



# THE BEACON

SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

University of Massachusetts Amherst

Access The Beacon online: <http://www.umass.edu/education/publications/beacon.shtml>.  
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 Teacher Education and Curriculum Studies

10 hour/week Research Assistant position for Spring 2011. RA will assist Language, Literacy and Culture concentration faculty member with school-based qualitative data collection, including observations, interviews and focus groups and data organization including transcription of recorded data (A-V and video). This position also will require facilitating local teacher workshops in classroom inquiry.

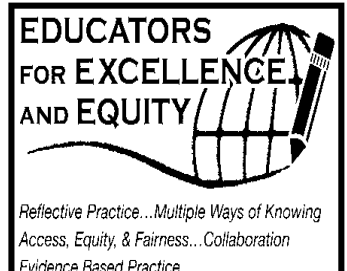
A qualified candidate will possess research and organizational skills, experience working with teachers/school staff and collecting data in schools. Candidate must have strong skills in using electronic sources for research purposes and collecting and organizing qualitative data. Knowledge of Excel required.

To apply: Send a one-page cover letter and updated resume to Laura A. Valdiviezo, [lav@educ.umass.edu](mailto:lav@educ.umass.edu). Please write "RA S2011" in the e-mail subject. //

### The Beacon Deadline is FRIDAY

Please submit *Beacon* announcements to: [dms@educ.umass.edu](mailto: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.



## **ANNOUNCEMENT OF FINAL ORAL EXAMINATIONS**

**ANTHONY HILL** March 23, 2011, 10:30 a.m. Room 151, Hills South.

"The Cost of Caring: An investigation into the effects of teaching traumatized children in urban elementary settings." **Chairperson: Dr. Sharon F. Rallis.**

**KATHLEEN A. STRUB-RICHARDS** March 21, 2011, 10: 30 a.m., Room 20, Furcolo Hall.

"The Effects of Multiple External Mandates on Curriculum, Pedagogy and Child Activity in the Preschool Classroom." **Chairperson: Dr. Grace J. Craig.**

## **Latino Education and Advocacy Day (LEAD) webcast**

### **Monday, March 28**

For the second consecutive year, UMass Amherst School of Education will be an event partner in this international webcast of a one-day summit that will address issues on Latinos and educational access. This event is organized by the California State University - San Bernardino. Educators, students, researchers, community members, activists and politicians are invited to participate. The event will take place on Monday, March 28, 2011. For information about access to the webcast, contact **Laura A. Valdiviezo, assistant professor, Department of Teacher Education and Curriculum Studies**, at lav@educ.umass.edu. In the e-mail subject kindly write: LEAD.

## **Massachusetts Society of Professors meeting**

**What is the future of public higher education in Massachusetts?**

**Does it include standardized testing?**

**What exactly is the Board of Higher Education planning for us?**

**March 1 2:30 – 4:00 UMass Amherst Campus Center Room 903**

MSP has invited the Commissioner of Higher Education, Richard Freeland, to talk with faculty about the Vision Project, which is the Massachusetts Board of Higher Education's effort to define success and accountability for UMass and public higher education more generally.

Sangeeta Kamat, associate professor, Department of Educational Policy, Research and Administration, will participate in the discussion.

Please RSVP to <msp@external.umass.edu> if you expect to attend. Refreshments will be served.

Read about the Vision Project at <http://www.mass.edu/currentinit/visionproject.asp>. More detailed information from the Student Learning Outcomes and Assessments Taskforce can be found here:

<http://www.mass.edu/currentinit/documents/VisionProjectWGStudentLearningOutcomes&Assessment-PhaseOneJuly2010.pdf>

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

Two films by **Liane Brandon**, School of Education faculty (1973-2005), will be shown at the Cambridge, Mass., Library on March 8, in celebration of International Women's Day. Among the earliest and most frequently used consciousness-raising films of the Women's Movement, the films are "Anything You Want to Be" ( 1971), and "Betty Tells Her Story" ( 1972). "Anything You Want to Be", a teenager's humorous collision with sex-role stereotypes, was one of the first films to explore the external pressures and the more subtle, internal pressures a girl faces in finding her identity. "Betty Tells Her Story", the poignant saga of Betty's search for "the perfect dress," explores our culture's emphasis on female "beauty" and the ways in which clothing and appearance affect a woman's identity.

Both films have been selected for preservation and screening through the Women's Film Preservation Fund which was founded by the Museum of Modern Art and NYWIFT in order to safeguard the cultural legacy of women in the film industry. Both films have won multiple awards and have inspired countless discussions of gender-role stereotyping, self-image, and cultural perception.

The Cambridge screening is offered through the Cambridge Women's Heritage Project in collaboration with the Cambridge Historical Commission and the Cambridge Commission on the Status of Women.

---

The American Educational Research Association has announced that School of Education professor emerita **Sonia Nieto** has been elected a Fellow of the AERA in recognition of her exceptional scholarly contribution to education research in the field of multicultural and bilingual education. The AERA Fellows Program honors education researchers with substantial research accomplishments. The fellowship conveys the Association's commitment to excellence in research and emphasizes to new scholars the importance of sustained research in the field of education. Nieto will be installed in the AERA's 2011 Class of Fellows on April 9 during the AERA's Annual Meeting in New Orleans.

---

**Kevin Nugent**, professor, Department of Teacher Education and Curriculum Studies, was interviewed by urbanbaby.com about his new book "Your Baby Is Speaking to You: A Visual Guide to the Amazing Behaviors of Your Newborn and Growing Baby." <http://blogs.urbanbaby.com/buzz/2011/02/18/baby-speak/>

---

**Stephen Sireci**, professor, Department of Educational Policy, Research and Administration, and director of the School of Education's Center for Educational Assessment, spoke with WFCR National Public Radio news and music for western New England's Susan Kaplan about state graduation rates. Hear the interview on our web site - [www.umass.edu/education](http://www.umass.edu/education) - or on WFCR's web site.

---

**You can read more about our faculty, students, staff and alumni on the School of Education's website. [www.umass.edu/education](http://www.umass.edu/education) (And on our Facebook.)**

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

**Send items to [dms@educ.umass.edu](mailto:dms@educ.umass.edu)**

## **Thesis and Dissertation Formatting**

### **Revised Schedule for Spring Semester 2011**

The Office of Information Technologies offers workshops with detailed instructions on how to format a thesis or dissertation to meet the requirements of the University of Massachusetts Graduate School with Microsoft Word for Windows or Macintosh.

The workshops include margins, footnotes, bibliographies, page numbering, headings, table of contents, etc. as well as advice about electronic submission. Because Word 2007/2010 is quite different from previous versions of Word, there are two workshops: one for users of Word 2007 or 2010 (including people who will be working in the OIT classrooms), and one for all other versions of Word (Mac or Windows).

#### **The workshops (Sign up for one workshop)**

- **Word 2007/2010** - Monday, March 7 - 1:30 - 4:30 pm

**Or** Friday, April 8 - 9:30 am - 12:30 pm

- **Word (other versions)** - Thursday, March 10 - 9:30 am to 12:30 pm

**Or** Monday, March 28, 1:30 to 4:30 pm

Registration is required and is not complete until you have paid the \$10 fee and told us which version of Word you are using. To register, go to the Administrative Desk in A119 Lederle GRC (545-9730).

**Prerequisite** -Some knowledge of the version of Microsoft Word that you are using.

**Course materials** - on Web - also available on the OIT Web site:

<http://www.oit.umass.edu/workshops/tutorials/index.html#ThesisandDissertationFormatting>

## **Lecture - Professor Linda Burton: Journeys to the Alter: The Intimate Union Patterns of Low Income Urban and Rural Mothers**

**Monday, March 28 4:00 p.m. UMass Amherst Campus Center 917**

**FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

Linda M. Burton is the James B. Duke Professor of Sociology at Duke University. She is currently a member of the Committee on the Science of Research on Families for the Institute of Medicine, Deputy Editor for Demography, a member of Advisory Board of National Center for Marriage and Family Research, the Board of Directors for the Family Process Institute, and the Board of Directors for the Council on Contemporary Families. She is also a recipient of the Family Research Consortium IV Legacy Award and the American Family Therapy Academy Award for Innovative Contributions to Family Research.

Dr. Burton directed the ethnographic component of Welfare, Children, and Families: A Three-City Study and is principal investigator of a multi-site team ethnographic study (Family Life Project) of poverty, family processes, and child development in six rural communities. Her research integrates ethnographic and demographic approaches and examines the roles that poverty and intergenerational family dynamics play in the intimate unions of low-income mothers and the accelerated the life course transitions of children and adults in urban and rural families.

This lecture is part of the Tay Gavin Erickson Lecture Series through the Center for Research on Families at UMass. CRF is an interdisciplinary research center whose mission is to build a strong network of faculty with expertise in family research who are able to generate collaborative, multidisciplinary research projects, and to create unique programming to bring research to policy-makers and the public. The Tay Gavin Erickson Lectures began in 1999 through an endowment established in memory of Tay Gavin Erickson. The 2010 TGE Series is co-sponsored by the Center for Public Policy and Administration.

## **What is Happiness? lecture**

**Tuesday, March 1 at 4 p.m.**

The campus community is invited to attend the third 2010-2011 Distinguished Faculty Lecture on Tuesday, March 1, at 4 pm in the Massachusetts Room, located on the third floor of the Mullins Center.

Professor Fred Feldman of the Department of Philosophy will present "What Is This Thing Called Happiness?" This lecture is free and open to the public and a reception will immediately follow the talk. Professor Feldman will receive the Chancellor's Medal, the highest honor bestowed by the campus.

Economists, sociologists, psychologists, and others frequently report excitingly on their empirical research on happiness yet they seem to come to wildly different conclusions about what makes us happy and when we are happiest. Drawing on his latest book, Professor Feldman will describe recent popular research methodologies, argue that much empirical research focuses on things that do not deserve to be called happiness, and make a case that defining happiness is a job for philosophy.

Live web streaming of this Distinguished Faculty Lecture will be available at <http://www.umass.edu/umhome/facultylectures/> beginning at 4 pm on March 1st.

University of Massachusetts STEM Ed Institute presents:

**STEM Tuesday Seminars** April 12 Hasbrouck 138.

Raymond S. Bradley, Climate System Research Center, Department of Geosciences

### **"Where do we stand on Global Warming?"**

Global temperatures have risen by ~10C since the end of the 19th century. This increase has not been linear, as there have been periods when temperatures were stable for short periods before rising once again. The reasons for these changes in the rate of temperature rise are related to anthropogenic factors (sulphate aerosol pollution versus greenhouse gas inputs to the atmosphere) as well as to natural factors (volcanic eruptions, solar irradiance variations, El Niño/Southern Oscillation [ENSO] fluctuations, etc).

Over the last decade or so, temperatures have not risen at the same rate as in previous decades, and this has led to speculation that global warming is over. This view was reinforced by the unusually cold winter that many parts of the United States and western Europe experienced in recent months. However, such a conclusion was premature. January 2010 was one of the warmest Januaries on record when the entire globe is considered, subsequent months broke records for high temperatures, and the last decade was the warmest, globally, for many centuries. Extreme events this year have been common. Nevertheless, many politicians who do not favor controls on carbon emissions insist on presenting a one-sided view of the situation to the public. This effort has been reinforced by a relentless campaign to find and publicize a few errors in the IPCC 4th Assessment Report, to shake the public's confidence in that Report's main conclusions. Meanwhile, while the political bickering goes on, the levels of carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases in the atmosphere continue to increase, more heat accumulates in the oceans, sea-level keeps rising as glaciers and ice caps melt, and phenological indicators from many regions demonstrate disruptions to the seasonality of biological activity. And as these changes occur, world population keeps increasing, at a rate of ~240,000 people per day, most of whom will grow up to be subsistence or small-scale agriculturalists, who will be just as vulnerable to climatic anomalies as late prehistoric/early historic societies were. Climatologists, and other environmental scientists have a responsibility to ensure that the public, and the politicians they elect, fully understand these issues so that they can better appreciate the consequences of inaction over controlling greenhouse gas emissions.

STEM seminars are held at **4PM in Hasbrouck 138**. Everyone is welcome; no reservations are needed, and there is no charge. Parking is available in the Campus Center Garage.