



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.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE EXAMINATION

TARA NAPPI November 5, 2009, 11:30 a.m., Room 21C. Furcolo.

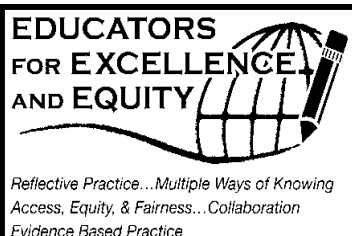
Chairperson: Dr. Sally Galman.

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.

Send your news to:

goodnews@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 dissertation proposals will run for one..

GRADUATE STUDENT TRAVEL GRANTS 2009 – 2010

The Graduate School will be awarding a limited number of student travel grants for graduate students who will be presenting at recognized conferences during the 2009-10 academic year. The application and expense summary can be downloaded from:

http://www.umass.edu/gradschool/Travel/Travel_Grant_Student_App_2009-2010.pdf

Student's Procedure:

Submit your application materials (Application form, Expense Summary, Evidence or confirmation of invitation to present) by email to Dr. Linda Griffin, Graduate Program Director for the School of Education (lgriffin@educ.umass.edu).

Submit an email recommendation from your advisor or chairperson to Dr. Linda Griffin to accompany your Travel Grant application.

Applications will be considered exclusively for travel to recognized conferences for the purpose of presenting the results of research conducted while doing graduate coursework at UMASS Amherst.

Criteria for nomination include merit of the project, prestige of the conference or event and financial need of the student. Awards are for presentations rather than just attendance at a conference or event. Awards will be made to the individual student rather than for a project (divided among several students). Students are eligible for one grant per year, although the Travel Grant Committee may not be able to fund all nominations that are forwarded for consideration. Grant amounts are up to \$ 300.00 for domestic and \$ 400.00 for international travel. Students receiving awards must present their receipts to the School of Education's Business Office (125 Furcolo) within 30 days of travel.

Applications are considered on a rolling basis for the 09-10 academic year. /

FACULTY REVIEWS

The following faculty are scheduled for tenure and/or promotion review during the 2009-10 academic year.

Tenure and promotion

Craig Wells, assistant professor,
Department of Educational Policy, Research and Administration

Cristine Smith, assistant professor,
Department of Educational Policy, Research and Administration

Jacqueline Mosselson, assistant professor,
Department of Educational Policy, Research and Administration

Promotion

Joe Berger, associate professor, Department of Educational Policy, Research and Administration

Those wishing to comment should forward letters to Dr. Rich Lapan, SDPPS Department Chair

Those wishing to comment should forward letters to the EPRA department chair.

IMPORTANT: 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**.

LLC Community meeting– Monday, Nov. 2, 4-6:30 p.m., 20 Furcolo

"Re-imagining Literacies," a dialogue with Arthur Auer, Director of the Waldorf Teacher Education Program at Antioch University New England, and Peter Johnston, Chair of the Reading Department at University at Albany-SUNY, - an exploration of the ways critical literacies and Waldorf language arts pedagogies might inform each other and literacy teaching in multilingual and multicultural classrooms.

If you plan to participate, please contact the LLC Student Advisory Council (SAC) at sac2009mailbox@gmail.com, so we can plan accordingly. We look forward to seeing you.

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

**The School's
website
[www.umass.edu/
education](http://www.umass.edu/education)**

DEPARTMENTAL HONORS – QUICK FACTS

Commonwealth College currently has a two Tier Departmental Honors system with the second Tier (Tier II) offered by departments:

Tier I: Foundation Courses (Gen Ed)

Honors College Writing
Honors Seminar Series (Gen Ed "I")
Honors Gen Ed (Gen Ed "I" recommended)
Honors Gen Ed

Tier II: Departmental Honors (DH) Courses

DH honors course at any level*
DH honors course at or above the 300 level*
DH Capstone Experience part I, 3 credits min
DH Capstone Experience part II, 3 credits min

The Capstone Experience (CE) refers to a substantive, sustained honors thesis or project, structured either via an Independent Capstone Contract (research proposal) or via a Capstone Course.

Tier II above reflects current minimum DH curriculum standards as set by the Faculty Senate and overseen by Commonwealth College -- some departments have chosen to exceed these minima. ***Departmental course content is decided upon by faculty through departmental curriculum development channels.*** Honors designations for DH courses are approved by the Commonwealth College Curriculum Committee (sub-committee of Academic Matters Council), which oversees University-wide honors standards.

To see your department's DH track, go to this website (and select your department):

<http://www.comcol.umass.edu/academics/requirements/departmentalhonors.html>

To see your department's honors courses, go to this website (and select your department):

<http://webapp.comcol.umass.edu/courseguide/>

An **Honors Coordinator** in each department helps students progress through honors requirements, especially DH

(Tier II). To check who the Departmental Honors Coordinators are, go to:

<http://webapp.comcol.umass.edu/courseguide/honorsCoordinators.aspx>

*Tier II courses #1 and 2 above are designed to help prepare students for the high expectations of the honors thesis or project requirement of the capstone experience by emphasizing critical thinking in the discipline and by exposing students to faculty research. They can be:

1-credit honors independent studies or colloquia (group) added to enrich non-honors courses

Fully enriched honors courses (3 credits minimum)

Graduate courses

Currently there are other tracks too (Interdisciplinary & Commonwealth College) – these graduates do not receive "*Departmental Honors*" on their transcripts. Commonwealth College tries to encourage honors students to complete DH. To this end Commonwealth College has implemented a funding incentive program (departments will be funded based on the number of students who complete *Departmental Honors*).

If you have questions, please contact Meredith Lind mlind@comcol.umass.edu (instructional issues) or Cory Pols cory@comcol.umass.edu (advising issues)

Forum with Massachusetts Senate candidates for January special election

From Kate Wolfe, University Events Coordinator, Office of External Relations and University Events...

On Sunday, November 8th, the League of Women Voters and WFCR co-sponsor a Senatorial candidate forum for the special election in January. This event will take place at 7:30 pm, Bowker Auditorium, Stockbridge Hall. It is free and open to the public.

This forum will run roughly two hours and will be devoted to questions related to both domestic and international issues. **The League has requested that faculty, staff, and students who are interested in attending this forum submit questions to the panel through an online form on the League's website, which can be found by clicking <http://www.lwvma.org/questions.htm>.** Both Democratic and Republican candidates whose names appear on the primary's ballot have been invited to participate.

Also, voter registration will take place in Stockbridge Hall beginning at 6:30 p.m. Details regarding the forum and information on the League of Women Voters is at www.lwvma.org.

NEWS from our website...

www.umass.edu/education

BeaconLOG

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

Stephen G. Sireci, professor in the Department of Educational Policy, Research and Administration, was one of seven UMass Amherst faculty members to receive a 2009 Award for Outstanding Accomplishments in Research and Creative Activity. UMass Amherst Chancellor Robert C. Holub presented the award during the Faculty Convocation, Oct. 2, in Stockbridge Hall. The Awards were created to annually recognize faculty achievements and current campus initiatives that bring national and international renown to the University.

An article by **Sally Galman**, professor Department of Teacher Education and Curriculum Studies, Dr. Cynthia Rosenberger and Dr. Cinzia Pica Smith will appear in a spring 2010 issue of Journal of Teacher Education. Titled "Aggressive and tender navigations: Teacher educators confront whiteness in their practice" is "a self-study our practices as teacher educators talking about race with our students in CTEP," says Galman.

**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**