



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* in the menu under News and Events.

HARD COPIES ARE AVAILABLE IN FURCOLO HALL AND HILLS SOUTH.

Campus Policy regarding missed classes and work due to flu

Vice Chancellor Jean Kim urges students who have seasonal and/or H1N1 flu symptoms to “protect other members of the campus community by **staying home if you are sick.**” **Note that** the provost has advised all faculty members to modify their attendance policies to help students who are unable to attend class due to illness. The provost has also informed faculty members that they should not require students to provide a note from a health care provider explaining absence from class or confirming recovery. Students who are ill must inform faculty that they are missing class due to illness. Additionally, faculty members and department chairs should be available to help students get back on track with their academic work once they are well, fever-free, and have returned to classes.

FORMATION OF DISSERTATION COMMITTEE

IRENE RODRIGUEZ MARTIN Proposed Dissertation Title: Insights into the complexities of identity in persisting Hispanic college students." **Statement of the Problem:** Nationally, Hispanics are undereducated, underemployed and overrepresented in poverty. Additionally, the rates at which they complete a baccalaureate degree are lower than those of all racial and ethnic groups in the United States. With one-third of all Hispanics currently under the age of 18 and projections for the growth rate of the Hispanic population to continue, it is urgent that educators and policy makers better understand the variables which influence Hispanic college persistence.
Chairperson: Dr. Sharon Rallis.

Send your news to:
goodnews@educ.umass.edu

EDUCATORS
FOR EXCELLENCE
AND EQUITY

*Reflective Practice...Multiple Ways of Knowing
Access, Equity, & Fairness...Collaboration
Evidence Based Practice*

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 dissertation proposals will run for one.



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 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 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! ///

2009 MTA Higher Education Conference

Friday, December 4, 2009 3 p.m.

Saturday, December 5, 3 p.m.

Sheraton Framingham Hotel & Conference Center

1657 Worcester Road
Framingham MA 01701

Fee \$25 RSVP: November 18

For more information go to

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

**SOE PHONE & E-MAIL
DIRECTORY IS ONLINE**

The School's telephone and email directory is
posted at

[http://www.umass.edu/education/people/
directory_2009.pdf](http://www.umass.edu/education/people/directory_2009.pdf)

**The School's
website**

**[www.umass.edu/
education](http://www.umass.edu/education)**

ESE and WGBH/WGBY Link Online Resources for Educators

Teachers Will Have Access to Free Digital Resources Linked to State Standards

MALDEN – The Department of Elementary and Secondary Education has partnered with the WGBH Educational Foundation and WGBY in Springfield to launch a new online resource for teachers to provide free access to more than 2,200 classroom-ready media tools. Massachusetts Teachers' Domain (MTD) is a localized edition of Teachers' Domain, a nationally used database of digital resources for educators, and contains lesson plans and media clips that have been developed to align with the state's curriculum frameworks. MTD is linked directly to MassONE, the state's existing online portal for educators, which offers web-based tools and resources to support and connect teachers across the Commonwealth.

The MTD content is pulled from a variety of public television programming including Nova, Frontline, Design Squad, American Experience as well as government agencies, museums, libraries and academic institutions. Most segments contain a multi-media resource, such as a video clip, animated chart or PowerPoint slides, as well as classroom instructions and student assignments.

"Public television has produced some extraordinary content, and bringing those multi-media components into the classroom will help bring much of the content to life for our students," said Education Commissioner Mitchell D. Chester. "We are fortunate to have a media giant like WGBH in our backyard, and I am pleased to be able to partner with them to offer these valuable resources to our educators."

This week's launch is the first step in a multi-year plan to expand MTD into a service that can be used by Massachusetts educators, students and parents. Over the next two years MTD will expand its collection to include history, social science and arts resources, all aligned with the state's curriculum frameworks. Educators can now move from MassONE to MTD through links, and will eventually be able to move seamlessly from one to the other using a single sign-on.

There are currently more than 400,000 registered users in 187 countries signed up to utilize the Teachers' Domain resources, but only Massachusetts users will have access to the state's special content. Users will also have access to professional development courses and training workshops offered by WGBH, WGBY, and PBS TeacherLine.

The development of MTD is the first in a series of projects that ESE and WGBH/WGBY are working on together. Other efforts include the development of the Mass Academic Challenge, a quiz show for high school students that will go into production later this year.

Heidi Guarino / Chief of Staff / Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education / (o) 781-338-3106 / (c) 781-223-1902

BeaconLOG

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

- **Carey Dimmitt**, professor in the Department of Student Development and Pupil Personnel Studies, will participate with faculty from 21 UMass Amherst departments in Commonwealth College's Advanced Honors Seminars designed to prepare the college's students for their independent research and capstone projects. Dr. Dimmitt's seminar is titled "EffectiveTeaching PreK-16: What Works?"

The Advanced Honors Seminars cap the innovative Honors Seminar Series. Together, the seminars hone students' critical interpretation skills and encourage them to consider carefully how data is presented. The courses introduce them to the value of interdisciplinary study and the expectations of being an honors student.

"The new Advanced Honors Seminars give students a chance to see how faculty identify and pursue questions worth asking," said Priscilla Clarkson, dean of the college.

- USAID recently asked the School of Education's Center for International Education's Higher Education Project (HEP) to take on an additional responsibility to strengthen The Kabul Medical University. The new component is managed by the Academy for Educational Development in partnership with three U.S. universities. The School of Education's Center for International Education (CIE) and the Institute for Global Health (IGH.) comprise the UMass Amherst unit. **Drs. David Evans and Joseph Berger**, both of the Department of Educational Policy, Research and Development, and David Buchanan of the School of Public Health, work together with a team of UMass Amherst employees in Afghanistan and here on campus to carry out the work of the project. Read more at http://www.umass.edu/education/people/faculty_news.shtml#kabul

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

**There were 9957 visits to and 43,855 pageviews of the SOE
website in September, 2009**