



THE BEACON

SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

University of Massachusetts Amherst

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Or go to the School of Education home page and click on The Beacon icon.

HARD COPIES are available in Furcolo Hall and Hills South.

Research Assistantship

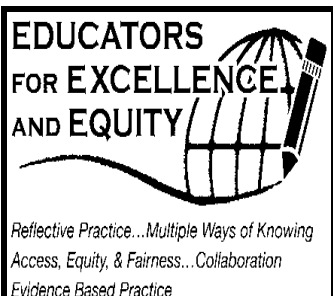
Department of Student Development

One 10 hour/week research assistantship is available for Spring 2011. The position entails working on an outcome study of the 5-College Intergroup Dialogue Initiative project co-directed by associate professors Ximena Zúñiga and Carey Dimmitt.

Responsibilities include: Assist with quantitative and qualitative data management, analysis and reporting, including overseeing undergraduate hourly employees and data inputting on SPSS and Nvivo qualitative software; assist with coordinating and conducting interviews and working with undergraduate hourly-employee transcribers.

Qualifications: The ideal candidate will have training/experience with qualitative and quantitative analysis and interviewing and will be familiar with the literature on intergroup dialogue in higher education. Candidate must have strong organizational skills and must be able to maintain regular contact with the project participants, and supervise undergraduates students data entry.

Applicants should submit a brief cover letter and CV or resume to Dr. Kelly Smiaroski at kns@educ.umass.edu. Deadline: December 31, 2010. /



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 issue.

All assistantship notices will run for two issues;
notices of examinations and formation of dissertation committees will run for one.

To all graduate students...

Spring semester course EDUC 693Y: Mathematics, Science and Learning Technologies (MSLT) Research

Are you working on research or would you like to? Are you trying to get your comps going? Do you need to write a dissertation proposal? How about preparing a conference paper? Or maybe you are trying to write your thesis or dissertation?

If any of these things apply to you, perhaps you will consider the support of **EDUC 693Y: MSLT Research** during spring 2011. The purpose of the course is to support graduate students as they move forward in their research and scholarly work in mathematics, science, and/or learning technologies. One intent of the course is to encourage the development of a community of learners and scholars who will continue to support each other throughout the graduate program and into professional lives. Graduate students from other concentrations may also enroll in the course.

The course meets on Tuesdays from 7:00 to 9:30 p.m. with Dr. Sandra Madden. Hope to see you there! /

Research Assistantships

Department of Teacher Education and Curriculum Studies

Five 4-hour/week research assistantships are available for Spring 2011. The positions will involve working on statistics education research projects with a faculty member in the Mathematics, Science, and Learning Technologies division.

Responsibilities: Assist researcher with analysis and interpretation of qualitative and quantitative data including pre/post written assessments, interview data, video data, and curriculum data with the intention of writing collaboratively for publication. Weekly face-to-face research sessions are mandatory.

Qualifications: The ideal candidates will have extensive experience in mathematics or statistics education. Additionally, training and/or experience with qualitative and quantitative methods, experience working with audio and video equipment; managing databases; conducting literature reviews; and strong writing and editing skills are preferred. Successful completion of EDUC 697CC or EDUC 711 also preferred.

Interested applicants should send resume and cover letter to Sandra Madden (smadden@educ.umass.edu). Please use "Stat Ed Research Assistant" as subject header of email. /

350 SOE web pages were viewed a total of 46,976 times
from November 27-December 27, 2010

Send your news and other items to: dms@educ.umass.edu

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<http://www.facebook.com/pages/School-of-Education-UMass-Amherst/164628343548766?v=wall>

Project Assistantships

Department of Teacher Education and Curriculum Studies

One 10 hr./week and one 5 hr./week project assistantship

Responsibilities: Supporting an ethnographic research project on critical race in teacher education. Specific responsibilities include: ethnographic interviewing; helping create and manage interview protocols and data base (transcripts, field notes, lesson plans, audio/video files); conducting library research; producing written syntheses of research; other administrative duties as needed; attending weekly project meetings with project coordinator.

Qualifications: Applicants should be highly-skilled bilingual/bi-literate in one or more of these languages- Spanish, Chinese, Russian- and English; able to work independently from and collaboratively with a team of researchers; have strong library database research skills to locate, synthesize and communicate research constructs, designs and findings both orally and in writing by deadlines; proficient using Web 2 technologies- podcasts, wikis, etc.; have strong ability to communicate and collaborate through various media- phone, teleconference, conferences, etc.- with distant researchers.

Contact: Theresa Austin (taustin@educ.umass.edu) for scheduling initial test of transcription speed and accuracy and interview. /

Teaching Assistantship

Department of Teacher Education and Curriculum Studies

One 10 hr./wk. teaching Assistantship (TA) for Spring 2011. Assist 180 Days faculty in the pilot of the Teacher Performance Assessment.

Duties include: Assist in coordination of TPA at school sites served by TEACH 180 Days. Support integration of TPA with 180 Days clinical teachers; includes site visits to schools, conferences with students, timely completion of ongoing documentation of student performance. Perform other duties as needed.

Qualifications: Teaching experience or other experience in schools preferred. Excellent organizational and communication skills. Familiarity and/or experience with video teacher performance assessment, e.g., PACT, TPAC, etc.

Send letter and resume to Kathleen Gagne, School of Education. Send materials by email to kdg@educ.umass.edu. Review of application will begin immediately. /

Family Research Scholars Program

The Center for Research on Families (CRF) is now accepting applications to the Family Research Scholars Program for 2011-12. The Family Research Scholars Program provides a course release and other support for up to six faculty to each produce and submit a major grant proposal for family research in collaboration with the Center. Family research is broadly defined as research on issues affecting families and thus encompasses all disciplines.

Faculty from all ranks (assistant, associate, full professors), departments and colleges are eligible to apply. The deadline for applying is January 14, 2011. (Notification -- January 31st) Please go to the website for complete details and application: <http://www.umass.edu/family/scholars.htm>

If you have questions about the program or whether your research fits within its parameters please contact Wendy Varner, Associate Director (545-3593; wendy@sbs.umass.edu) or Sally Powers, Director (powers@psych.umass.edu).

Comprehensive Examination

Jenna M. Copella. January 10, 2011, 1:00pm, Rm. 163 Hills South.

Chair: Dr. Lisa Keller.

Research Assistantships

Department of Teacher Education and Curriculum Development

Two 10-hour/week research assistantships are available for Spring 2011. The research assistants will work closely with a faculty member in the Language, Literacy and Culture concentration.

Responsibilities include: Assist with the completion of several works-in-progress and activities associated with one small-scale project on language arts pedagogies in a Waldorf-inspired public elementary school. Research-related activities include conducting relevant literature searches and reviews; assisting with qualitative data collection and analysis; and managing data sets. Please note that children's and young adult texts are part of these data sets. The two research assistants will also support the faculty member in all aspects of writing for publication.

Qualifications include: The ideal candidates will have experience with qualitative research methods, especially practices informed by feminist poststructuralism; management and analysis of qualitative data; critical literature reviews; and use of APA style. The ideal candidates must have some experience with and interest in pre-service teacher education and critical literacies, multiliteracies, and/or Waldorf language arts pedagogies. They must also have strong organizational and time management skills as well as be able to complete projects independently and collaboratively.

To apply, please send a brief cover letter and CV to Dr. Maria José Botelho at mbotelho@educ.umass.edu. /
Please use "Spring 2011 RA Position" for the subject line. /

Research Assistantship

Department of Educational Policy, Research, and Administration

One part-time (10 hour/week) research assistantship is available for Spring 2011.

Responsibilities include: This student will work on a research project utilizing GIS to inform higher education policy. He/she will research data that can be used with GIS software to analyze the spatial and contextual effects of labor markets and postsecondary education contexts on college entry.

Qualifications include: The ideal candidate will have developed research skills in managing large national data sets, and will have knowledge of GIS as well as SPSS and/or Stata. Strong organizational and time management skills are required, as is the ability to work in collaboration as well as independently.

To apply, please send a brief cover letter and CV to Dr. Ryan Wells at rswells@educ.umass.edu. /

Comprehensive Examination

Barbara Colombo-Adams. January 14, 2011, 10:30am-12:00pm, Rm. 225 Furcolo Hall.

Chair: Sally Campbell Galman.

Teaching Assistantship

Department of Teacher Education and Curriculum Studies

EDUC 500-STEP Supervisor-Spring '11 Ten hour/ week teaching assistantship available to supervise English, History, Science and Math student teachers in Secondary Teacher Education Program.

Responsibilities include: Supervision of 5 student teachers, site visits to schools, conferences with students and supervising practitioners, observation reports, weekly email contact, attendance at monthly supervisor meetings, review of student teaching portfolios, maintaining contact between schools and university, timely completion of ongoing documentation of student performance. For more info go to: <http://blogs.umass.edu/educ510-madeloni>

Qualifications: Excellent organizational and communication skills. Classroom teaching experience in the subject area. Preferences given to students who have or are taking EDUC 851 and/or have experience in teacher leadership and supervision. Looking for individuals with mathematics and science teaching background, but those with strong recommendations will be considered.

Applicants should submit letter of interest, resume, and names and contact information for two references to Barbara Madeloni, Director of STEP Student Teaching, 413-577-0495, madeloni@educ.umass.edu.
Application deadline: January 3, 2011 /

Research Assistantship

Department of Educational Policy, Research, and Administration

One part-time (10 hour/week) research assistantship is available for Spring 2011.

Responsibilities include: This student will work on a research project examining the transitions from the labor market to college enrollment. He/she will assist with a literature review on topics of delayed college entry, college access, and labor market transitions. This student will also help to initially prepare NELS data for statistical analysis.

Qualifications include: The ideal candidate will have developed research skills in conducting literature reviews, managing large NCES data sets, and using SPSS and/or Stata. Strong organizational and time management skills are required, as is the ability to work in collaboration as well as independently.

To apply, please send a brief cover letter and CV to Dr. Ryan Wells at rswells@educ.umass.edu. /

Research Assistantships

Department of Educational Policy, Research, and Administration

The Center for Educational Assessment expects up to 2 part-time graduate student research assistantships for up to 20 hours per week in Spring 2011. These assistantships are associated with a project sponsored by the American Chemical Society's Exams Institute. These positions are contingent upon funding.

Qualifications: All applicants must have a background in statistics and mathematical modeling of educational assessment data, experience working in educational assessment, and working knowledge of classical test theory and item response theory.

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 multidimensional scaling, plausible values methodology, test construction, and test validation research.

To apply, please contact Dr. April L. Zenisky, (413)577-2180 or by email at azenisky@educ.umass.edu. //

NSF Opportunity

The following is a limited submission opportunity from NSF with only two nominees allowed per institution. If you are interested in submitting to this program please contact Melinda LeVacheur at 413-545-5283 by January 7. **Sponsor Deadline:** March 16, 2011

Cyberinfrastructure Training, Education, Advancement, and Mentoring for Our 21st Century Workforce (nsf11515) <http://www.nsf.gov/pubs/2011/nsf11515/nsf11515.htm>

Program Description:

New information, communication, and computational technologies have had profound impacts on the practice of science (in this solicitation, the term science includes the natural, mathematical, computing, and social sciences), engineering, and education. This includes the means by which citizens of all ages use science and engineering to enhance professional and private lives. The systems, tools, and services emerging from these new technologies are linked to create a comprehensive cyberinfrastructure that is enabling individuals, groups, and organizations to advance research and education in ways that revolutionize who can participate, what they can do, and how they do it. Sustaining this revolution across all areas of science, engineering, and education requires the formation of a citizenry and workforce with the knowledge and skills needed to design and deploy as well as adopt and apply these cyber-based systems, tools and services over the long-term. The opportunity for such preparation should be available at all stages of formal and informal education (K-16 and lifelong), training and professional development, and must be extended to all individuals and communities. The CI-TEAM program supports projects that integrate science and engineering research and education activities that range from local activities to global-scale efforts, as appropriate, to promote, leverage and utilize cyberinfrastructure systems, tools and services. Collectively, the CI-TEAM awards will:

- Increase the numbers of scientists, engineers, educators, and/or students prepared to design, develop, adopt and deploy cyber-based tools and environments for computational science and engineering research and learning, both formal and informal. This is to include individuals who are otherwise well prepared in the STEM disciplines.
- Produce curricular and pedagogical materials, learning technologies, and institutional models for preparing the cyberinfrastructure workforce that are broadly adaptable and/or adoptable, and publish related outcomes that inform others of promising educational approaches. Increase and broaden the participation of diverse groups of people and organizations as both creators and users of cyberinfrastructure for research and education. Currently underrepresented groups include women, those in underserved rural regions of the country, those who would be the first in their family to graduate from college, and minorities including those associated with Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) and other Minority Serving Institutions (MSIs) and communities.

Melinda V. LeLacheur G'9, **Limited Submission Funding Opportunities:** <http://www.umass.edu/research/limited-submission-awards-grants>

CTEP Program Supervisor

Department of Teacher Education and Curriculum Studies

10 Hour TAs for SPRING 2011 for Program Supervisors for CTEP.

Supervision of students seeking elementary licensure in practicum in the Spring semester: responsibilities include observations, giving verbal and written feedback, problem solving with and supporting practicum students, supporting supervising practitioners, conducting three-way meetings. Participation in weekly 2-hour seminar is required (seminar is tentatively planned for 1:45-3:45 on Mondays). This will include work with interns to prepare the TPA (lesson planning, videotaping, reflection, etc.) Supervisors will also be expected to score TPAs and attend bi-monthly supervision meetings.

Qualifications: Classroom teaching experience. Excellent communication and problem solving skills.

Applicants should submit letter of interest, resume, and names and contact information for two references to Camille Cammack at jcammack@educ.umass.edu

Application deadline: January 7, 2011

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AERA Grants

Supported by the National Science Foundation (NSF), the AERA Grants Program fosters advanced scientific study of education and learning using large-scale data sets collected or supported by the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES), NSF, or other federal agencies. Currently there are two research initiatives (dissertation grants and research grants) and two institutes (statistics institute for researchers and faculty institute for teaching in the use of large-scale data) with imminent deadlines in January 2011. For further information about AERA and the Grants Program, see the AERA website at www.aera.net.

AERA Dissertation Grants. AERA provides dissertation support for advanced doctoral students to undertake doctoral dissertations using data from the large-scale national or international data sets supported by the NCES, NSF, and other federal agencies. Applications are encouraged from a variety of disciplines, such as but not limited to, education, sociology, economics, psychology, demography, statistics, and psychometrics. The selection process is competitive. The application deadline is **January 10, 2011**. For detailed information, see http://www.aera.net/grantsprogram/res_training/diss_grants/DGFly.html

AERA Research Grants. AERA provides small grants for faculty members, postdoctoral researchers, and other doctoral-level scholars to undertake quantitative research using data from the large-scale national or international data sets supported by the NCES, NSF, and other federal agencies. Applications are encouraged from a variety of disciplines, such as but not limited to, education, sociology, economics, psychology, demography, statistics, and psychometrics. The selection process is competitive. The application deadline is **January 10, 2011**. For detailed information, see http://www.aera.net/grantsprogram/res_training/res_grants/RGFly.html.

AERA Institute on Statistical Analysis for Education Policy: *Transitions from High School to College*. The Institute's goal is to build the capacity of the U.S. education research community to use large-scale national and international data sets supported by the NCES, NSF, and other federal agencies. Hands-on training is provided in the application of large-scale data sets, with special emphasis on using them for policy-related research in education. In 2011, the Institute will focus on using these data sets to address research questions related to student transitions from high school to college. Senior researchers, agency staff, and other experts jointly provide this training, to be held May 24-26, 2011, in Washington, DC. The Institute will cover participant expenses (transportation, meals, and lodging.) The selection process is competitive. The application deadline is **January 20, 2011**. For more detailed information, see http://www.aera.net/grantsprogram/res_training/stat_institute/SIFly.html.

Questions? Please contact 202-238-3200, ext. 227, or grantsprogram@aera.net.

