



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 icon.

Faculty, students, staff & alumni share what they are doing

Denise Ives, assistant professor, Department of Teacher Education and Curriculum Studies, was interviewed about the practical implications of her research on the literacy practices of African American students in English language arts classrooms. In the interview Ives discussed hidden literacies in urban middle schools with Dr. Betsy Baker, of the University of Missouri. The interview, based on Ives' publication in the September issue of the *Journal of Literacy Research*, is currently being featured on the podcast series, *Voice of Literacy*. It can be accessed at <http://www.voiceofliteracy.org/posts/44389>.

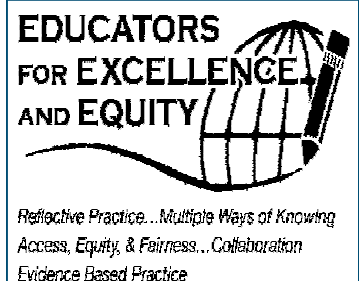
Patricia Griffin, emerita professor, spoke at an anti-bullying conference recently at the Naismith Basketball Hall of Fame in Springfield. The event attracted high-school students from Massachusetts, Connecticut and Rhode Island. Read about the conference in *The Republican's* article on Masslive. http://www.masslive.com/news/index.ssf/2011/10/300_teens_will_flock_to_spring.html

Assistant professor **Laura A. Valdiviezo**, Department of Teacher Education and Curriculum Studies, was among nine invited presenters for the conference "Reconstructing National Identities: Intercultural Bilingual Education in Latin America" at Teachers College, Columbia University (<http://www.tc.edu/news/article.htm?id=8205>). Valdiviezo's presentation "Identity in Intercultural Multilingual Peru: An Analysis of Political Discourse and School Practice" discussed challenges and affordances of intercultural education practices in the current political climate of Peru.

Please send items to dms@educ.umass.edu

The Beacon Deadline is FRIDAY

- Please submit general news and 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.
- Please submit notices of examinations and formation of dissertation committees to Linda Guthrie. These types of announcements will run for one week.



Focus Group

Join a focus group to help the Center for Teaching and Faculty Development better understand the challenges and opportunities experienced by graduate teaching assistants in their roles as instructors at the University. The goal of these focus groups is to develop additional programming that is responsive to and built in cooperation with teaching assistants. We hope you will be willing to share your thoughts with us at one of the following sessions in the Campus Center (room number TBA):

OPTION ONE: Monday, November 14, 4pm-5:15pm (light refreshments served)

OR

OPTION TWO: Tuesday, November 15, 10am-11:15am (light refreshments served)

OR

OPTION THREE: Wednesday, November 16, 12pm-1:15pm (light refreshments served)

RSVP to aegarner@english.umass.edu by Tuesday, November 8th with the date you would like to attend. Your participation in a focus group will be strictly confidential, and any information compiled will be used solely for program development purposes.

Ann Garner, Senior Program Manager
Center For Teaching and Faculty Development
aegarner@english.umass.edu 413-545-5055
Sponsored by the Center for Teaching and Faculty Development

Submissions for mOthertongue

The multilingual journal, mOthertongue, which is sponsored by the UMass Amherst Comparative Literature Department, is seeking submissions for the Fall 2011 edition. Editors are looking for poetry, short prose, and artwork.

What is special about mOthertongue is that the submissions must be in both English and another language.

Undergraduate, graduate, Five Colleges students and faculty are invited to participate. Editors ask that all submissions be the author's own work, but they do allow for help in translation as long as it is credited.

A public reading of submissions is planned. The deadline to submit is November

Send submissions to: mothertongue.complit@gmail.com. Contact any of the student editors (listed below) or the faculty sponsor David Lenson from the Comparative Literature Department if you have questions.

Taylor Cohen (student editor)
Brigitte Morency (student editor)
Sarah Klein (student editor)

Students: how to submit information for announcements

Students must submit proper forms for announcements about Formation of Dissertation Committees (D-6), Announcements of Final Oral Examinations (D-8) and Comprehensive Examinations (D-4) to Linda Guthrie in 123 Furcolo Hall, Office of Academic Affairs.

Linda will submit the items to the Beacon for publication.

NINETEENTH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON LEARNING
Institute of Education, University of London, London, United Kingdom
14 - 16 August 2012 <http://www.LearningConference.com>

We are pleased to announce the Call-for-Papers for the Nineteenth International Conference on Learning. The Conference and its companion journal provide vibrant, intellectually stimulating spaces for scholars from all geographic and disciplinary areas to learn, converse, and create. The Learning Conference is for anyone with an interest in, and concern for, education at any of its levels and in any of its forms, from early childhood, to schools, to higher education and lifelong learning, and in any of its sites, from home to school to university to workplace.

Learning Conference will be held this year at the Institute of Education at the University of London. In addition to an impressive line-up of international plenary speakers, the conference will include paper presentations, roundtable discussions, workshops, and colloquia submitted by practitioners, teachers and researchers. Please refer to the Call-for-Papers for proposal submission guidelines and descriptions of sessions. Presenters may also choose to submit written papers for publication in the fully refereed International Journal of Learning. If you are unable to attend the conference in person, virtual registrations are also available.

Visit our website for more information about the conference, our submission process and this year's themes, to sign up for our monthly e-newsletter, and to become an active member of our community. It is all available at: <http://www.LearningConference.com>

The deadline for the next round in the call for papers (a title and short abstract) is 8 November 2011. Future deadlines will be announced on the conference website after this date.

Professor Norbert Pachler

Department of Learning, Curriculum & Communication, Institute of Education, University of London

Homecoming Weekend November 4-6

Football vs. Villanova

Head coach Kevin Morris leads the Minutemen into action in a conference game against the Villanova Wildcats.

Sat., Nov. 5, 2011, 3:30 pm

McGuirk Alumni Stadium

Drop by the School of Education's table – located near Alumni Affairs' barbecue - before the game!

The Rudd Adoption Research Program at the University of Massachusetts
and the Evan B. Donaldson Adoption Institute present:

SAVE THE DATE

NEW WORLDS OF ADOPTION: NAVIGATING THE TEEN YEARS

Friday March 30th, 2012
UMass Amherst - Student Union Ballroom | 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

KEYNOTE SPEAKER



Megan R. Gunnar, Ph.D.

Regents Professor at the University of Minnesota,
Director of the Institute of Child Development.

*"Post-Institutionalized Children Become Teenagers: Early Deprivation and
the Developing Teen Brain"*

CONFERENCE WILL INCLUDE

Panel Discussions, Topical Concurrent Sessions, and Posters Displaying Research and Programs.

Registration & Posters Accepted

EARLY DECEMBER 2011

FOR MORE INFORMATION

umass.edu/adoptionconference

Forces at Play: Bodies, Power, and Spaces

The English Graduate Organization invites submissions for conference 2012

Cyber bullying, the male gaze in cinema, SlutWalk in Toronto, the canonization of slave narratives, border rhetoric in the classroom -- issues such as these take up the ways bodies, power, and spaces converge in a re-seeing and re-interpreting of historical and contemporary social complexities. Investigating this nexus in our discursive and material realities gives us the language for articulating the machinations of power and space that construct and dismantle singular and collective (im)material bodies.

The English Graduate Organization of the University of Massachusetts Amherst invites submissions to our 2012 graduate interdisciplinary conference on March 31, 2012. This year's conference will push against standardized and finite notions of body, power, and space to explore how these three variables act upon each other to produce layered, complex, and radical permutations. We urge submitters to investigate the systems of regulation and control that maintain power over singular and collective bodies within various spaces. We invite submissions from a diverse range of disciplines, critical perspectives, and time periods; all three terms need not explicitly be examined in the project, though the possibility of convergence is an encouraged angle. Projects may include papers and/or panel presentations, performance pieces, and multi-media approaches on the following topics:

- literary theoretical approaches
- social spaces and institutions
- composition and rhetorical studies
- canonical studies of bodies of literature
- national and communal boundaries (migrant communities, diasporas, refugee camps)
- (post) colonialism and global studies
- gender and sexuality studies
- animal studies
- social thought and political economy studies
- media studies and digital spaces
- visual and performing arts
- pop culture/material culture
- emerging creative projects
- disability studies

SUBMISSIONS:

We accept three different types of submissions:

1. Individual papers/projects: please submit an abstract of no more than 300 words. Include your name, paper title, institution, and email address.
2. Panels: please submit a 1000 word proposal for an entire panel of presentations (3-4 presenters). Included in this proposal should be abstracts of 200-300 words for all presentations, title of the panel, and information for each presenter (name, paper title, institution, and email address). If you are forming your own panel, you have the option of providing your own chair.
3. Performances and creative presentations/panels: we welcome submission of creative works, including creative writing, visual art, and dramatic performance. Please include a brief description of your project, as well as your name, project title, institution, and email address.

Email submissions to umassengconf@gmail.com no later than January 25, 2012.