



# 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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### ASSISTANTSHIP

**Assistantship available to teach EDUC 229 for Spring 2009.**

**Responsibilities include:** Assist with course preparation; Lead discussion sections with 25-30 undergraduate students; Attend weekly meetings; Provide feedback on students' written work; Assist with evaluation of students' written work

**Qualifications include:** Teaching experience at any level and strong organizational skills.

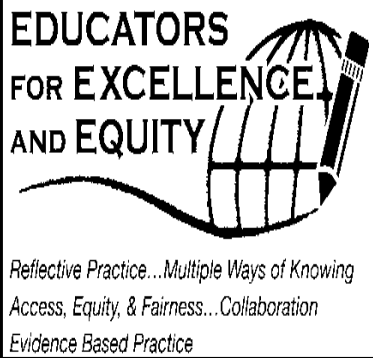
**Contact: Robbie Calliham, 161 Hills South**  
[calliham@educ.umass.edu](mailto:calliham@educ.umass.edu)

### FACULTY REVIEWS

The following faculty are scheduled for review for Reappointment through Tenure Decision Year during the 2009 semester. Those wishing to comment should forward letters to the Department Chairs.

Flavio Azevedo, Assistant Professor, Department of Teacher Education and Curriculum Studies.

Margaret Pierce, Assistant Professor, Department of Student Development and Pupil Personnel Services.



### News on the web

Check the School of Education's web site at

<http://www.umass.edu/education>.

### 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.

## OIT ON SPARK ACCESS AND MORE

UMass Amherst Office of Information Technology has some announcements of interest.

### **SPARK ACCESS for TAs, Co-INSTRUCTORS & GUESTS**

<http://www.oit.umass.edu/spark/access/>

Questions about how an undergraduate TA can get access to SPARK? Or how to update an existing TA's level of access? Go to the new 'SPARK Access for TAs, Co-Instructors & Guests' section for more information. These pages contain updated step-by-step instructions, based on the most common questions oit Receives from instructors every semester.

### **TEACHING TECHNOLOGY OVERVIEWS**

<http://www.oit.umass.edu/academic/>

Are you and your colleagues interested in learning more about teaching technologies on campus? Perhaps you've heard about tools like UDrive or SPARK, but are not quite sure what they are for? Interested in putting materials online for students but not sure what tools to use? Want to see how other faculty use podcasting and digital video on campus?

Academic Computing is available to come to your department to present on a variety of instructional technology topics. We have three standard presentations but we can tailor any presentation for your group.

For more information, please contact [instruct@oit.umass.edu](mailto:instruct@oit.umass.edu) or 545-2823.

## JOB FAIR

**SAVE the DATE - APRIL 9, 2009**

11th Annual  
University of Massachusetts Amherst

## **J O B F A I R**

**for K-12 School Professionals**

**THURSDAY, April 9 3-5:30 PM**

UMass Amherst Student Union Ballroom

WHO SHOULD ATTEND: UMass Amherst educator licensure graduates, alumni and students from the 5 College Network (Amherst, Smith, Mt. Holyoke, Hampshire) who are seeking **teaching, school leadership, school counseling, school psychology, or specialist positions in a public school** for September 2009.

Lists of school districts sending recruiters and their expected vacancies will be posted at [www.umass.edu/education](http://www.umass.edu/education) in early April.

For more information, email Celia Hilson at [jobfair@educ.umass.edu](mailto:jobfair@educ.umass.edu).

Visit UMass Amherst Career Services to get tips on improving your RESUME and interviewing skills. Or contact Career Services at [ccnhelp@acad.umass.edu](mailto:ccnhelp@acad.umass.edu) or 413-545-2224.

*Send your news to [goodnews@educ.umass.edu](mailto:goodnews@educ.umass.edu)*

## ASSISTANTSHIP PROGRAM

### GRADUATE STUDENT DIVERSITY ASSISTANTSHIP PROGRAM

The Graduate School is offering 10 Graduate Diversity Assistantships for incoming students (new to UMASS as of Fall 09) and current graduate students who have demonstrated academic excellence and are members of social groups who have been traditionally underrepresented at UMASS. Students must be U.S. citizens or green card holders.

**Priority is given to incoming students (any degree or CAGS) and current students doing dissertation research who have a signed dissertation proposal on file.** Of the 10 Diversity Assistantships awarded, **3** will be for dissertation level students. The assistantships will waive tuition and curriculum fee and will provide a health insurance benefit. The stipend for Fall 09 will be no less than \$13,870 which can and should be supplemented by the department when possible. These awards will be for one academic year.

**Incoming Students:** The assistantship duties are determined by the student's advisor, Concentration Coordinator or Graduate Program Director (Linda Griffin). They must be directly related to the student's academic program.

**Continuing Students:** The assistantship duties are determined by the student's advisor, Concentration Coordinator or Graduate Program Director (Linda Griffin). They must be directly related to the student's academic program.

**Dissertation Assistantships:** These assistantships are for students who are expected to finish their degree within one year. Students must have an approved dissertation proposal on file.

### NOMINATION PROCEDURE

The Concentration Coordinator should complete the attached **Nomination form** and submit to Linda Guthrie for Linda Griffin's review.

**Incoming students:** You must be nominated by the Concentration to which you applied and were accepted.

**Continuing students:** Submit the Nomination form\*, a Personal Statement\*, a copy of your Spire unofficial graduate transcript and one letter of recommendation from the student's chair or advisor.

**Dissertation students:** Submit the Nomination form\*, Personal Statement\*, c.v. and a letter of recommendation from the student's chair.

**DEADLINE** to submit the nomination packets to Linda Guthrie is:

**Wednesday, February 25, 2009**

\* The Nomination and Personal Statement forms are available by email from  
Linda Guthrie at:  
lguthrie@educ.umass.edu

## SOE NEWS

Research conducted by **Dr. John C. Carey** and **Dr. Carey Dimmitt** of the School of Education's Center for School Counseling Outcome Research (CSCOR) forms the basis of "Innovation & Inspiration: Ten Effective Counseling Practices from the College Board's Inspiration Award Schools," published recently by the College Board.

READ MORE at  
[http://www.umass.edu/education/people/faculty\\_news.shtml](http://www.umass.edu/education/people/faculty_news.shtml)

## BeaconLOG

School of Education faculty, students and staff share what they are doing....

**Dr. Maria Jose Botelho**, Department of Teacher Education and Curriculum Studies, Language, Literacy, and Culture concentration, is a fellow of the Five College Center for Crossroads in the Study of the Americas (CISA). On Wednesday, February 18th, she will share her research on children's and young adult literature with the other CISA fellows and invited guests at a meeting at the Center in Amherst.

In her presentation, "Re/Presenting Culture: Critical Multicultural Analysis of Children's Literature," Dr. Botelho reconsidered the literary category of multicultural children's literature, a body of literature that is alleged to mirror children's cultural backgrounds or to open windows into diverse cultural experiences, sometimes distorting the complex ways children, families, and communities go about creating and recreating culture in their daily lives.

Meeting participants considered reading that goes beyond stretching children's cultural imagination to reading that fosters a historical, sociopolitical imagination.

Botelho maintains that "all children's and young adult literature is a social construction. Bringing a critical lens to the study of multiculturalism in children's literature requires that we rethink how we define culture, power, identity, text, genre, and reading."



**Dr. K-C Nat Turner**, Department of Teacher Education and Curriculum Studies, presented at the National Council for Teachers of English Assembly for Research (NCTEAR) conference at UCLA, February 13-15, on his research on the development of multiliteracies using multimodal media production.

Titled "Are U Still Down?: Using Multimodal Media Production to Develop Multiliteracies with Urban Youth," his presentation outlined the development of multiliteracies through the production of multimodal media with urban youth. It argued, said Dr. Turner, that multimodal media production (MMP) can help young people engage in important literacy practices from critical media literacies, writing, information and communication technology (ICT) and mathematical literacy. Instead of teaching reading and writing as universally applicable neutral skills, teachers work with students to use MMP as a relevant sociocultural practice that demands reading and writing.

## LLC MEETING

The Student Advisory Committee  
of the Department of  
Teacher Education and Curriculum  
Studies (TECS)

Language, Literacy and Culture  
concentration (LLC)  
invites all SOE students, faculty,  
and anyone else who is interested  
to this semester's LLC Community  
Meeting

"Critical Dialogue on Hip Hop and  
Literacy Learning"

Wednesday, March 4, 2009

6:30 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.

Furcolo, Room 20

Please join us for this opportunity of critical dialogue with Pam Hollander and Carlos McBride (Director of the 'New Teen Resource Project' in Holyoke).

Prior to the talk we will have a Potluck Dinner. Please, bring a dish to share.

We hope to see you there!

Your Student Advisory Committee of TECS department's LLC concentration: Keiko Konoeda, Wawan Gunawan, Dylan Larke (LLC doctoral students) and Kirsten Helmer (LLC CAGS student.)