



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.

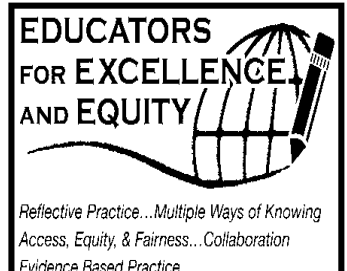
A qualified candidate will possess research and organizational skills, experience working with teachers/school staff and collecting data in schools. Candidate must have strong skills in using electronic sources for research purposes and collecting and organizing qualitative data. Knowledge of Excel required.

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

The Beacon Deadline is FRIDAY

Please submit *Beacon* 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;
notices of examinations and formation of dissertation committees will run for one.



DOCTORAL FINAL ORAL EXAMINATIONS AND DEADLINES

All doctoral final oral examinations must be scheduled four weeks in advance by submitting a signed and completed D-8 form to Linda Guthrie, 123 Furcolo. April 8th is the deadline for doctoral students to submit their signed signature pages, Doctoral Degree Eligibility form and D-9 form (Results of Final Oral Examination).

FORMATION OF DISSERTATION COMMITTEE

JEAN BLAISE

Proposed Dissertation Title: "The Effect of Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment System (MCAS) on Students with Limited English Proficiency: A Policy Analysis."

Statement of the Problem: Haitian and other minority students continue to struggle with the MCAS test, performing poorly in English and Mathematics. However, opponents of MCAS have identified a number of problems with the test that result in the poor performance of minority students such as Haitian students and other minorities. They have argued that if the MCAS test is such an important part of the drive to improve academic achievement among students, then students should receive intensive instruction in an MCAS-aligned curriculum. Students need to know about the contents of the test and how the test is generated and administered. In this view, such an approach could open up new possibilities for an interdisciplinary approach in which Mathematics, English, Social Studies, and History are taught and analyzed in the context of preparing for the test (Leistyna, 2002; Johnson & Johnson, 2006). **Chairperson: Dr. Joseph B. Berger.**

ANNOUNCEMENT OF FINAL ORAL EXAMINATIONS

TANYA O. WILLIAMS

March 25, 2011, 12:00 noon – 2:00 p.m., Room 163, Hills South. "A Process of Becoming: U.S. Born African American and Black Women in a Process of Liberation from Internalized Racism." **Chairperson: Dr. Bailey W. Jackson**

DONIQUE R. McINTOSH

March 28, 2011, 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon, Room 163, Hills South. "Sometimes Sisters: An exploration of the culture of historically black colleges and universities and its impact on the climate for lesbian and bisexual students." **Chairperson: Dr. Maurianne Adams.**

MARCELLA RUNELL HALL

April 1, 2011, 3:00 – 5:00 p.m., Room 20, Furcolo Hall. "Education in a Hip-Hop Nation: Identity, Politics and Pedagogy." **Chairperson: Dr. Charu Nat Turner.**

DANIEL SAUNDERS

March 25, 2011, 10:00 a.m., Room 273, Hills South. "Students as Customers: The Influence of Neoliberal Ideology and Free-Market Logic on Entering First-Year College Students." **Chairperson: Dr. Gary Malaney.**

BOZENA JAWOROWSKI

March 25, 2011, 1:00 p.m., Room 21C, Furcolo. "Students' valuation of visual arts education: an exploration of inspiring and inhibiting factors." **Chairperson: Dr. Linda L. Griffin.**

MAY, 2011 DEGREE DEADLINES

Listed below are the revised deadline dates to apply for a May, 2011 degree for Master's, CAGS and Doctoral students who will complete their degree requirements during the Spring, 2011 semester.

M.Ed. and C.A.G.S. Candidates

The Degree Eligibility form and School of Education Master's Forms M-2 or CAGS form C-2 must be completed and returned to Linda Guthrie in the Graduate Program Office, 123 Furcolo, no later than APRIL 8th, 2011. This is to allow time for processing and obtaining the necessary signatures of Linda Griffin, the Graduate Program Director and Dean Christine McCormick (Department Head).

The Eligibility form must be submitted to Linda Guthrie with the Master's Form M-2 or CAGS Form C-2). Your advisor must sign the School of Ed form, but NOT the Eligibility form. Forms can be downloaded from the following URL:

http://www.umass.edu/education/academics/advising_guidelines.shtml

Ed.D. and Ph.D. Candidates

The Doctoral Degree Eligibility form, the D-9 form (Result of Final Oral Examination) and 2 original Signature pages (on acid free paper) must be submitted to Linda Guthrie in Room 123 Furcolo no later than APRIL 8th, 2011. The Eligibility form (2 pages) can be downloaded from:

<http://www.umass.edu/gradschool/files/Doctoral%20Degree%20Eligibility%20Form.pdf>

Linda Guthrie will submit these forms to the Degree Requirements Office after they are signed by Linda Griffin and Christine McCormick.

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

Sally Campbell Galman, assistant professor, Department of Teacher Education and Curriculum Studies, has been invited to present a lecture, "Theoretical Limitation: Problematizing Intersectionality as a Construct in Current Research on Women and Work," at the University of Koln, Germany, in April. Galman will be the guest of the university's Department of Psychology, division of Pädagogik der Kindheit und Familienbildung.

You can read more about our faculty, students, staff and alumni on our website.

www.umass.edu/education

(And on our Facebook.)

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

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>

Nominate now for Chancellor's Citation Award

The deadlines are looming for the 2011 Chancellor's Citation Award nominations. You only have until Friday, March 4, 2011, to submit nominations !

The Division of Human Resources is requesting that individuals and/or departments submit, in nomination, the name of employees to be considered for a 2011 Chancellor's Citation Award.

The intent of the Chancellor's Citation Award is to recognize and honor benefited University staff members who have demonstrated outstanding performance in contributing their time and/or skills in helping the University achieve its goals and objectives. Ten (10) awards are available each year. We strongly encourage all members of the University community to nominate deserving employees. The deadline for nominations is 4:00 pm, Friday, March 4, 2011.

Nomination forms are available online at <http://www.umass.edu/humres>

For additional information, contact Linda Ho in the Division of Human Resources at 545-6121 or ljho@admin.umass.edu.

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

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.

**It is not too soon to mark your calendars for the
SOE 2011 Graduation Celebration
Thursday, May 12**

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.