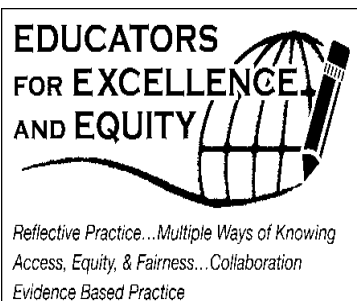




THE BEACON

SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

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 News and Events.



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

Our web site

[http://
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Events, awards, stories,
achievements, photos

This issue...

- News
- Announcements
- Assistantships

Teaching Assistantships

Department of Educational Policy, Research and Administration

Graduate teaching assistantships (10 hours per week) available for Fall, 2009 for EDUC 115 and EDUC 229.

Responsibilities may include: assist with course preparation; lead discussion sections with 25-30 undergraduate students; attend weekly meetings; provide feedback on students' written work.

Qualifications include: excellent written and oral communications skills; excellent organizational skills; ability to work with various campus constituencies including faculty members, administrators, and students; appreciation of diversity and multi-cultural values in domestic and international contexts.

Previous teaching experience preferred.

To apply, please send a resume to Sue Overstreet 161 Hills South – sue163@educ.umass.edu.

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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.

Teaching Assistantships

Department of Teacher Education and Curriculum Studies

Three teaching Assistantships (10 hours per week) for Fall 2009 for the course EDUC 192A: Education at the Movies. **Responsibilities include some or all of the following:** 1) attend weekly large group presentations and facilitate supervision of students (i.e. supervise students' arrival and departure, record attendance, collect and mark assignments, be available for general questions and answers from students, etc.); 2) attend weekly planning meetings to organize and prepare course-related content and deal with other related business; 3) participate in designing the mid-term and final exam; 4) deal with student requests relating to add/drop period and other student needs; 5) conduct small group seminar sessions; 6) meet with, and assist, Course Instructor and TA Team members as needed; 7) complete other course related tasks as assigned.

Qualifications include: Excellent communication and organization skills, exceptional interpersonal skills that will facilitate team building, significant interest in public school dynamics and media perspective, well-developed technology skills, a professional attitude and commitment to duties; previous teaching experience with young adults would be an asset. Please email a cover letter of application and an updated résumé to **Nola Stephen** at nola@educ.umass.edu.

BeaconLOG

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

Ximena Zúñiga, associate professor, department of Student Development and Pupil Personnel Services, (SDPPS) spoke at a Social Justice in Education symposium held May 13-14 at the Universidad Academia de Humanismo Cristiano in Santiago, Chile. Dr. Zúñiga, who teaches in the Social Justice Education Concentration, discussed "Teacher Preparation and Social Justice."

Professor **Mary Lynn Boscardin**, department of Student Development and Pupil Personnel Services, (SDPPS) and assistant professor **Rebecca Gajda**, department of Educational Policy, Research and Administration (EPRA), have been awarded a four-year, \$799,860 grant from the U.S. Department of Education to help prepare future leaders in the field of special education. Studies carried out with the Special Education Leadership Personnel Preparation grant will provide special education administrators and policymakers with research that can be used in the design and delivery of scientifically-supported services for students with disabilities. Assistant professors **Margaret Pierce** and **Michael Krezmien**, both in SDPPS, will also be involved in the project.

Graduate Commencement

Friday, May 22 2 p.m.

Mullins Center

For Commencement-related activities:

<http://umass.edu/commencement/2009/>

FORMATION OF DISSERTATION COMMITTEES

AYMAN KHALIFAH

Proposed Dissertation Title: "Exploring Educational Research Epistemologies used at Education Graduate Programs in Palestinian Universities."

Statement of the Problem: Epistemologies are central determinants in the inquiry process from production to consumption. Some contexts were able to move beyond the use of traditional epistemologies (i.e. positivism). The condition of the Palestinian context on this issue is not clear yet. Does this context accept and use epistemologies for the conduction of educational research?

Chairperson: Dr. David R. Evans.

CARMEN N. VELORIA

Proposed Dissertation Title: " You know what it's like, Miss." Exploring the Experiences of Urban Latinas in Post-Secondary Settings: Relational, Race & Gendered Focused Case Studies."

Statement of the Problem: The growth rate of the Latino/a population in the United States, and more specifically, the increased enrollment of Latino/a children in kindergarten through 12th grade (K-12) public education has warranted a focus on Latino/a enrollment issues (Fernandez, 20002), not only in K-12 settings, but beyond. However, much of the discussion on Latino/as and their experiences in higher education has been characterized by "crisis talk," emphasizing quantitative indicators of educational failure (Fernandez, 2002). Even though qualitative research on K-12 Latino/a education at times also offers evidence of educational failure, it nonetheless has the potential to provide more in-depth, descriptive accounts of students' experiences (in Fernandez, 2002).

Chairperson: Dr. Theresa Austin



ANNOUNCEMENT OF FINAL ORAL EXAMINATIONS

KATHRYN WIEZBICKI-STEVENS

June 17, 2009, 3:00 p.m., Room 310, Goodell. "Metacognition: Developing Self-Knowledge through Guided Reflection."

Chairperson: Dr. Elizabeth A. Williams.



2009 College Outstanding Teaching Award

Associate Professor Claire Hamilton

SEND your news and announcements to goodnews@educ.umass.edu or to dms@educ.umass.edu

More assistantships on following pages.....

RESEARCH ASSISTANTSHIPS

Department of Educational Policy, Research and Administration, Center for Educational Assessment

The department expects up to seven graduate student research assistantships during the summer of 2009 associated with projects sponsored by the Adult and Community Learning Services Division of the MA Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, the College Board, Measured Progress, and NSF.

Responsibilities include: Conducting multivariate statistical analyses; equating analyses; simulating data; editing technical reports; attending project meetings; writing computer code for psychometric activities such as item calibration, score scale linking, and population invariance studies; performing literature reviews on equating, scaling, standard setting, and score reporting; and co-authoring research reports. All candidates should have extensive knowledge of item response theory, multidimensional scaling, plausible values methodology, test construction, and test validation research. To apply, please contact Dr. Stephen G. Sireci, (413)545-0564 or Sireci@acad.umass.edu. Assistantships are contingent upon funding.

TEACHING ASSISTANTSHIPS

Department of Teacher Education and Curriculum Studies, Language, Literacy and Culture concentration

One 10 hr. per week Teaching Assistantship - ESL licensure supervisor

The Language, Literacy and Culture (LLC) concentration supervisor is responsible for supervising the practice of ESL licensure students from the Amherst Campus Programs. The ESL supervisor makes four to five visits to each student teacher in the field to support and evaluate student teachers' progress toward meeting the State Standards for licensure. The supervisor keeps in close touch with student teachers and their supervising practitioners to provide feedback, assists student teachers in developing their TK20 e-folios, keeps and submits field notes of the visits, writes each student an evaluation for the student's employment files, and keeps the Director of ESL licensure informed about the progress of the student teachers. Please email a letter of application and resume to Francis Bailey (fbailey@educ.umass.edu). The deadline for applications is June 1.

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Department of Teacher Education and Curriculum Studies, Children, Families and Schools concentration

10 hours per week, Teaching Assistantships for HumDev 270 Child Development (Sections 1 – 3). TAs to begin Fall of 2009. **Responsibilities include:** Assist faculty in class preparations; maintain regular office hours; assist in grading students' assignments and exams; assist in in-class and online discussion groups; schedule and organize outside speakers; support faculty in designing SPARK course tools and assignments; maintain attendance records; and other duties as assigned.

Qualifications include: Interest in and knowledge of child development. Preference given to applicants with experience using SPARK and education technology. To apply please send current cv and letter outlining relevant teaching experience to Dr. Kevin Nugent, Concentration Coordinator jk Nugent@educ.umass.edu.

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PROJECT ASSISTANTSHIPS

Department of Educational Policy, Research and Administration

Graduate assistantships available for Fall, 2009. Assistantships range from 10 to 20 hours per week.

Responsibilities may include: conducting library and internet research; assisting with research projects; basic data collection and analysis; report writing; database development and maintenance; attending meetings.

Qualifications include: excellent written and oral communications skills; excellent organizational skills; experience with personal computers including knowledge of basic word processing and spreadsheet computer programs; strong library and internet research skills; ability to work with various campus constituencies including faculty members, administrators, and students.

To apply, please send a resume to Sue Overstreet 161 Hills South – sue163@educ.umass.edu. //

Department of Student Development and Pupil Personnel Services

Graduate assistantships available for Fall, 2009. Assistantships range from 10 to 20 hours per week.

Responsibilities may include: conducting library and internet research; assisting with research projects; basic data analysis; report writing; database development and maintenance; attending meetings; assisting with administrative and clerical tasks.

Qualifications include: excellent written and oral communications skills; excellent organizational skills; experience with personal computers including knowledge of basic word processing and spreadsheet computer programs; strong library and internet research skills; ability to work with various campus constituencies including faculty members, administrators, and students

To apply, please contact Dr. Joseph B. Berger, 155 Hills South.

Availability of the positions are contingent upon the availability of funds. //

Educator Licensure Assessment Office

One half-time (10 hours per week) Project Assistantship is available in the Educator Licensure Assessment Office for Fall 2009.

Responsibilities include: Work as part of the Tk20 Team to assist the Assistant Dean for Educator Licensure and Field Experience Officer with data management, analysis and reporting. Assist Educator Licensure faculty in implementing assessment plans through Tk20. Learn to use the Tk20 data management system; assist faculty in putting assignments, assessments, and rubrics on the system; and train students, faculty and cooperating teachers to use Tk20 data management system. Work with Field Experience Office to get information for Field Experience Placements and Binders. Conduct online and face-to-face Tk20 support sessions as needed by Tk20 office. Other duties related to the work of the Educator Licensure Assessment Office.

Qualifications include: Preference given to candidates with the following qualifications: doctoral student; excellent technology and computer skills; ability to learn new technology quickly; high level of initiative; excellent communication skills; team spirit; ability to work assigned hours which will include some evening hours and flexible hours as assigned.

To apply, please submit a letter of application addressing the above qualifications (which will be used as a writing sample) and resume to: Dr. Marge Magouirk Colbert, School of Education, Educator Licensure Office, Room 130 Furcolo Hall, University of Massachusetts, 813 N. Pleasant St., Amherst, MA 01003-9308. All Project Assistantships are contingent on available funding. /

SGA Environmental Committee

This **new student government committee** is devoted to energy and environmental issues. It is a group within the SGA devoted to working with campus administration and the student body to make changes in the way that UMass Amherst thinks and deals with energy and environmental issues. We are looking for creative and devoted individuals from across many disciplines to come together and serve on our committee for the Fall 2009 - Spring 2010 year.

We aim to focus campus-wide efforts to create policies which contribute to sustainability and are financially efficient practices. Above all, we as a Committee work to minimize the ecological footprint we generate today for the benefit of future generations in the UMass Amherst community.

For information on how to apply please go to: <http://sites.google.com/site/sgaenvirocommittee/>
Questions? Please contact us at sgaenvirocommittee@gmail.com

Alexandra Adler
Vice Chair, SGA Environmental Committee.

Technology workshops

Academic Computing is offering a wide variety of workshops for faculty and graduate student instructors this June. Most are hands-on workshops that allow you to learn new technologies while working with content from your courses.

Workshop topics include:

- * Basic Technologies for Teaching & Research
- * Presentation & Classroom Technologies
- * Audio & Video Media Production
- * Course Web Sites in SPARK
- * Copyright & Library Resources
- * Student Perspectives on Teaching Technologies
- * Emerging Technologies
- * Special Topic: Virtual Worlds

For workshop descriptions and to register, please visit:

<http://www.umass.edu/accoprod/workshop/register.php>

Interested in training, but none of the scheduled times work for you? Contact the Instructional Media Lab (545-2823) to set up a one-on-one consultation.

**Visit the School of Education's website for academic information,
news about students, faculty, staff, and alumni, grants, events, awards,
photos and stories. www.umass.edu/education**