



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 icon.

SOE alumna, Wilma Ortiz, 2011 Massachusetts Teacher of the Year meets President Barack Obama



Wilma Ortiz says that she rarely shares photographs, but in this case, she wanted "to share my best memory as the 2011 Massachusetts Teacher of the Year. I still can not believe it, I hugged President Obama! "

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.

**EDUCATORS
FOR EXCELLENCE
AND EQUITY**



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

Project Assistantship

Department of Teacher Education and Curriculum Studies

A 10 hour/week project assistantship is available immediately for fall 2011 with the possibility of continued funding through spring 2012 in the Language, Literacy, and Culture Concentration.

Responsibilities: Assist with data entry and the preparation, formatting, and editing of a variety of documents. In addition candidates will assist with recruitment, admissions, website maintenance, community events, alumni tracking, NCATE related activities, graduation, student advisory meetings.

Qualifications: Applicants must be highly organized and have an advanced ability to use Word, Excel, Power Point and a variety of web-based communication tools; an excellent ability to communicate in writing for diverse audiences, to attend to detail, and to meet deadlines.

Application process: Please send a cover letter and one-page resume to Kysa Nygreen at knygreen@educ.umass.edu. Please include LLC Project Assistant in the subject line. /

FACULTY REVIEWS

The following are scheduled for tenure and/or promotion review during the 2011-12 academic year:

Tenure

Bjorn Nordtveit, associate professor, Department of Educational Policy, Research and Administration

Martina Nieswandt, associate professor, Department of Teacher Education and Curriculum Studies

Tenure and Promotion to Associate Professor

Sally Galman, assistant professor, Department of Teacher Education and Curriculum Studies

Those wishing to comment should forward letters to the appropriate department chair: Dr. Grace Craig and Dr. Ernest Washington, TECS ; Dr. Gretchen Rossman, EPRA.

Students: how to submit information for announcements

Students must submit proper forms for announcements about Formation of Dissertation Committees (D-6) 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.

Project Research Assistantship

Department of Teacher Education and Curriculum Studies

NSF Noyce Project Research Assistant—Mathematics Education

One 10 hour/week research assistant position for Fall 2011.

Responsibilities include working closely with the research team on all aspects of the project, including designing, implementing, and researching learning environments for in-service and pre-service teaching. Additional responsibilities may include but are not limited to, conducting lesson observations using a research protocol, facilitating professional learning community sessions with mathematics teachers, interviewing project participants, collecting and analyzing qualitative and quantitative data, conducting literature searches, writing for publication, and general logistical operations associated with this large scale project.

Qualifications: Doctoral status in the MSLT doctoral concentration. Background in mathematics teaching at the middle/high school level. A successful candidate will demonstrate proficiency with dynamic technological tools for teaching and learning mathematics as well as qualitative and quantitative research tools such as SAS, SPSS, NVivo, or Transana.

To apply: Send cover letter, resume, and two letters of recommendation to Dr. Sandra Madden at smadden@educ.umass.edu. **Application deadline: October 14, 2011.** /

Teaching Assistantship

Department of Teacher Education and Curriculum Studies

EDUC 500-TEACH Bridges to the Future Supervisor (up to two) Fall 2011

Ten hour/week teaching assistantship available to supervise student teachers in TEACH Bridges to the Future

Responsibilities include: Supervision of five student teachers, site visits to schools, conferences with students and supervising practitioners, observation reports, weekly email contact, review of student teaching portfolios on Tk20, assisting students in developing and completing their Teacher Performance Assessments. Especially important is the timely completion of ongoing documentation of student performance.

Qualifications: Excellent organizational and communication skills. Classroom teaching experience necessary. 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 contact information to Dr. Ruth-Ellen Verock-O'Loughin, Coordinator, Bridges to the Future, 108 Furcolo Hall. ruth-ellen@educ.umass.edu //

Research Assistantship

Department of Teacher Education and Curriculum Studies

A 10 hour/week research assistantship is available immediately for fall 2011 with the possibility of continued funding through spring 2012 in the Language, Literacy, and Culture concentration. This possibility is contingent upon funding.

Responsibilities: Collect and analyze classroom data related to ELL academic literacy development (video/transcript analysis, student texts, conduct interviews); organize data and maintain digital files; participate in report writing; conduct literature reviews and related library research.

Qualifications: Advanced knowledge of systemic functional linguistics and demonstrated ability to analyze student writing samples; a knowledge and ability to use corpus linguistic tools; and advanced knowledge of a variety of software programs (e.g., Word, Wxcel, Dreamweaver).

Application process: Please send a cover letter and cv to Meg Gebhard at gebhard@educ.umass.edu. Please include SFL RAship in the subject line. //

THESIS AND DISSERTATION FORMATTING with Microsoft Word

Schedule for Fall Semester 2011

The Office of Information Technologies offers workshops with detailed instructions on how to format a thesis or dissertation to meet the requirements of the University of Massachusetts Graduate School with Microsoft Word for Windows or Macintosh. The workshops include margins, footnotes, bibliographies, page numbering, headings, table of contents, etc. as well as advice about electronic submission.

THE WORKSHOPS (Sign up for one workshop)

Word 2007 & 2010 Windows

Tuesday, October 18 - 1:30 to 4:30 pm **or** Monday, October 31 - 1:30 to 4:30 pm

Word 2008 & 2011 Macintosh

Monday, October 24 - 1:30 to 4:30 pm

REGISTRATION

Registration is required and is not complete until you have paid the \$10 fee and told us which version of Word you are using. To register, go to the Administrative Desk in A119 Lederle GRC or email workshops@oit.umass.edu. For information, send email to workshops@oit.umass.edu

PREREQUISITE

Some knowledge of the version of Microsoft Word that you are using.

CONSULTING on formatting issues and earlier versions of Word For more information about these workshops, or for consultation on earlier versions of Word, please contact Elisa Campbell: campbell@oit.umass.edu

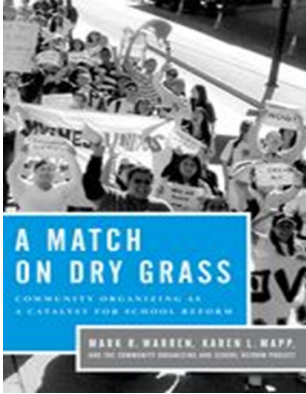
INFORMATION ON THE WEB

<http://www.oit.umass.edu/support/workshops-training/format-a-thesis-or-dissertation-microsoft-word>

School of Education's Language, Literacy and Culture concentration's
Community Meeting

A Match on Dry Grass

Community Organizing as a Catalyst for School Reform



The persistent failure of public schooling in low-income communities constitutes one of our nation's most pressing civil rights and social justice issues. Many school reformers recognize that poverty, racism, and a lack of power held by these communities undermine children's education and development, but few know what to do about it. *A Match on Dry Grass* identifies the key processes that create strong connections between schools and communities, and shows how community organizing builds powerful relationships that lead to the transformational change necessary to advance educational equity and a robust democracy.

Wednesday, October 12 7-9 p.m. Furcolo Hall Room 20

Mark R. Warren, the author of “A Match On Dry Grass”, will give a presentation about his book during the community meeting.

External funding workshops

There are a number of upcoming workshops on competing for external funding (free, but registration is required):

<http://www.umass.edu/research/research-development-workshops>

GRADUATE STUDENT TRAVEL GRANTS 2011-12

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 2011-12 academic year. The application and expense summary can be downloaded from: http://www.umass.edu/gradschool/travel/travel_grant_student_app.pdf

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. 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 \$200.00 for regional, \$ 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 2011-12 academic year.

Colloquium Announcement

The **Research and Evaluation Methods Program**
of the School of Education, and
the **Department of Mathematics and Statistics** of the University of Massachusetts Amherst
cordially welcome



Howard Wainer, Ph.D., Distinguished Research Scientist
National Board of Medical Examiners

"Pictures at an Exhibition: The Role of Visual Displays in an Evidence-based Science"

Tuesday, October 11, Lederle, Room 1634

10:30—12:00

All are welcome.

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

Alumna **Wilma Ortiz**, 2011 Massachusetts Teacher of the Year, met President Barack Obama (and had the cover photo taken with him) on May 6, 2011 as part of the official 2011 National Teacher and State Teachers of the Year ceremony to introduce the National Teacher of the Year, Michelle Shearer from Maryland, and to honor all 50 State Teachers of the Year and the Teachers of the Year from U.S. territories. Ortiz says that the group also attended a reception at the Vice-President's house with Jill Biden, participated in workshops at the Smithsonian Museum, and attended a roundtable discussion, forum and reception at the U.S. Department of Education. Ortiz visited the offices of Senator Scott Brown, Congressman James McGovern and Congressman John Olver to talk about issues regarding English Language Learners and standardized testing.

Please send items to dms@educ.umass.edu

School of Education website **www.umass.edu/education**