



THE BEACON

SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

Access *The Beacon* online: <http://www.umass.edu/education/publications/beacon.shtml>.

You can also go to the School of Education home page and click on *The Beacon* in the menu under News and Events.

Research Assistantship

Department of Teacher Education & Studies
Mathematics, Science, and Learning Technologies Concentration and Scientific Reasoning Research Institute

One 20 hr./week Research Assistant position for the 2009-10 academic year is available with the MSLT concentration and Scientific Reasoning Research Institute for a project studying student learning processes in science. Responsibilities include collecting data on student learning situations with and without computer simulations in classrooms, analyzing data on learning and teaching interactions, writing research reports and articles.

Qualifications include a background in science, extensive experience in teaching science, research skills in the above areas, and presentation and writing skills.

To apply, please send a resume to: Prof. John Clement at clement@educ.umass.edu. Review of applications will begin immediately and continue until the position is filled. This position is contingent upon availability of funding. /

SOE's website

www.umass.edu/education

**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 of *The Beacon*.

All assistantships will run for two issues

and examinations and dissertation proposals will run for one.

TEACHING ASSISTANTSHIP

Department of Teacher Education and Curriculum Studies

One 10 hr./ week TA Fall semester 2009-10.

Course Educ 524, The Work of the Middle and High School Teacher: assist in leading discussion groups, respond to student work, organize field experience trips for the class, attend regular course meetings with TAs and faculty.

Experience teaching in k12 public schools, knowledge of and experience in pre-service teacher education, ability to work as part of a team, and good organizational skills required.

Send resume, cover letter, and names of references to: Barbara Madeloni, STEP Concentration Coordinator, madeloni@educ.umass.edu
413-577-0495. Review of resumes will begin immediately. /

TEAMS PROJECT ASSISTANTSHIP

Department of Teacher Education and Curriculum Studies

One 10 hr./week assistantship for Fall semester 2009 for the TEAMS Project (Education 4971).

Job Description: Assisting the STEP faculty coordinators of the TEAMS Project with weekly operation of the service learning features of the program; facilitating small and large groups of students enrolled in Education 4971; maintaining linkages with elementary, middle and high schools participating in the project; completing other duties as needed by faculty coordinators.

Teaching and Service Learning Program Experience preferred.

Send cover letter and resume to Robert W. Maloy, 110 School of Education, University of Massachusetts at
rwm@educ.umass.edu /

ATTENTION: NEW STUDENTS

Check out the following on the Graduate School's website for a helpful **checklist** for new graduate students

<http://www.umass.edu/gradschool/files/New%20Student%20Checklist.pdfHi>

PROGRAM ASSISTANTSHIP

Department of Teacher Education and Curriculum Studies Language, Literacy and Culture Concentration

One (10 hour/ week) LLC Program Assistantship available for the academic year of 2009-2010 to assist LLC Coordinators

Responsibilities include: 1) Advising student candidates for licensure in ESL and Reading and candidates for Advanced studies in LLC; 2) Maintaining records for the advising system; 3) Assisting with data management, analysis and reporting for accreditation documents; 4) Updating program literature, licensure resource materials, and program website; 5) Maintaining contact with cooperating teachers and supervisors and communicating with the Teacher Education Licensure Office; 6) Assisting students and faculty with TK20 data management and with TPA (Teacher Performance Assessment) management; 7) Assisting with program events and recruitment of students.

Qualifications include: 1) Experience advising diverse students; 2) Strong oral and written communication skills; 3) Strong technology skills, including website maintenance and facility with common software packages (Word, Excel, PowerPoint, etc) and video editing; 5) Well-organized, and able to attend to details.

To apply, please send a cover letter & resume to Meg Gebhard, gebhard@educ.umass.edu (413)-577- 0863. Preference will be given to doctoral students in LLC. //

RESEARCH ASSISTANTSHIP

Department of Student Development and Pupil Personnel Services

One 10 hr/week Graduate Research Assistant Position with Faculty Member of Special Education Program for Fall 2009,

Doctoral level research assistant to work on a large-scale database and policy analysis research study funded by the JEHT foundation. The study is an investigation of school referrals to the juvenile justice system.

Responsibilities: development of a database in SPSS from multiple data sources, running descriptive analyses and data cleaning procedures, contacting state and local governmental offices to obtain policy and procedural standards, scholarly writing.

Qualifications: Applicants should have an interest in juvenile justice research, a background in data analysis, experience with SPSS, and strong writing skills.

Please email a letter of interest and CV to:

SDPPS Administrative Assistant Robbie Calliham at calliham@educ.umass.edu

Specify in the subject line "RA Spec Ed" //

2009-2010 Faculty Research Grant/Healey Endowment Grant (FRG/HEG)

Submission dates are: October 9, 2009 and March 6, 2010

More information on the FRG/HEG and the Conti Faculty Fellowship (deadline January 10, 2010) can be found at http://www.umass.edu/research/internal_grants/index.html.

INSTRUCTIONAL TECH WORKSHOPS

This September, Academic Computing is offering several workshops on a range of instructional technology topics. Most sessions are only 50 - 75 minutes long, and they will hopefully fit into your schedule.

Workshop topics include:

- * Setting up course websites in SPARK
- * Managing Data in Excel
- * Setting up a course or research Blog with the Blogs at UMass Amherst service

To view the full schedule and register online, please visit:

<http://www.umass.edu/accoprod/workshop/register.php>

Interested in training, but none of the scheduled times work for you? Contact the Instructional Media Lab (545-2823) to set up a one-on-one consultation.

Update on Investing in Innovation Funds

On Thursday, August 20, 2009, Secretary of Education Arne Duncan along with Assistant Deputy Secretary Jim Shelton spoke before the America's Choice Superintendent Symposium in Washington, DC. At this meeting, Duncan gave a preliminary overview of the [Investing in Innovation Funds](#) or i3 funds. The i3 funds are the final education reform program under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act and will be \$650 million awarded to Local Educational Agencies (LEAs) and nonprofit organizations working in collaboration with one or more LEAs or a consortium of schools. For-profit organizations cannot apply directly for funds but can partner with eligible agencies.

According to Secretary Duncan, the Department of Education is looking for programs that are outcome based, sustainable, and scalable. Grants for well-tested programs will be larger than those for promising but untested programs, and grants will fall into three categories:

- Pure Innovation grants of up to \$5 million dollars for promising ideas that should be tried.
- Strategic Investment grants of up to \$30 million for programs that need to build a research base or organizational capacity to succeed at a larger scale.
- Grow What Works grants that will go as high as \$50 million for proven programs that are ready to grow and expand.

Secretary Duncan also highlighted four areas of reform that are of special interest to the Department of Education as part of the i3 program: college and career-ready standards, data systems to track student progress, principal and teacher quality, and turnaround schools.

Assistant Deputy Secretary Shelton stressed that their presentation was not the official announcement but was only a preview of the i3 program—in part to provide agencies with as much time as possible to form the necessary partnerships. The first official notice for the i3 funds will be published in early fall, followed by a public comment period. Funding is expected to begin in early 2010.

During the question and answer period, Howard Gobstein, Co-director of SMTI, asked Mr. Shelton that since President Obama has indicated his strong support of STEM education, was the Department of Education working with other federal agencies that have historically dealt with STEM education issues, such as the NSF. Mr. Shelton responded that the department is trying to learn from other federal agencies that have more experience funding innovation.

Secretary Duncan's remarks are available at <http://www.ed.gov/news/speeches/2009/08/08202009.html>. The webcast can be accessed at <http://www.edgovblogs.org/duncan/2009/08/i3-fund-goal-help-school-districts-answer-how-can-we-do-that-here/>

Kacy Redd, PhD
Research Associate, Science & Mathematics Education Policy
Association of Public and Land-grant Universities
1307 New York Ave, NW
Washington, DC 20005-4722 202-478-6022

SEND your news and announcements to
dms@educ.umass.edu

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

Mary Deane Sorcinelli, professor in the Department of Educational Policy, Research and Development, and associate provost for Faculty Development, traveled to China July 13-15 to participate in a conference on "Theory, Practice and Implications: Professional and Organizational Development for Chinese Higher Education in the Global Context."

Dr. Sorcinelli discussed a range of topics, including new faculty development, faculty career stages and establishing mutual mentoring networks among scholars.

Co-sponsored by Beijing Normal University and Beijing Institute of Technology with support from the Chinese Ministry of Education, the conference featured faculty developers from Australia, Norway and the United States.

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

FROM THE LIBRARY

Dear Education Faculty and Grad Students,

Welcome back to campus. Here is the news from the library. I have updated the online subject guide to Education. You can find it here: <http://guides.library.umass.edu/education>

It contains a brief video tutorial about what we mean by "peer-reviewed" journal, as well as an explanation of plagiarism and web site evaluation. You might want to link to it from your course web pages or SPARK page.

In Other News:

We recently purchased a package of over 42,000 online books. The records for these titles are integrated into our catalog. We also subscribe to over 1000 electronic education journals. I conduct library research instruction classes and individual sessions for undergraduates and for graduate students. Please get in touch with me if you have any questions or comments.

Regards,

Steve McGinty Education Librarian
545-1871 smcginty@library.umass.edu

Hand Sanitizer is available— please use it, says University Health Services

The campus has been working on updating its pandemic response plan for the H1N1 (Swine Flu) threat on campus this academic year. A portion of our planning includes an awareness and prevention component. In an effort to provide awareness and minimize transmission within work areas we are providing H1N1 posters and hand sanitizer to be distributed within your area. The hand sanitizer is not intended to replace hand washing or to be placed in bathroom areas, but in office areas where higher concentrations of employees and traffic occur. Please use the sanitizer to help us minimize transmission of viruses.

Based on existing outbreaks occurring on other university campuses across the country, we anticipate seeing H1N1 illness very early in the academic year. For additional H1N1 information or guidance go to University Health Services website located at <http://www.umass.edu/uhs/services/publichealth/>.

Thank you for your assistance with this.

Brian Olsen, Emergency and Business Continuity Manager (413) 545-7431 bolsen@ehs.umass.edu