS: NOVEMBER 8, 2007

NOMINATIONS WILL BE RANK ORDERED BY CONCENTRATION AND DEPARTMENT

FALL 07 ASSISTANTSHIPS AVAILABLE

No positions available this week in the School of Education

ATTENTION: GRADUATE ASSISTANTS

A copy of the School of Education Graduate Assistantship Appointment and Reappointment Policies and Procedures, revised as of February 2007 is available at the Provost's Office at <http://www.umass.edu/provost/appoint/index.html>.

CALL FOR NEWS

If you know of a student, faculty, or staff member who has been honored with an award or is involved in an interesting activity, please email Linda Neas at llas-cell@educ.umass.edu. Thank you for your assistance!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

UPCOMING CONFERENCES/ WORKSHOPS

AMERICAN EDUCATIONAL RESEARCH ASSOCIATION (AERA) ANNUAL MEETING AND EXHIBIT

The 2008 AERA Meeting and Exhibit will be held on Monday, March 24 – Friday, March 28 in New York City. The 2008 AERA Program Theme: Research on Schools, Neighborhoods, and Communities: Toward Civic Responsibility.

This year's Annual Meeting theme provides an intellectual space for scholarship focused on schools, neighborhoods, and communities. Examples of relevant research topics include, but are not limited to (1) higher education and community development, (2) education and social service partnerships, (3) community-based teacher education, (4) project-based learning in metropolitan settings, (5) juvenile justice and opportunity to learn, (6) fiscal policy and planning, and (7) educational role of the professions (e.g., health, law, and engineering).

For more information go to: http://www.aera.net/meetings/Default.aspx?menu_id=342&id=2936



AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF COLLEGES FOR TEACHER EDUCATION (AACTE) ANNUAL MEETING

The Annual AACTE meeting will be held on February 7-10, 2008 at the Hilton New Orleans Riverside in New Orleans, LA.

This year's theme is *Quality Matters: Our Commitment to All Learners*.

Over the years, AACTE has established a legacy of addressing quality matters in the preparation and support of teachers, counselors, and educational leaders. This tradition continues with the 2008 Annual Meeting, which will showcase AACTE member institutions in action through presentations and sessions on matters of quality related to equity, access and advocacy, collaboration, innovation, and accountability and impact. Given the current context in which quality matters more than ever to the public and to the profession, this year's theme is de-

signed to provide opportunities for demonstrating and sharing evidence of quality programs and outcomes for educator candidates and for all students.

- Quality Matters in Equity, Access, and Advocacy
- Quality Matters in Collaboration
- Quality Matters in Innovation
- Quality Matters in Accountability and Impact

Registration: <http://www.aacte.org/Events/08amregform.pdf>

Hotel :

Hilton New Orleans Riverside, Two Poydras Street, New Orleans, LA 70140, for hotel reservations call 1-800-HILTONS or 504-561-0500.

NORTHEASTERN EDUCATIONAL RESEARCH ASSOCIATION (NERA) CONFERENCE

First, thanks to Barbara Helms, Brian Preston, Dolores Burton, April Zenisky, and others, we have a new NERA web site! The URL is the same: www.nera-education.org

And to learn more about the conference, visit: <http://www.nera-education.org/conference.php>. Please note the two renowned keynote speakers (Cora Marrett and Wayne Camara) and the free workshops on program evaluation (Robert Gable) and item response theory (Jane Rogers and H. Swaminathan).



AMERICAN COUNCIL ON THE TEACHING OF FOREIGN LANGUAGES (ACTFL)

If you haven't decided to attend the ACTFL Annual Convention and World Languages Expo in San Antonio, TX from November 16-18, 2007 (Pre-convention workshops, Thursday, November 15), make your decision today! Check out the Online Program of all sessions and events. You will be amazed at the huge variety of educational sessions for all languages and all levels.

Now that you have decided this is the one event you can't miss, register online at www.actfl.org before October 8, 2007 to get the advance registration rate. Don't forget to make your housing reservations as well. Hotel rooms are going fast so book a room today at www.actfl.org.

Did you know that ACTFL is providing a NEW feature to
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its Online Program this year? You are now able to search the entire program and develop your own personal schedule online. Just login to the Online Program at www.actfl.org and follow the instructions. American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL) 1001 N. Fairfax St., Suite 200, Alexandria, VA 22314, Ph: (703) 894-2900 * Fx: (703) 894-2905 www.actfl.org * www.DiscoverLanguages.org headquarters@actfl.org



**INTERNATIONAL
ALLIANCE OF TEACHER SCHOLARS**

In 2008, the *International Alliance of Teacher Scholars* will host its 20th annual Lilly Conference on College & University Teaching on March 21 & 22 in Southern California. We call for your proposals and hope you will be able to participate. More information is below.

For almost 30 years the international and national Lilly Conferences have provided a forum for learning about, reporting, and discussing the results of the *Scholarship of Teaching & Learning*. Lilly Conferences are retreats that combine *Scholarship of Teaching and Learning* sessions, and major addresses, with lots of opportunities for informal discussion about excellence in college and university teaching and learning. Internationally-known scholars join new and experienced faculty members and administrators from all over the world to discuss topics such as gender differences in learning, incorporating technology into teaching, encouraging critical thinking, using teaching and student portfolios, implementing group learning, and evaluating teaching. Information on the International and other National Lilly Conferences can be found at Lilly Conference Information.

The welcoming "Lilly Spirit" and the high level of scholarly attention to teaching and learning enable everyone to contribute to the forum. You are invited to join as a presenter or an involved participant.

For General Information: http://www.iats.com/conferences/west2008_info.html

For Registration Form – Early Registration through October 15: http://www.iats.com/conferences/registration_west2008.html



**CALL FOR APPLICATIONS/
PROPOSALS**

**ACTFL
ANNUAL CONVENTION AND WORLD LANGUAGES
EXPO**

The Annual Convention and World Languages Expo of the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL) will be Friday, November 21 (Pre-Convention Workshops scheduled on Thursday, November 20) through Sunday, November 23, 2008 in Orlando, FL. The theme for this year is Opening Minds to the World Through Languages.

The ACTFL Convention features over 500 educational sessions covering the whole spectrum of the foreign language profession. The entire selection of sessions is designed to provide attendees with an exciting array of sessions and events to further their knowledge and help them be better teachers or administrators. We welcome you to submit a proposal for consideration. When you login, please read carefully the Submission Guidelines, the Presenter Responsibilities and the Rubric used in the review process before submitting your proposal.

The 2008 Call for Proposals is now open on the ACTFL web site at www.actfl.org.

ACTFL members already have an account in this system. To login, your user name is your surname/family name and your password is your ACTFL member ID.

If this is your first visit to the ACTFL 2008 Submission and Online Program site AND you do not have an ACTFL user account, you will need to create a new user account. Once you have created a user account you can access the site through the user login.

DO NOT create a user login each time you visit the site.

When you submit a proposal, all correspondence between ACTFL and its co-sponsoring organizations will be done via email generated through this site which is hosted by All Academic. You are asked to check your "junk mail" file and to have your "spam blocker" settings allow emails from DO_NO_REPLY@allacademic.com.

If you have not received any email messages by the advertised deadlines, you may login to the Call for Proposals online system to check the "Message Center" for emails sent from ACTFL or any of the co-sponsoring organizations.