



THE BEACON

SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

University of Massachusetts Amherst

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HARD COPIES are available in Furcolo Hall and Hills South.

Research Assistantship

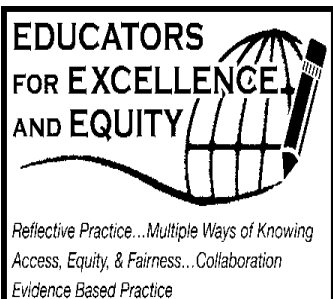
Department of Educational Policy, Research, and Administration

One part-time (10 hour/week) research assistantship is available for Spring 2011. The position will entail working with faculty members in Educational Leadership and Research and Evaluation Methods.

Responsibilities include: The project will involve assisting in the construction and administration of a survey to Massachusetts principals about the Massachusetts Growth Model. Further, analysis of the survey data and writing a report detailing the results of the survey is required. Participation in submitting the results of the research to conferences and preparing manuscripts for publication is also required.

Qualifications include: The ideal candidate will have developed research skills in conducting literature reviews, managing data sets, and using the Rasch model for scale development. Knowledge of item response theory is a must. Candidates should be comfortable manipulating data and analyzing both qualitative and quantitative data. 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. Lisa Keller at lkeller@educ.umass.edu. /



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.

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.

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: December 3, 2010 /

Formation of Dissertation Committees

YU MENG **Proposed Dissertation Title:** "A Comparison of Kernel Equating and IRT Equating Methods." **Statement of the Problem:** Test score equating is one of the ways that fairness in testing can be enhanced, and without it, achievement gains over time could not be properly assessed. The kernel method of test score equating is a unified approach to classical test equating with many advantages over several other popular classic equating methods. It seems important to evaluate the appropriateness of the kernel equating method, as well as its advantages and disadvantages compared with several modern item response theory (IRT) equating techniques which are also very popular among testing agencies. Interest would be high in the psychometric field in the results of the comparisons.

Chairperson: Dr. Ronald K. Hambleton.

SATOMI KAMEI **Proposed Dissertation Title:** " Ownership in the development discourse: Perspectives of local stakeholders in sub-Saharan Africa. " **Statement of the Problem:** The international development community regards 'ownership' as an essential principle for promoting sustainable development. However, development discourse is still largely led by external aid donors. In essence, the notion of ownership remains elusive despite its importance. Central questions will be: 'How do local stakeholders understand ownership?' and 'What preconditions are necessary for them to exercise ownership?'

Chairperson: Dr. David R. Evans.

Research Assistantship

Department of Student Development

One 10 hour/week research assistantship is available for the Spring 2011. The position will entail working with an early career faculty member in the concentration of School Psychology.

Responsibilities include: 1) *Research related:* assisting with school-based data collection. Data collection will primarily include behavioral observation of elementary school teachers multiple times per week. 2) *Writing Related:* Assisting with research for publications, compiling references into an electronic format, assisting with all phases of editing.

Qualifications include: The ideal candidate will have developed research skills in behavioral observation, conducting literature reviews, using APA-formatting, and managing data sets and be agile with Excel and SPSS for data input. The candidate must be available to help collect data in schools during school hours. Additionally the ideal candidate must have strong organizational, time management skills, and be able to complete projects independently. Interest in social emotional learning efforts and positive behavior support is preferred.

To apply, please send a brief letter of application and your resume to Sara Whitcomb at swhitcomb@educ.umass.edu Please specify "Faculty Research Assistant, School Psychology." /

Teaching Assistantships

Department of Teacher Education and Curriculum Studies

Two 10 hours/week teaching assistantships are available for Spring 2011 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 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, faculty 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 cover letter of application and an updated résumé to Nola Stephen at nola@educ.umass.edu. Include your phone number in your application. Your subject header should state Applicant for a TA position for Educ 192A.

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Research Assistantship

Department of Teacher Education and Curriculum Studies

Two 10 Hour/week Research Assistantships for Spring 2011 for NSF Noyce Planning Grant
Lesson observations of middle and high school mathematics and science classrooms and interviews of secondary mathematics and science teachers. Data analysis. The position may expand to an additional 5 hours/week.

Responsibilities include completion of training in the use of a classroom observation protocol, observation of mathematics and science classroom lessons in selected middle/high schools in the Pioneer Valley, collection and analysis of the classroom data. Preparation of reports based on analysis. Attendance at PI meetings for the project.

Qualifications: Doctoral status. Background in mathematics and/or science teaching at the middle/high school level. Data collection and analysis skills. Excellent communication and problem solving skills. Vehicle and MA drivers license.

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: December 13, 2010 //

Research Assistantship

Department of Teacher Education and Curriculum Studies

One 10 hr/week Research Assistantship for the fall 2010 semester through winter semester

Responsibilities: Assist in designing mathematical tasks to be used in a classroom-based research study of mathematics teachers' mathematical reasoning. The RA's primary responsibility will be to examine several mathematical curricula at the secondary level, and identify or design tasks with mathematical structures that make them ideal for a study of teachers' mathematical reasoning and their ability to promote such processes in students. The RA will also assist in the analysis of the results of piloting the research study with a group of in-service mathematics teachers.

Qualifications: Strong background in mathematics.

Other desirable qualities: Experience with classroom-based research; familiarity with theories of mathematical learning and thinking, and flexible availability.

Interested candidates should e-mail Dr. John Francisco at jmfranci@educ.umass.edu //

Hourly Research Assistantship

Department of Teacher Education and Curriculum Studies

One hourly research assistantship is available for Spring 2011.

Responsibilities include: This 30 hour position will involve audiotape transcription, survey scoring and data entry.

Qualifications Include: The ideal candidate will have experience with Microsoft Excel. 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 letter of interest to Dr. Sally Galman at sally@educ.umass.edu. //

SOE LANGUAGE, LITERACY, AND CULTURE COMMUNITY MEETING: TEACHER PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT

WED., DECEMBER 1 • 6:30 PM FURCOLO HALL, ROOM 20
LIGHT REFRESHMENTS WILL BE SERVED

Childcare will be provided. Please let us know (send an email to: llcssac@gmail.com) by Mon., Nov. 29 if you will be bringing children to the childcare room.

LAURA VALDIVIEZO, assistant professor

There is currently a push for the development of a nationally recognized performance assessment instrument for teachers that will be used for teacher credentialing purposes. Dr. Valdiviezo will introduce Teacher Performance Assessment (TPA) and discuss the role her class played in piloting this project during the spring of 2010.

KEN TAMAI & KIRSTEN HELMER, doctoral students

Ken and Kirsten were involved in the tryout phase of the TPA project. They will provide an overview of the project and discuss the findings of their critical analysis. We encourage all to attend! Sponsored by the Language, Literacy, and Culture Student Advisory Committee & Faculty

BARBARA MADELONI, senior lecturer

Barbara will discuss the implications of TPA for the ways that new teachers and teacher educators understand what it means to teach.

JERRI WILLETT, chair, Department of Teacher Education and Curriculum Studies

Dr. Willett was invited to join the design team two years ago to bring some coherence to the concept of Academic Language and to help design the rubrics for this assessment. In her talk, she will describe the trials and tribulations of the design process, her understanding of the problem and the approach she is recommending that the designers, implementers and professional developers take up. With the UMASS system and Boston College ready to begin the process of piloting this assessment, she believes we are well positioned to impact teacher education in Massachusetts and nationally and ultimately improve student learning!

Research Assistantship

Department of Teacher Education and Curriculum Studies

One 10 hour/week research assistantship is available for Spring 2011.

Responsibilities include: The project will involve assisting in the design of and preliminary fieldwork for research on innovations in elementary teacher preparation. Responsibilities include 1) conducting an extensive review of the literature of best practices and innovations in elementary teacher preparation and B) beginning preliminary fieldwork following the experiences of recent elementary licensure graduates. The candidate will be expected to attend research group meetings.

Qualifications Include: The ideal candidate will have some research experience with conducting literature reviews, and will have completed at least basic coursework in qualitative and quantitative research methods and design. The candidate should also have some experience and/or basic coursework in teacher preparation, teacher induction **or** sociology or anthropology of schools. 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. Sally Galman at sally@educ.umass.edu.

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Teaching Assistantship

Department of Teacher Education and Curriculum Studies

One 10 hours per week teaching assistantship is available for Spring 2011 to teach the following course:

EDUC 561: Teaching Science in the Elementary School. This position is available only to doctoral students in the MSLT doctoral concentration.

Responsibilities include: course preparation and presentation and evaluation of student work.

Qualifications required: 1) teaching experience at the K-8 level, 2) content background in a STEM field, 3) Master's degree in education, 4) sensitivity to cultural diversity, 5) good interpersonal communication skills, and 6) 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: December 13, 2010 .

This position is contingent upon the availability of funds.

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Research Assistantship

Department of Teacher Education and Curriculum Studies

One 10 hr/week Research Assistantship for the Fall 2010 semester.

Responsibilities: Assist with data collection, data analysis of videos of students engaged in classroom-based mathematics activity; writing research reports.

Qualifications: Background in mathematics, skills in qualitative research methods, and writing, and familiarity with APA style. **Other desirable qualities:** Experience in videotaping learning environments, video editing capabilities, and flexible availability.

Interested candidates should e-mail Dr. John Francisco at jmfranci@educ.umass.edu //

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

Ximena Zúñiga, associate professor in the School of Education's Department of Student Development, was a keynote speaker at the American College Personnel Association's Institute on Social Justice held on November 7-9 at Loyola University Chicago. The theme of the conference was "Beyond the Typical," and it focused on "the collective responsibility to facilitate a living and learning environment for which we strive to develop understanding and respect for each other."

Zúñiga, a leader in diversity education and intergroup dialogue in higher education, presented a keynote titled "The promise of dialogue and intergroup dialogue in Higher Education." She is the former director of the Program on Intergroup Relations and Conflict at the University of Michigan. ACPA's Institute on Social Justice aims to bring together higher education practitioners interested in and committed to building healthy, diverse communities throughout the world.

Ryan Wells, assistant professor, Department of Educational Policy, Research and Administration, was quoted in an article published in the November 18 issue of The Chronicle of Higher Education. Titled "Benefits for Adjuncts Can Boost Job Satisfaction for All" by Audrey Williams June, the article looks at Wells' and co-author Paul Umbach's research paper, "Contingent Contentment? Exploring Job Satisfaction of Four-Year College Part-Time and Full-Time Non-Tenure-Track Faculty." Read more at:

http://chronicle.com/article/Benefits-for-Adjuncts-Can/125444/?sid=at&utm_source=at&utm_medium=en

You can read more about our faculty, students, staff and alumni on the
School of Education's website.
www.umass.edu/education

Send items to dms@educ.umass.edu

FEBRUARY, 2011 DEGREE DEADLINES

The Graduate School has changed its graduation deadlines. Listed below are the revised deadline dates to apply for a February, 2011 degree for Master's, CAGS and Doctoral students who will complete their degree requirements this Fall, 2010 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, 2010**. 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 (signed in black ballpoint only, on acid free paper) must be submitted to Linda Guthrie in Room 123 Furcolo **no later than DECEMBER 8th, 2010**. 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, 2010**.

THIS IS A FIRM DEADLINE!

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