



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:

ANNOUNCEMENTS	1, 2
Assistantships	2
CALL for Proposals	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>.

CONTRIBUTE TO THE SOE JOURNAL

The School of Education quarterly journal *Equity & Excellence in Education* invites SOE faculty and students to contribute in various ways to our forthcoming issues.

We welcome empirical, historical and theory-building manuscripts that focus on equity, diversity and social justice in education, as well as reviews of recent publications of value to social justice educators.

We invite peer reviewers for manuscripts.

Manuscripts for the special theme issue (guest-edited by Shederick McClendon) on *Emergent Approaches to Diversity and Social Justice in Higher Education* are due (manuscripts with diskette) on May 1, 2009.

Equity & Excellence in Education is available on-line to all UMA faculty, staff and students. For further information, please contact the **editor, Maurianne Adams** (adams@educ.umass.edu) or the office (equity@educ.umass.edu).

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

HYUNJU LEE November 25, 2008,
10:00 a.m., Room 21C, Furcolo Hall.
Chairperson: **Dr. Allan Feldman.**

AYSEN KOSE December 3, 2008,
1:30 p.m., Room 157, Hills South.
Chairperson: **Dr. Sharon F. Rallis.**

ASSISTANTSHIP

EDUCATIONAL POLICY, RESEARCH & ADMINISTRATION (EPRA) ASSISTANTSHIPS

One (up to 20 hours per week) research assistantship is available for the spring 2009 academic year. The position will entail working with an early career faculty member in the concentration of Higher Education Administration.

Responsibilities include: 1) *Teaching Related:* Researching and preparing course reading lists and reviewing existing curricula. 2) *Writing Related:* Assisting with research for publications, compiling references into 'Endnotes', assisting with all phases of editing, and compiling bibliographic database. 3) *Research related:* conducting literature reviews, transcribing interviews, and conducting statistical analysis. *Grant Related:* Assisting in finding grant applications, and assisting in all stages of grant preparation.

Qualifications include: The ideal candidate will have quantitative research skills, be a self-starter, have strong organizational and time management skills, and be able to complete projects independently.

To apply, please send a brief letter of application and your resume to Ryan Wells at rswells@educ.umass.edu.

**Dr. Howard J. Eberwein III Receives
Dissertation of the Year Award ... read more at**

<http://www.umass.edu/education/news/index.shtml>

GRADUATION DEADLINE

FEBRUARY 2009 DEGREE CANDIDATES

The next degree-granting period will be February, 2009. Listed below are deadline dates to apply for graduation for M.Ed., C.A.G.S., Ed.D. and Ph.D. candidates who will have completed requirements for a February, 2009 degree.

M.Ed. and C.A.G.S. Candidates

The Degree Eligibility* form must be completed and returned to Linda Guthrie in the Graduate Program Office, 123 Furcolo, no later than JANUARY 8, 2009. This is to allow time for processing and obtaining the necessary signatures of Linda Griffin, the Graduate Program Director, and Dean McCormick. The Eligibility form must be accompanied by the School of Education Completed Program of Study form (Master's Form M-2 or CAGS Form C-2). Your advisor must sign the School of Ed form, but NOT the Eligibility form.

Forms can be downloaded from the following URL:

http://www.umass.edu/education/academics/advising_guidelines.shtml

Ed.D. and Ph.D. Candidates

The Doctoral Degree Eligibility form must be submitted to Linda Guthrie in Room 123 Furcolo, along with the D-9 form (Result of Final Oral Examination) no later than JANUARY 8, 2009. The Eligibility form is sent to each student by the Degree Requirements Office (534 Goodell) after the defense date is scheduled (Form D-8). It can also be downloaded from:

<http://www.umass.edu/gradschool/files/Doctoral%20Degree%20Eligibility%20Form.pdf>

Let us know about your honors, awards
and accomplishments. Send news to:
dms@educ.umass.edu.

CALL FOR PROPOSALS

Harvard Graduate School of Education

13th Annual Student Research Conference

Education as an Agent of Change: Learning from the Past and Moving toward the Future - March 13, 2009

We welcome proposals from graduate students at Harvard and other institutions, as well as from recent HGSE graduates and visiting scholars conducting research in education-related issues who wish to share their work and receive feedback from other students and HGSE faculty.

Presentation Formats/Options: There are three presentation formats: individual paper, roundtable, and poster session. Prospective presenters will be asked to indicate their presentation format when submitting a proposal.

Individual Papers: Paper presentation sessions provide an opportunity for an author to present an abbreviated version of a paper that is completed or in development. Presenters will be placed on panels with 2-3 others whose papers share a common theme. Panels will consist of individual presentations followed by a question and feedback period. Panels will be moderated by a discussant (generally a faculty member from HGSE) with interest and expertise in the panel theme. This format is especially appropriate for presenting qualifying papers, dissertation chapters, term projects for courses, and other projects of similar scope and commitment. Papers may represent a variety of approaches to research, from theoretical or positional papers on educational topics to empirical investigations carried out by the author(s). A collaborative team may apply together to present a single paper; in such cases, the team will submit a single proposal to the SRC, and collaborating presenters will be limited to the same amount of time as each other individual panelist.

Round Table: Round table sessions are designed to allow extensive discussion and feedback for the presenter in a more informal context than paper presentations. This format is especially well suited to students who wish to discuss aspects of developing research projects, including their research questions, methodology, sampling, and initial protocols. Students may apply individually or in groups of up to three; accepted individual applicants will be grouped with others who share common interests to form a complete round table. Roundtables are moderated by advanced doctoral students, and are characterized by discussion among the presenters and participants around the topic of the table. Authors are encouraged to bring handouts that highlight key points for discussion.

Poster Session: All posters will be displayed simultaneously in a conference space. Each presenter is expected to engage in discussion with audience members. Presenters are encouraged to bring handouts that highlight key points for distribution to conference attendees. Because the poster session is open to all conference attendees, presenters will

have an opportunity to discuss their work with students, faculty, and visitors who may or may not be familiar with the topic. This format is well suited to presentation of term papers and projects, developing research projects, and research proposals.

PROPOSAL SUBMISSION: Proposals must be submitted before the deadline of 5:00PM EST on Monday, January 5, 2009.

- Proposal submissions will only be accepted through the 2008 HGSE Student Research Conference Website: gsea-academic.harvard.edu/src If you do not have Web access, please contact the SRC Co-Chairs at the address below and alternate accommodations can be arranged.

- Applicants should include the following information with their proposals: a title of no more than 100 characters, a 100 -150 word summary (to be used in the conference program), an abstract of 500-750 words (to be used by the Proposal Review Committee.)

Selection Process and Criteria:

Each proposal will be blind reviewed by two members of the proposal review committee. Each reviewer will adhere to a predetermined set of criteria to make a recommendation to accept, reject, or return with suggestions for re-submission.

Proposals will be evaluated on the following:

1. Presents a clear research question(s) or clear position statement
2. Makes connections to existing educational research with citations of published references
3. Includes an original thesis, expands an existing theory or addresses an unexplored area of research
4. Describes research design and methods, and the plan for collecting and analyzing data*
5. Makes a logical argument or presents findings/conclusions
6. Includes implications for educational research, policy or practice
7. Is clearly written, with logical organization

*Proposals that present original empirical research are expected to meet all criteria above. Proposals presenting a literature review, theoretical argument or other non-empirical presentation are not expected to meet criterion #4. Please visit the SRC website for further information or contact the Proposal Review Committee at: srcproposal-review@gmail.com.

**Are you in the SOE
photo gallery?**

Find out at

<http://www.umass.edu/education/student/gallery.shtml>