



# 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.  
HARD COPIES are available in Furcolo Hall and Hills South.

## Project Assistantship

### Office of Academic Affairs, School of Education

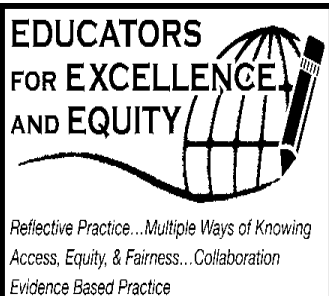
One 10 hour/week Project Assistant for Fall 2010 to work with the Associate Dean and Assistant Dean for Educator Licensure

#### Project Assistant will be responsible for the following:

Support the development of a research project focused on the implementation of the Teacher Performance Assessment (TPA) Instrument with the elementary and secondary licensure candidates; conducting literature reviews, assisting the research design, data collecting and analysis, manage the logistics (equipment, scheduling, email correspondence, etc) for the Field Experience and Assessment Office; help support ongoing operations of the unit assessment system (UMass-Tk20)

\*Qualifications\*: Knowledge of both quantitative and qualitative research, classroom teaching experience, excellent communication and problem-solving skills, solid computer skills.

Applicants should submit letter of interest, resume, and names and contact information for two references to Dr. Linda L. Griffin at [lgriffin@educ.umass.edu](mailto:lgriffin@educ.umass.edu) /



## The Beacon Deadline is FRIDAY

Please submit *Beacon* announcements to: **Room 126 Furcolo Hall** or to [dms@educ.umass.edu](mailto: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.

## FORMATION OF DISSERTATION COMMITTEE

**ABRAHAM J. SINETA** Proposed Dissertation Title: "Demand-Side Financing in Education: Critical examination of a scholarship program in Malawi (case study).

**Statement of the Problem:** Malawi, like many developing countries, has not reached universal primary education. Disadvantaged and poor children are not able to persist and complete the primary cycle because of poverty. The government has implemented a scholarship program with provided financial support to help these children access and persist in school. However, very little is systematically known about how the program worked. **Chairperson: Dr. David R. Evans.**

## TEACHING ASSISTANTSHIP

10 hours per week is available for Fall 2010 for the course: Educ 491A: An Introduction to Inclusion.

**Responsibilities include:** 1) attending weekly classes and facilitating the supervision of students (i.e., supervise students' arrival and departure, record attendance, collect assignments, be available for general questions and answers from students, etc.); 2) have planning meetings with the Course Instructor to organize and prepare course related content; 3) give presentations relating to course curriculum content; 4) meet with and assist Course Instructor with other assigned tasks as needed.

**Qualifications include:** excellent communication and organizational skills, exceptional interpersonal skills that will facilitate team building and build a positive relationship with students in the course, significant interest in public school dynamics and media perspective; and expertise in the areas of special education and special needs. Previous teaching experience with young adults would be an asset.

To apply, please contact **Nola Stephen**, 16 Furcolo Hall, at [nola@educ.umass.edu](mailto:nola@educ.umass.edu).

## NOMINATE A DISTINGUISHED TEACHER

Nominations for the 2010-2011 Distinguished Teaching Awards are now being accepted. The Distinguished Teaching Award is the highest recognition of teaching awarded to faculty members and teaching assistants/associates. To nominate your favorite professor or TA, tell us why your nominee should receive a Distinguished Teaching Award. All nominations must include your name, mailing address, and email address. Nomination forms are available online at <http://www.umass.edu/provost/award/campus/dta.html>. Nominations may also be sent by email to [dta@provost.umass.edu](mailto:dta@provost.umass.edu)

Only current and former students may nominate faculty members. Teaching assistants/associates may be nominated by faculty members or current and former students.

Please submit all nominations by Friday, October 22, 2010 to:  
Distinguished Teaching Award Committee, Office of Faculty Development, 301 Goodell  
(413) 545-1225, (413) 545-3829 (fax) [dta@provost.umass.edu](mailto:dta@provost.umass.edu)

**Language, Literacy, and Culture Community Meeting:**  
LLC Faculty Shares Recent Research - The UMass ACCELA Project  
**Wednesday, October 6, 2010 6:30 Furcolo Hall, Room 20**

Light refreshments will be served

**Dr. Meg Gebhard** will discuss aspects of her work related to supporting the academic literacy of English Language Learners using Halliday's systemic functional linguistics with ACCELA teachers.

**Dr. Theresa Austin** will report on the ACCELA preparation of bilingual para-educators during the transition period of conflicting educational reform. Her ethnographic study identifies competing discourses, historical institutional inequities, and boundaries circumscribing the "cultural bumps" in interactions between our university and local communities.

**Dr. Nelida Matos** will present part of her two-year ethnographic research on fostering family-school connections under the English-only law of MA in an urban district where the school population was 25% white and 75% minority students. Implications for diverse students' education and for the field of parental involvement will be discussed.

PLEASE JOIN US!

Would you be able to attend if childcare was available? Or Do you have older children who might be willing to help out with childcare? Please let us know—send an email to: [llcssac@gmail.com](mailto:llcssac@gmail.com)

**Sponsored by the Language, Literacy, and Culture Student Advisory Committee and Faculty**

## Spencer Foundation

**Award Amount: \$25,000      Deadline: October 27, 2010**

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The **Spencer Foundation's** Dissertation Fellowship Program seeks to encourage a new generation of scholars from a wide range of disciplines and professional fields to undertake research relevant to the improvement of education. The **\$25,000** fellowships support individuals whose dissertations show potential for bringing fresh and constructive perspectives to the history, theory, or practice of formal or informal education anywhere in the world. This highly competitive program aims to identify the most talented researchers conducting dissertation research related to education.

Although the dissertation topic must concern education, graduate study may be in any academic discipline or professional field. In the past, fellowships have been awarded to candidates in anthropology, architecture, art history, communications, economics, education, history, linguistics, literature, philosophy, political science, psychology, public health, religion, and sociology. Candidates should be interested in pursuing further research on education once the doctorate is attained.

Applicants need not be citizens of the United States; however, they must be candidates for the doctoral degree at a graduate school within the U.S. These fellowships are not intended to finance data collection or the completion of doctoral coursework, but rather to support the final analysis of the research topic and the writing of the dissertation. For this reason, all applicants must document that they will have completed all pre-dissertation requirements by June 1, 2011, and must provide a clear and specific plan for completing the dissertation within a one- or two-year time frame.

For more information, please see [http://foundationcenter.org/pnd/rfp/rfp\\_item.jhtml?id=308900032](http://foundationcenter.org/pnd/rfp/rfp_item.jhtml?id=308900032)

Heather Savage, Corporate and Foundation Relations  
University of Massachusetts Amherst, Memorial Hall, 2nd Floor  
134 Hicks Way, Amherst, MA 01003 413-545-5483

## Call for Nominations The K. Patricia Cross Future Leaders Award

### **Deadline** for receipt of materials: **October 4, 2010**

The [K. Patricia Cross Future Leaders Award](#) recognizes graduate students who show exemplary promise as future leaders of higher education; whose work reflects a strong emphasis on teaching and learning; and who demonstrate a commitment to developing academic and civic responsibility in themselves and others.

The award honors the work of K. Patricia Cross, Professor Emerita of Higher Education at the University of California-Berkeley. Please go to the [K. Patricia Cross page](#) of AAC&U's website for complete information.

### Eligibility

All doctoral-level graduate students planning a career in higher education are eligible, regardless of academic department. Graduate students in fields where the MFA is the terminal degree, such as art or music, are also eligible. (Nominees must hold student status in January 2011.)

### Applicants must demonstrate:

Leadership ability or potential for exercising leadership in teaching and learning, with a strong commitment to academic and civic responsibility; Leadership or potential leadership in the development of others as leaders, scholars, and citizens

### Nomination Process

A faculty member or administrator must nominate the student, with a supporting letter from a second faculty member or administrator. The following materials must be submitted for an application to be considered: a nomination letter from a faculty member or administrator; a supporting letter from a second faculty member or administrator; a statement from the student indicating how he or she meets the award criteria; a copy of the student's curriculum vitae.

### **Nominations can be submitted anytime, but no later than October 4, 2010.**

Nominees must also complete an [online form](#) ( see the K. Patricia Cross page of the AAC&U's website) with all contact information. Only complete nominations will be considered.

### The Award

The K. Patricia Cross Future Leaders Award provides financial support for graduate students to attend AAC&U's [2011 Annual Meeting](#), which will be held in San Francisco, California, January 26-29, 2011. All award recipients are required to attend the conference. The award includes travel, lodging, conference registration, and a one-year affiliation with AAC&U, including subscriptions to all AAC&U periodicals.

The awards will be announced in December 2010, and recognized at AAC&U's Annual Meeting in January.

### Contact Information

Please contact Suzanne Hyers at [hyers@aacu.org](mailto:hyers@aacu.org) or 202.387.3760 with any questions.

## **REGISTER NOW!**

**Friday, November 19 and Saturday, November 20, 2010**

UMass Amherst Campus Center

**The School of Education presents**

### **Leading at a Higher Level®**

with leadership expert Ken Blanchard, Marjorie Blanchard and the founding associates of The Ken Blanchard Companies

Two Leadership Events: Dinner and Workshop

**The School of Education proudly hosts these two very special events** to honor the journey of Ken Blanchard, Ph.D., School of Education faculty (1970-76), Marjorie Blanchard (Ph.D. 1976), and the founding associates of The Ken Blanchard Companies from their roots in the School of Education and UMass Amherst to their roles as globally-renowned consultants in people-centered management and purposeful leadership.



**Ken Blanchard**  
Author of "The One Minute Manager," the All-Time #1 Bestseller on Managing Your Work and Life,  
and co-founder of The Ken Blanchard Compa-

#### **Reception and Dinner**

#### **with Ken and Marjorie Blanchard**

Friday, November 19, 6 p.m.  
Marriot Room, Campus Center

Keynote by Ken Blanchard

"Lead with Luv" - A Different Way to Create Real Success

#### **Leading at a Higher Level Workshop**

Saturday, November 20, 9 a.m.- 3 p.m.  
Campus Center Auditorium

Sessions presented by Ken and Marjorie Blanchard, and founding associates of and presenters from The Ken Blanchard Companies including Laurie Hawkins, Don Carew, Eunice-Parisi Carew, Alan Randolph, Ruth Anne Randolph, Drea Zigarmi, Susan Fowler, Mary Ellen Stoner, Pat Zigarmi and Jesse Stoner. PDPs offered.

**For details go to [www.umass.edu/education](http://www.umass.edu/education).**

**Register for both events at UMass Amherst Conference Services**

Proceeds from these events benefit School of Education students and faculty

**UMass Amherst School of Education**