



# 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* in the menu under News and Events.

*HARD COPIES ARE AVAILABLE IN FURCOLO HALL AND HILLS SOUTH.*

## It is International Education Week

### Teaching Assistantship

#### Department of Teacher Education and Curriculum Studies

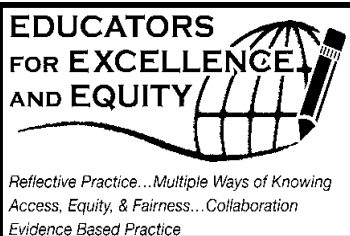
One 10 hr./week teaching assistantship for Spring 2010 for the course EDUC 463: Principles and Methods of Teaching Elementary Mathematics in the Elementary School.

**Responsibilities include:** Teach one section of EDUC 463 on Thursdays from 1:00-3:30 p.m. during Spring 2010; co-plan classes and reflect on practice with faculty; maintain regular office hours; assist in grading students' assignments and exams; assist with in-class and online discussion groups; support faculty in designing SPARK course tools and assignments; maintain attendance records; and other duties as assigned.

**Qualifications include:** Strong mathematics education background and experience teaching mathematics at the elementary or middle school level. Preference given to applicants with experience using SPARK and education technology.

To apply please send current CV and letter outlining relevant teaching experience to Sandra Madden at [smadden@educ.umass.edu](mailto:smadden@educ.umass.edu).

Send your news to:  
[goodnews@educ.umass.edu](mailto:goodnews@educ.umass.edu)



### The Beacon Deadline is FRIDAY

Please submit *Beacon* announcements to: **Room 126 Furcolo Hall** or 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 dissertation proposals will run for one.

## Teaching Assistantships

### Department of Teacher Education and Curriculum Studies

**Teaching Assistantships** (One or Two 5 to 10 hour per week teaching assistantships) may be available for Spring 2010 for the course, Educ 192A: Education at the Movies.

**Responsibilities include some or all of the following:** 1) attend weekly large group presentations and facilitate supervision of students (i.e. supervise students' arrival and departure, record attendance, collect and mark assignments, be available for general questions and answers from students, etc); 2) attend weekly planning meetings to organize and prepare course related content and deal with other related business; 3) participate in designing the mid-term and/or final exam; 4) deal with student requests relating to add/drop period and other student needs; 5) conduct small group seminar sessions; 6) meet with, and assist, Course Director and TA Team members as needed; 7) complete other course related tasks as assigned.

**Qualifications include:** excellent communication and organization skills, exceptional interpersonal skills that will facilitate team building, significant interest in public school dynamics and media perspective, well-developed technology skills, a professional attitude and commitment to duties; previous teaching experience with young adults would be an asset.

Please email a covering letter of application and an updated résumé to Nola Stephen at nola@educ.umass.edu.

### REVISED FEBRUARY, 2010 DEGREE DEADLINES

The Graduate School has changed its graduation deadlines. Listed below are the revised deadline dates to apply for a February, 2010 degree for Master's, CAGS and Doctoral students who will complete their degree requirements this Fall 2009 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 DECEMBER 8, 2009**. 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: [http://www.umass.edu/education/academics/advising\\_guidelines.shtml](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 copies of the Signature pages (on acid free paper) must be submitted to Linda Guthrie in Room 123 Furcolo **no later than DECEMBER 8th, 2009**. The Eligibility form (2 pages) can be downloaded from:

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

Linda will submit these forms to the Degree Requirements Office after they are signed by Linda Griffin and Christine McCormick. The dissertation must be submitted electronically, and fees and other required materials must be submitted to the Office of Degree Requirements (Room 534 Goodell) **by 5:00 p.m., DECEMBER 15th, 2009**.

**THIS IS A FIRM DEADLINE! /**

## FORMATION OF DISSERTATION COMMITTEE

**SIMEON AFOUDA** Proposed Dissertation Title: "Obstacles to Girls' Education and Girls' School Experiences in Benin. School as an Institution of Cultural Transmission."

**Statement of the Problem:** Studies on girls' education in Africa report girls' concerns about the lack of attention to female students, the demeaning treatment girls are given in the school setting, and the influence of such treatment on girls' school work. This study examines the socialization of girls for submission through cultural transmission in the school setting and its implication for educational planning. **Chairperson: Dr. Alfred (Ash) Hartwell.**

## Samuel F. Conti Faculty Fellowship Awards

### Nomination Procedures for 2010-2011 Award

The University of Massachusetts Amherst Samuel F. Conti Faculty Fellowship Awards consist of a cash award of \$3,000 and a year's leave of absence to encourage award recipients to concentrate on activities related to graduate education, research, creative work and scholarly attainment.

Selection of the awardees will be based on demonstrably outstanding accomplishment and potential for continued excellence in research and scholarly or creative activity. Awards will be recommended by a committee comprised of members of the Research Council. The Awards Committee will normally consist of prior Conti recipients serving on the Research Council as well as a balance of representation as needed. Recommendations will be forwarded to the Vice Chancellor for Research and Engagement for approval. Names of those receiving 2010-2011 Faculty Fellowship Awards will be announced in late Spring 2010.

**Before January 15, 2010,** Department Heads/Chairpersons will consult with elected

Personnel Committees to select names of nominees to be forwarded to their academic Deans. By February 19, 2010 (NO LATER), Deans are asked to submit to the Research Council, c/o Melinda LeLacheur, Office of Research Affairs, Research Administration Building at least two nominations of faculty members up to a maximum of a rounded 1% of their respective faculties when those exceed 200. Each nomination is to be accompanied by a brief statement (not to exceed 1,000 words) from the candidate on how released time would be put to scholarly use, a complete curriculum vita, (supporting letters from the nominee's department head) and a list of referees (no more than five) from whom our office will request recommendation letters.

Pursuant to a rules change effective FY87 the present nominating procedures and qualifications for Faculty Fellowships have been retained with the understanding that other nominations, including self-nominations, may be sent directly to the Research Council (before January 15, 2010), which in turn will be sent to nominee's Dean for recommendation.

Self-nominations should include a brief description of how the released time will be used, a curriculum vita and a letter in support of the nomination from a colleague.

**Melinda V. LeLacheur**, phone: 413-545-5283 fax:413-577-1728

Limited Submission Funding Opportunities: <http://www.umass.edu/research/ora/limitedsub.html>

General Funding Opportunities: <http://www.umass.edu/research/ogca/funding/>

**Marion and Jasper Whiting Foundation  
Award: Approximately \$5,100 per fellowship  
Deadline: January 29, 2010**

The **Marion and Jasper Whiting Foundation** is accepting applications for its **2010 Fellowships for Higher Education of Present and Prospective Teachers.**

The primary purpose of the Foundation is to award fellowships to present and prospective teachers, with an emphasis on present teachers at the college or university level, to enable them to study abroad or at some location or locations other than that with which they are most closely associated. The aim is to stimulate and broaden the minds of teachers so as to improve and enhance the quality of their instruction. Most grants are primarily for travel and related expenses and not as salary substitutes, scholarships or grants in aid.

In 2009, the Foundation received 87 applications and made 23 awards totaling \$118,197, or **approximately \$5,139 per fellowship.**

The Foundation welcomes applications from teachers at all New England colleges and universities. In 2009, the 23 winners came from 17 different New England schools. There is no specific limit to the number of winners from any particular school. **NOTE:** UMass Amherst usually receives anywhere from 2 to 5 of these grants per year.

For more information, please contact us so that we may send you a copy of the letter from the Foundation, which outlines the complete Application Procedure.

If you or another faculty member is planning to apply for this opportunity, please contact Susan Worgaftik at [sworgaftik@admin.umass.edu](mailto:sworgaftik@admin.umass.edu) or at 577-2956. We will be happy to assist you in applying for this grant.

## BeaconLOG

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

At the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages (ACTFL) Annual Convention and World Languages Expo, November 20-22 in San Diego, CA, **Theresa Austin**, professor, Department of Teacher Education and Curriculum Studies, will chair a panel on the teacher education of heritage language learners. Entitled "Being Prepared for Heritage Learners: What Teachers Should Know," the panel is sponsored by the ACTFL Heritage Languages Special Interest Group. One panel member is Language, Literacy and Culture concentration doctoral student, **Ekaterina Ites**, who will discuss the current state of heritage teacher education programs. According to Dr. Austin, many world language programs are only beginning to implement courses that prepare teachers for meeting the range of diverse needs that heritage language learners have.

Read more about the convention at <http://www.actfl.org/i4a/pages/index.cfm?pageID=4894>

**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)**

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

**By popular demand,**

Mathematics, Science and Learning Technologies is planning a **second community meeting.**

**Wednesday, December 2 from 6:45 p.m. to 8:15 p.m. in Furcolo Room 225.**

Mary Grasseti has generously agreed to share her research on "The Development of Social and Socialmathematical Norms in Three Novice Teachers' Classrooms." **RSVPs** will be appreciated as we plan for this gathering (email to [smadden@educ.umass.edu](mailto:smadden@educ.umass.edu)).

We will provide food, but not pizza this time. Please share this email invitation with your MSLT/TESI peers because email addresses used for this mailing have been compiled from various sources and errors or omissions are regrettably possible. On behalf of the MSLT faculty, thanks in advance, for your participation in this community-building event!

## **PHI DELTA KAPPA**

### **University of Massachusetts Chapter Meeting**

**Wednesday, December 9, 2009**

Social 6:00-6:30, Dinner at 6:30

University Club (Faculty Club), University of Massachusetts, Amherst, MA

### **Annual International Night Dinner**

**Habibullah Wajdi**, a third year doctoral student at UMASS ,and his colleague, **Mohamad Hossain**, will be our guest speakers. Habibullah Wajdi is an education specialist with the World Bank in Afghanistan. More will be shared about our guest speakers at our dinner and they will share with us their perspective on education and culture in Afghanistan.

We hope that you will take this opportunity to join your fellow Kappans for an evening of fine food and stimulating conversation!

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Cost for participation is \$30.00. Please make your dinner choice below, include a check made out to Phi Delta Kappa, UMASS Chapter and mail to:

Virginia Ahart, Treasurer of Phi Delta Kappa, , 27 Fomer Road, Southampton, MA 01073

All responses must be received by: Friday, December 4th

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Prime Rib of Beef

\_\_\_\_\_ Baked New England Scrod

\_\_\_\_\_ For those who are vegetarians, an alternate dish will be provided

**SOE student stories – find links to the rest of these stories at**  
<http://www.umass.edu/education/student/stories.shtml>

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When teacher Mindy Eichhorn went to India to teach abandoned women life skills, her own life changed...

**An Affinity with India**

Her interest in India started when she was at the University of Tennessee where she earned a B.S. in Special Education and an M.S. in Education. "I took a class about women and cross-cultural perspectives and something about India was a magnet. I felt pulled to the women of India," said Mindy Eichhorn, a SOE student currently working on her doctorate in international education.

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**SOE student mentors and elementary school pupils go to a Writing Party**

Graduate and undergraduate students in Education 4971, Tutoring in Schools, recently joined pupils from Mark's Meadow Elementary School's After School day care program in a Writing Party.

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**Tashi Zangmo's Dream**

She was the first girl in her village area to go to school. And now, Zangmo's (Ed.D. 2009) plan to improve educational opportunities for girls in Bhutan is a reality, launched with the help of the Queen.

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**Harmony in her classroom**

by Meaghan Casey for The Educator, Springfield

Amanda Woolley has had music on the mind since she was 7. Today, the 22-year-old award-winning teacher is spreading her passion for rhythm and harmony to students at the Dorman and Lincoln elementary schools.

"Music has always been a huge part of my life," said Woolley, who grew up in Point Pleasant, N.J. "My parents wanted to provide me with the opportunity to take lessons, so I started with piano and then picked up flute in the elementary school band." Woolley went on to participate in various ensembles including marching band, symphony band, concert band, hoop band, flute choir, chamber choir and vocal jazz. She became the drum major of her high school marching band and of the University of Massachusetts Minuteman Marching Band, leading rehearsals and performances as field conductor and assisting with leadership activities. "That was when I realized I loved teaching other people," she said.

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**Recruitment for college doesn't have to wait until high school**

By Alison DeRito, School of Education graduate student, Bridges to the Future elementary education pathway

It isn't everyday that a student-teacher has the opportunity to share her love for her alma mater with nearly 70 fourth graders. In the "Bridges to the Future" pathway at the School of Education at UMass Amherst, graduate students are placed in public schools in the Greenfield, Gill-Montague, and Orange, Massachusetts, school districts. I was placed in Sheffield Elementary School in Turners Falls, Mass., for my spring practicum. "Bridges" is unique in that it places a special emphasis on a community-service learning project. When my mentor teacher, fourth-grade teacher Michele Hazlett, told me that the fourth grades would be attending a performance at the Fine Arts Center at UMass Amherst, I was thrilled. When she asked if I'd like to tour the students around the campus for the whole day, I was honored and hopeful that I could turn this field trip into something special for my community-service learning project.

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**2009 MTA Higher Education Conference**

Friday, December 4, 3 p.m. AND Saturday, December 5, 3 p.m.

**Sheraton Framingham Hotel & Conference Center**

1657 Worcester Road, Framingham MA 01701

For more information go to

<http://guest.cvent.com/i.aspx?1Q,P1,3C1F9933-CB7A-4EDA-8201-8443EE472CBD>