



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.

Research Assistantship

Department of Teacher Education and Curriculum Studies

A 10 hour/week research assistantship is available for Fall 2011 – Spring 2012 to assist a pre-tenured faculty member with research project.

Responsibilities include: Attend weekly meetings; conduct literature reviews (of self-study methodology, multicultural pedagogy in teacher education, and intergroup dialogue in higher education classrooms); assist with self-study project design; conduct preliminary participant-observation in classrooms; conduct preliminary pilot interviews with students; contribute to preliminary analysis of pilot data; provide consistent administrative support of the project; provide additional research and grant writing assistance to support the professor's research agenda.

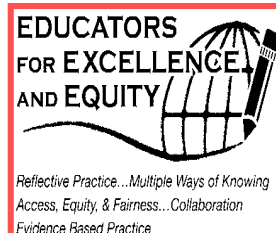
Qualifications include: Strong to expert knowledge of the theories and practices of multicultural, critical, anti-racist, and feminist pedagogies as well as intergroup dialogue; experience implementing these pedagogies with adult learners in a variety of contexts, (preferably both community-based contexts and university classrooms); specific experience as a multicultural educator or intergroup dialogue facilitator with pre-service or practicing K-12 teachers is preferred; a working knowledge of the research literature on multicultural pedagogy in higher education, intergroup dialogue, and self-study methodology is preferred; excellent scholarly writing skills a must; highly organized, detail-oriented and self-disciplined.

To apply, please email a cover letter and CV to Kysa Nygreen, (knygreen@educ.umass.edu) subject line of the email should read "RA Multicultural Pedagogy" /

The Beacon will be published every two weeks during the summer beginning with the June 9, 2011 issue.

The Beacon Deadline is FRIDAY

- Please submit general news and announcements 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.
- Please submit notices of examinations and formation of dissertation committees to Linda Guthrie. These types of announcements will run for one week.



School of Education ✧ 813 N. Pleasant Street, Amherst, MA 01003

Research Assistantship

Department of Teacher Education and Curriculum Studies

(3) RA positions for Summer 2011 for NSF Noyce Planning Grant.

Three RA's to work 20 hours each during one week during the Summer 2011 to complete data analysis.

Responsibilities include: analysis of needs assessment classroom data and preparation of reports based on analysis. Attendance at PI meetings for the project.

Qualifications: Doctoral status in the MSLT doctoral program. Background in mathematics and/or science teaching at the middle/high school level. Training in the use of the needs assessment classroom observation protocol. Data collection and analysis skills. Excellent communication and problem solving skills.

Applicants should submit letter of interest, resume, example of previously completed data collection/analysis, and names and contact information for two references to Kathleen Davis, kdavis@educ.umass.edu

Application deadline: July 11, 2011. /

Students: how to submit information for announcements

Students must submit proper forms for announcements about Formation of Dissertation Committees (D-6) and Comprehensive Examinations (D-4) to **Linda Guthrie** in 123 Furcolo Hall, Office of Academic Affairs.

Linda will submit the items to the Beacon for publication.

Teaching Assistantship

Department of Teacher Education and Curriculum Studies (TECS)

One 10 hour/week teaching assistantship is available for Fall 2011 to co-teach **NATSCI 590A, Organisms, Diversity, and Interactions** and serve as **Coordinator of the Science Education Online Program**. This position is available only to doctoral students in the MSLT doctoral program.

Responsibilities include: course preparation and presentation, providing office hours for students enrolled in NATSCI 590A, and evaluation of student work. As coordinator, responsibilities include: responding to email inquiries regarding the Science Education Online program, providing matriculated students with advising, completion of academic course approval and instructor approval forms for courses offered in Spring and Summer 2012.

Qualifications required: 1) acceptance into the MSLT doctoral program, 2) Master's degree in Biology, 3) teaching experience in science at the K-12 level, 4) teaching experience with K-8 teachers, 5) sensitivity to cultural diversity, 6) good interpersonal communication skills, 7) knowledge and experience with computer technology and online learning, and 8) good organizational skills.

To apply, please contact: Dr. Kathleen Davis, Rm. 227A, Furcolo Hall, 577-2317 or e-mail: kdavis@educ.umass.edu **Application Deadline: July 15.**

This position is contingent upon the availability of funds. /

Project Assistantship

Department of Teacher Education and Curriculum Studies

One 20 hour/week project assistantship to assist Professors Azevedo and Sullivan as needed to develop NCATE-compatible rubrics for LMT courses, including defining the standards required for each course and creating assessments that align with these standards. The position is a 3-week PA position.

Please contact flavio@educ.umass.edu.

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Teaching Assistantship

Department of Student Development

One 10 hours/week teaching assistantship is available for Fall 2011 for EDUC 325. EDUC 325 is designed to teach education and non-education majors the fundamentals of Special Ed. in the U.S.

Responsibilities include: attending weekly class lecture (Tuesdays 4:00-6:30 pm), meeting weekly with instructor to plan/discuss class, holding weekly office hours, facilitating course instructional planning, helping with grading, and tracking student attendance.

Qualifications include: Preference given to those who have special education teaching experience at any level, college level special education course teaching experience, experience using Blackboard/SPARK as a teaching and grading platform, computer skills (excel and data management), and strong organizational skills.

To apply, please email your resume or CV to Jason Travers, PhD at travers@educ.umass.edu

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Research Assistantship

Department of Student Development

10 hours/week Research Assistantship for Fall 2011 to assist with the development of mobile device software for educational research, data collection and management and literature searches.

Qualifications: All applicants must have thorough knowledge of Xcode for iOS and Java script for Android operating system. Applicants must have knowledge of software design, accessibility, and experience developing software applications. Excellent written and oral communication skills are required.

Responsibilities include: Developing mobile device educational applications for students with autism. Brainstorming, creation of storyboards, writing code, and testing software. Regularly attend meetings with the research team. Participating in research activities is likely, including but not limited to data collection and analysis. Co-authoring publishable research reports is possible. Necessary hardware and programming software will be provided.

To apply, please email resume and letter of application to: Dr. Jason Travers, travers@educ.umass.edu. //

ANNOUNCEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE EXAMINATION

REBECCA M. ALLEN

September 8-9, 2011, 8:30 a.m. – 5:00 p.m., 3rd floor, Hills South.

Chairperson: Dr. Sara Whitcomb.

FORMATION OF DISSERTATION COMMITTEES

ABDUL-RAHMAN JARADAT

Proposed Dissertation Title: "College Students of Arab Descent: Do They Identify as Arab American?" **Statement of the Problem:** Arab American college students are faced with multiple identities based on their ethnic, religious and political or ideological backgrounds. What are the major factors that contribute to some of them identifying as Arab Americans? What factors contribute to some Arab Americans not identifying as such? What other identities might compete with an Arab American identity as a salient one?

Chairperson: Dr. Maurianne Adams.

PATRICK TUDRYN

Proposed Dissertation Title: "Examining Leadership Practices and the Roles of Special Education Leaders Through the Distributed Lens." **Statement of the Problem:** It is imperative to develop a deeper understanding of how leaders of special education distribute leadership tasks due to the increased practice of inclusion and overall dearth of research conducted in the area of special education leadership.

Chairperson: Dr. Mary Lynn Boscardin.

SHULI ARIEH ARCHER

Proposed Dissertation Title: "Service-Learning, Identity, and Social Justice: A Phenomenological Investigation of the Experiences of Students in a Student-Run Program." **Statement of the Problem:** Because traditional service-learning programs are predominantly white, students of color may feel tokenized and suspect of "server-served" dynamics that explicitly or implicitly arise. White students on the other hand, may blame members of the communities themselves for the inequality they witness. This qualitative case study of a student-run social-justice-oriented service-learning program will explore how students make meaning of their participation in the program, their personal and social identities, and service-learning more broadly.

Chairperson: Dr. Ryan Wells.

The Center for Teaching & Faculty Development (CTFD) is pleased to invite your department to participate in the annual campus-wide Teaching Assistant Orientation (TAO) scheduled for Friday, September 2, 2011, from 8:00 am to 12:30 pm. The Provost's Office, CTFD, and Graduate School co-sponsor TAO to provide graduate students new to teaching with a comprehensive preparation opportunity. Additionally, TAO may serve to meet the departmental requirement for TA development as stipulated in the contract negotiated on behalf of TAs by the Graduate Employee Organization (GEO).

Preliminary program and registration details can be found at:

http://www.umass.edu/ctfd/teaching/ta_support.shtml. I have also attached a TAO flyer here, please feel free to share it with your TAs in your department.

Questions about TAO? Please call: (413) 545-1225, or email us at: ctfd@acad.umass.edu.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE EXAMINATION

NICHOLAS WILSON

July 15, 2011, 10:30 a.m., Room 100, Furcolo Hall.

Chairperson: Dr. Florence R. Sullivan.

Call for Nominations

The K. Patricia Cross Future Leaders Award

Deadline for receipt of materials: October 3, 2011

The K. Patricia Cross Future Leaders Award recognizes graduate students who show exemplary promise as future leaders of higher education; whose work reflects a strong emphasis on teaching and learning; and who demonstrate a commitment to developing academic and civic responsibility in themselves and others. The award honors the work of K. Patricia Cross, Professor Emerita of Higher Education at the University of California, Berkeley. Please go to the K. Patricia Cross page of AAC&U's Web site for complete information.

Eligibility

All doctoral-level graduate students who are planning a career in higher education are eligible, regardless of academic department. Graduate students in fields where the MFA is the terminal degree, such as art or music, are also eligible. (Nominees must hold student status in January 2012.)

Applicants must demonstrate:

1. Leadership ability or potential for exercising leadership in teaching and learning, with a strong commitment to academic and civic responsibility
2. Leadership or potential leadership in the development of others as leaders, scholars, and citizens

Nomination Process

A faculty member or administrator must nominate the student, with a supporting letter from a second faculty member or administrator. The following materials must be submitted for an application to be considered:

1. A nomination letter from a faculty member or administrator
2. A supporting letter from a second faculty member or administrator
3. A statement from the student indicating how he or she meets the award criteria
4. A copy of the student's curriculum vitae

Nominations can be submitted anytime, but no later than October 3, 2011. Nominees must also complete an online form with all contact information. Only complete nominations will be considered.

The Award

The K. Patricia Cross Future Leaders Award provides financial support for graduate students to attend AAC&U's 2012 Annual Meeting, which will be held in Washington, DC, January 25-28, 2012. All award recipients are required to attend the conference.

The award includes travel, lodging, conference registration, and a one-year affiliation with AAC&U, including subscriptions to all AAC&U periodicals.

The awards will be announced in December 2011, and recognized at AAC&U's Annual Meeting in January.

Contact Information

Please contact Suzanne Hyers at hyers@aacu.org or 202.387.3760 with any questions.