



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.**

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

BEING A GRADUATE STUDENT: WHAT DOES THAT REALLY MEAN?

The Educational Policy, Research, and Administration Department and the Higher Education Concentration, presents **A Brown Bag Discussion**, titled *Being a Graduate Student: What Does that Really Mean?* with Benita J. Barnes – Assistant Professor, Marisa A. Pizii – Doctoral Student, on Thursday, October 18, 2007 from 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. in Room 151, Hills South.

The primary intent of the event is to give graduate students advice on how to be successful graduate students.

Light Refreshments will be provided.



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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.



(News/Activities/Honors/Awards continued from page 1)

ATTENTION WOMEN GRAD STUDENTS AND FRIENDS OF WOMEN GRAD STUDENTS:

The Graduate Student Grant Service is sponsoring an information session on fellowships available to women students through the American Association of University Women on Friday, October 12, from 10 a.m. to noon in the Campus Center Room 903. Cris Ajemian, a representative of AAUW, will be on campus to discuss their fellowship programs. We are also planning to have a past recipient on hand to talk about her experience. No advance registration is required. Refreshments will be served.

THERE IS STILL TIME TO APPLY FOR THESE GRANTS THIS YEAR! We also strongly recommend this information session for women who are contemplating applying for funding next year.

The AAUW sponsors the following funding programs:

American Fellowships (\$20,000) support women doctoral candidates completing dissertations. Applicants must be U.S. citizens or permanent residents. One-year dissertation fellowships are offered. Open to applicants in all fields of study, except engineering (see below for Selected Professions Fellowships). **Application deadline: November 15.**

International Fellowships (\$18,000 for Master's/Professional; \$20,000 dissertation) are awarded for full-time graduate study or research to women who are not U.S. citizens or permanent residents. Open to applicants in all fields of study. **Application deadline: December 1.**

Selected Professions Fellowships (\$5,000-\$12,000



for Master's/First Professional; \$20,000 for Engineering dissertation) are awarded to women who are U.S. citizens or permanent residents and who intend to pursue a full-time course of study (during the fellowship year) in designated degree programs where women's participation traditionally has been low. **Deadlines: Master's/First Professional: January 10; Engineering Dissertation: December 15.**

Selected Professions Fellowships are awarded for the following programs:

- Architecture (M.Arch, M.S.Arch)
- Computer/Information Sciences (M.S.)
- Engineering (M.E., M.S., Ph.D.)
- Engineering Dissertation Award also awarded
- Mathematics/Statistics (M.S.)

Fellowships in the following degree programs are **restricted to women of color**, who have been underrepresented in these fields:

- Business Administration (M.B.A., E.M.B.A.)
- Law (J.D.)
- Medicine (M.D., D.O.)

For more information contact:

Bette Elsdon or Katja Meinke, GSGS Coordinators,
Graduate Student Grant Service,
517 Goodell Building,
413-545-5273 or 5279,
gsgs@grad.umass.edu.
www.umass.edu/gradschool/gsgs



ACADEMIC HONESTY

STATEMENT OF POLICY

Since the integrity of the academic enterprise of any institution of higher education requires honesty in scholarship and research, academic honesty is required of all students at the University of Massachusetts Amherst.

Academic dishonesty is prohibited in all programs of the University. Academic dishonesty includes but is not limited to: cheating, fabrication, plagiarism, and facilitating dishonesty. [See http://www.umass.edu/dean_students/code_conduct/acad_honest.htm for detailed examples of behavior that constitutes academic dishonesty.] Appropriate sanctions may be imposed on any student who has committed an act of academic dishonesty.

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ATTENTION: GRADUATE ASSISTANTS

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

FALL 07 ASSISTANTSHIPS AVAILABLE **(by department)**

Please note: All available positions are contingent upon funding.

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No positions available this week in the following:

**Dean's Office;**  
**Departments:**  
**Educational Policy, Research & Administration;**  
**Student Development and Pupil Personnel Services; and**  
**Teacher Education and Curriculum Studies.**

### **SPECIAL NOTICE FOR FULBRIGHT** **APPLICANTS**

If you are applying for the **Fulbright-Hays Doctoral Dissertation Research Abroad Fellowship Program** this fall, please be aware that this is an institutional application process. You need to collaborate with Graduate Student Grant Service, and the **INTERNAL UMASS DEADLINE** is **OCTOBER 18th!**

By that day your graduate transcripts need to be in our office and all other materials need to be uploaded and submitted from your side to allow time for the institutional review process.

Please contact Katja Meinke and Bette Elsdon (GSGS Coordinators) for further information at: [gsgs@grad.umass.edu](mailto:gsgs@grad.umass.edu)

"To serve is beautiful,  
but only if it is done with  
joy and a whole heart."

- Pearl S. Buck

Pearl S. Buck was a writer, activist and recipient of the Pulitzer and Nobel Prize in Literature.

Resource: <http://www.english.upenn.edu/Projects/Buck/biography.html>



# **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

## **ANNOUNCEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE EXAMINATION**

**KOLAJO AFOLABI**                      October 10, 2007, 10:00 a.m., Room 157, Hills South.  
**Chairperson: Dr. Sharon Rallis.**



## **CHANGE IN COMPREHENSIVE EXAM DATE FOR LUISA-MARIA ROJAS-RIMACHI**

**New date: October 19, 2007, 1:00 p.m., Room 21C, Furcolo.**  
**Chairperson: Dr. Theresa Austin.**



## **FORMATION OF DISSERTATION COMMITTEE**

**CATHY A. DOW-ROYER**      Proposed Dissertation Title: "Scholarship in Occupational Therapy: The Interaction of Cultural Forces in an Academic Health Profession." Statement of the Problem: Despite the attention given to defining scholarship and preparing future faculty scholars within higher education, the professional culture of occupational therapy has given little consideration to developing a theoretically supported framework for faculty scholarship.  
**Chairperson: Joseph B. Berger.**

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## **UPCOMING CONFERENCES/WORKSHOPS**

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### **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](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 designed 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.



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(Conferences/Workshops continued from page 4)



**NORTHEASTERN EDUCATIONAL RESEARCH ASSOCIATION (NERA) CONFERENCE**

**International Alliance of Teacher Scholars**

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](http://www.nera-education.org)

In 2008, the *International Alliance of Teacher Scholars* will host its 20<sup>th</sup> 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.

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).

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.



**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.

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.

Now that you have decided this is the one event you can't miss, register online at [www.actfl.org](http://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](http://www.actfl.org).

For General Information: [http://www.iats.com/conferences/west2008\\_info.html](http://www.iats.com/conferences/west2008_info.html)

For Registration Form – Early Registration through October 15: [http://www.iats.com/conferences/registration\\_west2008.html](http://www.iats.com/conferences/registration_west2008.html)

Did you know that ACTFL is providing a NEW feature to 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](http://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](http://www.actfl.org) \* [www.DiscoverLanguages.org](http://www.DiscoverLanguages.org) [headquarters@actfl.org](mailto:headquarters@actfl.org)



**BEYOND OUTREACH TO SCHOLARLY ENGAGEMENT**

A symposium entitled "Beyond Outreach to Scholarly Engagement," will be held on Monday, October 22, 2007 from 1:00PM to 4:30PM. All sessions will take place in

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**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 [lascell@educ.umass.edu](mailto:lascell@educ.umass.edu). Thank you for your assistance!



*(News/Activities/Honors/Awards continued from page 2)*

Instructors should take reasonable steps to address academic misconduct. [See [http://www.umass.edu/dean\\_students/code\\_conduct/acad\\_honest.htm](http://www.umass.edu/dean_students/code_conduct/acad_honest.htm) for some suggested ways to deal with issues of academic integrity.] Any person who has reason to believe that a student has committed academic dishonesty should bring such information to the attention of the appropriate course instructor as soon as possible. Instances of academic dishonesty not related to a specific course should be brought to the attention of the appropriate department Head or Chair.



### **COURSE OFFERINGS FOR SPRING 2008** **ENGLISH AS A SECOND LANGUAGE** **PROGRAM**

Currently registered undergraduate and graduate students may enroll on SPIRE.

All of the following four courses are designed for both undergraduate and graduate students at the advanced level of second-language proficiency whose goal is to attain an expert level of second-language proficiency in English for Academic Purposes and English for Specific Purposes.

#### **IMPROVE YOUR ORAL COMMUNICATION** **SKILLS**

##### **ESL 125 Techniques of Oral Communication**

Develops oral communication skills of advanced ESL undergraduate and graduate students for academic formal presentations and informal discussion. Builds confidence and improves intelligibility through detailed focus on Eng-

lish sounds, rhythm, stress, and intonation. Improves academic listening skills. Promotes the use of accurate oral grammar. Builds on first-language skills to develop an expert level of second-language oral proficiency. Provides use of specialized pronunciation software in a computer lab on campus.

Section 1: 10:10 AM – 11:05 AM M, W, F  
Credits: 3

#### **IMPROVE YOUR ACADEMIC VOCABULARY**

##### **ESL 126 Vocabulary and Comprehension of Academic English**

Increases the size and expands the range of vocabulary of advanced ESL students for academic writing and speaking. Focuses on accurate and appropriate use of academic vocabulary. Promotes mastery of the most frequently found words and phrases used in authentic texts in various academic disciplines, based on computer-driven research findings. Improves listening comprehension of lectures. Helps undergraduate and graduate students make their academic writing and speaking more precise, clear, and sophisticated.

Section 1: 12:20 PM-1:10 PM M, W, F  
Credits: 3

#### **IMPROVE YOUR ADVANCED WRITING ACADEMIC** **SKILLS**

*Revised with the Funding Support of a UMass/Amherst Center of Teaching Faculty Grant*

##### **ESL 130 Advanced Composition**

Promotes the achievement of an expert level of second language writing proficiency demanded by the university's academic community. Uses critical inquiry to explore global and local issues from multicultural perspectives as a basis for writing. Emphasizes the creation of meaningful, clearly written texts in a variety of genres. Promotes the use of effective revision and editing strategies for individual writers and for peer evaluation. Reviews key linguistic structures and vocabulary. Analyzes cultural influences on writing in various languages. Helps develop informed and independent undergraduate and graduate student writers.

Section 1: 9:05-11:00 AM M, W & 9:05-9:55 F  
Section 2: 1:25-3:20 PM M, W & 1:25-2:15 F  
(Tentative)

Credits: 3

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**IMPROVE YOUR FORMAL SPEAKING SKILLS FOR ENGLISH FOR SPECIFIC PURPOSES**

*Created with the Funding Support of a UMass/Amherst Center of Teaching Faculty Grant*

**ESL 290B Speaking Strategies for Presentations and Discussion**

Focuses on the formal language skills, cultural awareness, and delivery skills required for solving high-level problems in giving formal presentations as well as leading and participating in academic discussions and seminars. Classroom activities include viewing and listening to recorded lectures, giving prepared oral presentations, and simulating class discussions in the various academic disciplines. Develops speaking skills and listening comprehension. Increases the use of accurate oral grammar and appropriate vocabulary. Promotes cross-cultural awareness. Provides micro-teaching practice and evaluation. Although designed for International Teaching Assistants, other interested students may also enroll.

Section 1: 12:20 PM – 1:10 PM M, W, F  
Credits: 3



**CAMPUS SUPPORT GROUPS**

Graduate students have stress, just like everyone else. Good or bad, having someone to share life's stresses with makes a difference. The University offers several support groups for Graduate students. They are:

**Graduate Student Interpersonal Therapy Group:**  
Start date and time TBA.

**"Firsts" Go to College:** For undergraduate and graduate students who are the first in their families to attend college. Meetings are Thursdays, 1 - 3 p.m. beginning Oct. 22.

**Keeping It Together - Hearts and Minds:** A seminar

focused on self-care in the face of college stress and mood changes. Two separate sessions - Thursdays, Oct. 25 and Nov. 15, 4 - 5 p.m.

**Living with Loss:** A support group for students dealing with the loss of a loved one. Sessions start Monday, Oct. 22.

**Living with Medical Illness:** A support group for those dealing with chronic medical illness that affects daily functioning. Start date and time TBA.

**To register or for more information, call 545-2337.**

In addition, **University Health Services** hosts **Fresh & Sober**, which is an anonymous recovery-based support program for UMass Amherst students recovering or seeking recovery from alcohol and/or other drugs.

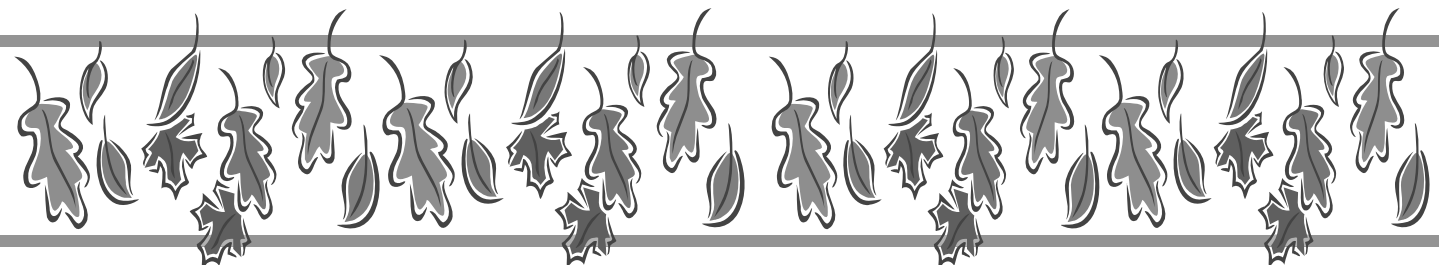
For more information go to: <http://www.umass.edu/uhs/health/support/freshandsobor/> or call **Diane at 577-5188** at the Center for Alcohol and other Drug Abuse Prevention in the Health Education Department of University Health Services. **All calls, conversations and inquires are confidential.**



**UMASS AMHERST ALUMNI FACULTY & STAFF APPRECIATION RECEPTION**

The Alumni Association will host a reception in appreciation of all alumni faculty and staff members on Thursday, October 18 from 3:00 to 4:30 p.m. in Memorial Hall. Please join us for light refreshments and come and meet your fellow alumni on campus. Bring a friend! No RSVP required.

For more information or questions, please call **Andrea Robbins '01** at **413.545.5540**.



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the Campus Center Auditorium. The symposium is sponsored by the Faculty Senate Outreach Council and the Office of Outreach.

"Scholarly Engagement is the creation, integration, application and transmission of knowledge for the benefit of external audiences and the University and occurs in all areas of the University Mission: research, teaching and service. The quality and value of Scholarly Engagement is determined by academic peers and community partners." —UMass Faculty Senate, Outreach Council, 2006

This symposium will provide an opportunity to learn more about how faculty collaborate with individuals, communities and organizations outside of the university and how this work is documented and disseminated. The event is also intended to explore ideas for moving forward as an engaged institution. The afternoon includes a moderated panel discussion, poster session and a keynote address by Dr. Lorilee Sandmann, of the University of Georgia. Please pre-register online at <http://www.umass.edu/outreach/symposium>.

Faculty from each UMass Amherst school or college will present and discuss their work:

**School of Education:** Jerri Willett of the Department of Teacher Education and Curriculum Studies

**College of Engineering:** David McLaughlin of the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering

**College of Humanities and Fine Arts:** Joseph Krupczynski of the Department of Art

**Isenberg School of Management:** Todd Crosset of the Department of Sport Management

**College of Natural Resources and the Environment:** Elizabeth Brabec of the Department of Landscape Architecture and Regional Planning

**College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics:** Nathaniel Whitaker of the Department of Mathematics and Statistics

**School of Nursing:** Cynthia Jacelon

**School of Public Health and Health Sciences:** Elaine Puleo of the Department of Public Health

**College of Social and Behavioral Sciences:** Raymond La Raja of the Department of Political Science

**Commonwealth College:** John Reiff of the Office of Community Service Learning

The keynote speaker, Lorilee Sandmann, is a faculty member in the Department of Lifelong Education, Administration, and Policy and former Associate Vice President for Public Service and Outreach at the University of Georgia. Dr. Sandmann is co-director of the Clearinghouse and National Review Board for the Scholarship of Engagement, a member of the editorial board of the Journal of Higher Education Outreach and Engagement and a member of the National Advisory Committee for the Carnegie Foundation's Community Engagement Classification. She is also past chair of the NASULGC Council on Extension, Continuing Education and Public Service.

The schedule for the afternoon is:  
Moderated Faculty Panel from 1:00 until 2:30  
Break and Poster Session from 2:30 until 3:15  
Keynote Address from 3:15 until 4:30

This event is free, however, pre-registration is **REQUIRED**. You can pre-register on-line at <http://www.umass.edu/outreach/symposium/>. Please address questions to Diane Vayda in the Office of Outreach at [dsvayda@outreach.umass.edu](mailto:dsvayda@outreach.umass.edu) or 577-0247.

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## **CALL FOR APPLICATIONS/ PROPOSALS**

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### **NEW ENGLAND EDUCATORS RESEARCH ORGANIZATION (NEERO)**

The NEERO Board is pleased to announce that we are now accepting proposals for the 2008 NEERO Conference. Proposals may be submitted through Monday, October 15.

All proposals must be submitted electronically through the link provided on the NEERO website at: [www.neero.org](http://www.neero.org).

The Call for Proposals, also posted on the website, provides details about types of presentations and proposal

*(Call for Proposals continued from page 8)*

requirements. Please review the CFP before submitting a proposal.

Proposals are submitted in a two-step process. You will first complete an electronic cover sheet and provide an abstract. You will then be directed to a website where you can e-mail your proposal summary to NEERO as a pdf or WORD attachment.

Please plan to join us at the 2008 conference as we begin the celebration of NEERO's 40th Anniversary. The conference will be held April 9-11 at the Cape Codder Resort in Hyannis, Massachusetts.



"I believe that to meet the challenges of our times, human beings will have to develop a greater sense of universal responsibility. Each of us must learn to work not just for oneself, one's own family or nation, but for the benefit of all humankind.

Universal responsibility is the key to human survival. It is the best foundation for world peace."

~ HH The Dalai Lama

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