



# 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.**

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*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>.

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### ANNOUNCEMENT OF FINAL ORAL EXAMINATION

**SORIE KOROMA** December 18, 2008, 10:00 A.M., Room 357, Hills South. "Coping with Adaptation After Mass Trauma: Developing a Culturally Sensitive, School-Based Curriculum for Somali Children." **Chairperson: Dr. John C. Carey.**

#### ANNOUNCEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE EXAMINATION

**OLA KHALILI** December 11, 2008, 8:00 a.m., Room 287, Hills South. **Chairperson: Dr. Gretchen B. Rossman.**

#### FORMATION OF DISSERTATION COMMITTEE

**CHERYL SHEILS** Proposed Dissertation Title: "Latinos in the Pipeline to Baccalaureate-Prepared Nursing: Challenges and Supports in Persistence to Degree and Professional Licensure." **Statement of the Problem:** Shifting population demographics in the United States has created the need for a more diverse professional nursing work force. Retention rates for Latino nursing students are lower than those for Whites, limiting their numbers in nursing and impacting the supply of nurses overall. It is essential that educators and policy makers learn more about Latinos' experiences in baccalaureate nursing programs as part of the effort to address persistent inequalities in higher education as well as in the health care work force. **Chairperson: Dr. Joseph B. Berger.**

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#### The Beacon Deadline is FRIDAY

Please submit *Beacon* announcements to: **Room 126 Furcolo Hall** or to [dms@educ.umass.edu](mailto: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.

## ASSISTANTSHIPS

### Department of Educational Policy, Research and Administration

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](mailto:rswells@educ.umass.edu).

### Department of Teacher Education and Curriculum Studies

Contingent upon funding, half-time (10 hours per week) teaching assistantships may be available for Spring 2009 in the Secondary Teacher Education Program, Department of Teacher Education and Curriculum Studies as a supervisor/resource person for middle and high school student teachers who are on-site and fulltime. **Responsibilities include:** Site visits to schools; conferences with cooperating and student teachers; weekly communication with student teachers; serving as resource person; maintaining communication between STEP and the schools; weekly e-mail updates to the Director of Student Teaching; timely submission of ongoing documentation, regular attendance at supervisors meetings.

Details at <http://people.umass.edu/madeloni>

Applicants should submit letter of interest, resume, and names and contact information of two referents to: Dr. Barbara Madeloni, Director of Student Teaching, Room 103, Furcolo Hall, 577-0495, [madeloni@educ.umass.edu](mailto:madeloni@educ.umass.edu).

## SCHOLARSHIP

**The Robert Noyce Teacher Scholarship Program seeks to encourage talented science, technology, engineering, and mathematics majors and professionals to become K-12 mathematics and science teachers.** The program provides funds to institutions of higher education to support scholarships, stipends, and academic programs for undergraduate STEM majors and post-baccalaureate students holding STEM degrees who commit to teaching in high-need K-12 school districts. A new component of the program supports STEM professionals who enroll as NSF Teaching Fellows in master's degree programs leading to teacher certification by providing academic courses, professional development, and salary supplements while they are fulfilling a four-year teaching commitment in a high need school district. This new component also supports the development of NSF Master Teaching Fellows by providing professional development and salary supplements for exemplary math and science teachers to become Master Teachers in high need school districts.

[http://www.nsf.gov/pubs/2009/nsf09513/nsf09513.htm?govDel=USNSF\\_25](http://www.nsf.gov/pubs/2009/nsf09513/nsf09513.htm?govDel=USNSF_25)

An institution, on its own or as a member of a consortium, may submit no more than one Noyce proposal per track. There are two Noyce tracks in this solicitation: the Noyce Teacher Scholarship Track and the NSF Teaching Fellows/Master Teaching Fellows Track.

**Contact with your interest no later than January 16:** Beverly Strakose, Research Affairs, Research Administration Building, 70 Butterfield Terrace, 413-545-5283, fax: 413-577-1728, [www.umass.edu/research/ora](http://www.umass.edu/research/ora)

## 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](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>

Are you in the SOE  
photo gallery?

Find out at

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

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

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### ANNOUNCEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE EXAMINATION

**ROLAND JOYAL** December 17, 2008, 9:00 a.m.,  
Room 157, Hills South. **Chairperson: Dr. Matthew Militello.**

### FORMATION OF DISSERTATION COMMITTEE

**MAYRA ALMODOVAR** Proposed Dissertation  
Title: "An examination of how early childhood  
teachers integrate the arts to their daily classroom  
routine."

**Statement of the Problem:** The arts have been an integral part of Early Childhood education. Many research studies validate the contributions the arts make to improve our students' learning outcomes. Unfortunately society continues to value more traditional subjects such as math, reading, and writing. This study aims to explore how preschool teachers integrate the arts (music, drama and the visual arts) in their curriculum while providing a better understanding of the great realms of possibilities that the arts have over our students' learning experiences.

**Chairperson: Dr. Ernest Washington.**



