



THE BEACON

SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

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**EDUCATORS
FOR EXCELLENCE
AND EQUITY**

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

Research Assistantship

Department of Teacher Education and Curriculum Studies

Mathematics, Science, and Learning Technology Concentration

Part-time (10 hour/week) Research Assistant position for Fall 2009.

Will assist MSLT faculty member with the following:

1. *Inquiry support* - will search relevant literature and suggest resources; will analyze qualitative and quantitative data with faculty support; may assist with data collection through videotaping or interviewing participants.
2. *Instructional support* - obtain reference materials and assist with the development of instructional materials.
3. *Writing Support* - edit and proofread manuscripts for purposes of publication or grant proposals. Opportunity to co-author papers under certain circumstances.

Qualifications: A qualified candidate will possess research and organizational skills and be able to work independently. Candidate will be able to accurately transcribe video and/or audio data. Experience in secondary mathematics teaching and interest in statistics education preferred, but negotiable.

To apply: Send cover letter and resume to Sandy Madden, smadden@educ.umass.edu

Our web site
www.umass.edu/education
 Events, awards, stories, achievements, photos

This issue...
Announcements
Assistantships
Photos

PLEASE NOTE
 Beginning with next week's issue, June 11, The Beacon will be published every two weeks throughout the summer.

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.

RESEARCH ASSISTANTSHIPS

Department of Teacher Education and Curriculum Studies

Language , Literacy and Culture Concentration

Part-time (10 hour/week) Research Assistant position for Fall 2009: RA will work collaboratively with an LLC faculty member in the following ways:

1. *Inquiry support* - compiling sources and updating/conducting relevant literature reviews for faculty grants and publications; collecting data during interviews with mentors, university classroom observations, and large-group seminar; coding and analyzing qualitative data .
2. *Teaching support* - gathering, organizing, and posting reading materials for various course.
3. *Writing support* - editing and proofreading manuscripts for publication and grant proposals.

Qualifications: A qualified candidate will possess strong research and organizational skills as well as the ability to work independently. Candidate must have strong skills in qualitative research, writing, and facility with library and online research as well as experience with doing literature reviews. Experience or familiarity with literacy education within elementary and secondary contexts, including multiliteracies and critical literacies practices, and pre-service teacher education is preferred. **To apply:** Send application letter and resume to Dr. Maria José Botelho at mbotelho@educ.umass.edu.

Department of Teacher Education and Curriculum Studies

One half-time (10 hours/week) Research Assistant position (Summer 2009)

To work with Dr. Allan Feldman on research in teacher education. The position will consist of research activities: data analysis, transcription, and, and preparation of manuscripts. Priority will be given to TESI doctoral students with experience in teacher education, teaching, and student teaching supervision. Knowledge of the SOAR-High research project is also preferred. Please contact: Dr. Allan Feldman, 230 Furcolo Hall, at afeldman@educ.umass.edu. Funding for this position is from the Research Trust Fund.

BeaconLOG

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

Dr. Craig N. Mills (Ed.D. 1982) has been promoted to vice president of examinations at American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA) in recognition of his leadership and contributions to the profession. A prominent psychometrician and a pioneer in the computerization of testing, Dr. Mills was responsible for the transition of the CPA examination from pencil-and-paper to a computerized format.

Dr. Mary Lynn Boscardin, professor in the Department of Student Development and Pupil Personnel Services, and Drs. Mary Andrianopoulos, Elena Zaretsky, Shelley Velleman and Patricia Mercaitis, all of the Speech and Language Pathology program in the School of Public Health and Health Sciences, have been awarded a \$796,809 U.S. Department of Education Personnel Preparation Grant in the area of Autism Spectrum Disorders. Working in conjunction, these five faculty members have been awarded grants from the U.S. DOE totaling \$2,329,642 in the past five years.

FORMATION OF DISSERTATION COMMITTEE

THELMA BELMONTE-ALCANTARA Proposed Dissertation Title: "Critical Understandings of Language, Literacy, and Gender and Foreign Language Learners."

Statement of the Problem: The number of language educators who claim that the foreign language field is in need of critical scrutiny is growing. However, a critical perspective that examines the relations between language and power has mainly focused on the areas of teaching materials (Herman, 2007; Train, 2007), language policies (Kramsch et al., 2007) and the field's mission and goals (Ortega, 1999; Osborn, 2006; Reagan & Osborn, 2002). There are other areas of foreign language education where a critical perspective has not been widely accepted such as classroom teaching and learning. The need of classroom-based research that critically examines the literacy practices of foreign language learners becomes crucial as current teaching techniques and methodologies reinforce the rationales that sustain the study of language in the U.S. that continues to yield unsuccessful results (See Kubota and Austin, 2007).

Chairperson: Dr. Theresa Austin.

The Academy for Educational Studies
presents the fifth annual

Critical Questions in Education Conference

October 19th and 20th, 2009

St. Louis Union Station Marriott, St. Louis, MO

Deadline for proposals: July 1, 2009

The Academy for Educational Studies announces the fifth annual Critical Questions in Education Conference. This year we offer two theme questions—one giving you the chance to examine the state of higher education, the other offering you the chance to evaluate an educational idea you find valuable (or valueless). You can also offer a proposal on one of our past theme questions. As always, those who present at the conference will have a chance to publish either in the Academy's new blind peer-reviewed journal or in an edited collection. The announcement about keynote speakers for this year's conference will be made shortly. The attachment contains all the details you'll need in order to submit a proposal.

We invite you to peruse the Academy's web-site <http://education.missouristate.edu/acaded/> You may also want to look at the web-site of the conference hotel, the St. Louis Union Station Marriott, another unique location for the Academy conference <http://www.marriott.com/hotels/travel/stlus-st-louis-union-station-marriott/> We hope you will submit a proposal and plan to join us for the annual conference. We also hope you will share this Call for Papers with friends and colleagues—and with any list-serves which might accept it.

If you have any questions please contact:

Steven P. Jones, Director, Academy for Educational Studies, Missouri State University

901 S. National Ave., Springfield, MO 65897

AcademyEdStudies@missouristate.edu

417-836-5982

2009 Graduation Celebration!



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