

SCHOOL OF EDUCATION - UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS AMHERST

BEACON DEADLINE: The deadline for *Beacon* announcements is 3:30 p.m. on Monday, due in Room 124, Furcolo Hall or to zinnia@educ.umass.edu. All assistantships will run for two issues unless otherwise indicated. Examinations and dissertation proposals run for only one issue.

ATTENTION! The *Beacon* is available on-line at: <http://www.umass.edu/education/publications/beacon.pdf>
If you have problems accessing this link, go to the School of Education home page, click on the *Beacon* button on the left. Earlier issues can be found by going to Publications.

ATTENTION! New Addition to the Beacon: **FACULTY ACTIVITIES, HONORS, AND AWARDS**

SPRING 05 ASSISTANTSHIPS AVAILABLE (by department)

Dean's Office

No positions available this week.

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#### **Educational Policy, Research and Administration**

No positions available this week.

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Student Development and Pupil Personnel Services

No positions available this week.

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#### **Teacher Education and Curriculum Studies**

No positions available this week.

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ANNOUNCEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE EXAMINATION

MARY A. MORIARTY March 8, 2005, 1:00 p.m., Room 418 Hills North.

Chairperson: Dr. Joseph Berger.

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#### **FORMATION OF DISSERTATION COMMITTEE**

**GREGORY D.S. BASCOMB** Proposed Dissertation Title: Participatory Video Projects in Multicultural Learning Environments. Statement of the Problem: Changing demographics are this country is creating a multicultural population. A multicultural society may not naturally follow the changing characteristics of the population. How does the transformation process begin? Public schools are generally reflective of the larger society, including all of its inequities and misconceptions. Multicultural education reforms, including classroom curriculum, often start with contributions an additive approach are transformed into an empowering action approach.

Participatory video projects hold promise as one tool to facilitate the transformation process. Participatory video projects require students to act. It is a tool that may enable students to transform educational activities into meaningful and relevant learning experiences. Research has documented the use of participatory video

projects (Beaty, 2003; and Okahashi, 2000), but has not focused on teachers' experiences using video projects as a multicultural curriculum tool that facilitates the transformation process.

**Chairperson: Dr. Sonia Nieto**

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Dissertation Grants Call for Proposals

With support from the National Science Foundation (NSF) and the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) of the Institute of Education Sciences, the AERA Grants Program announces its Dissertation Grants Program. The program's goals are: (1) to stimulate research on U.S. education policy- and practice-related issues using NCES and NSF data sets; (2) to improve the educational research community's firsthand knowledge of the range of data available at the two agencies and how to use them; and (3) to increase the number of educational researchers using the data sets. Minority researchers are strongly encouraged to apply.

For more information about these grants, go to:

http://www.aera.net/grantsprogram/res_training/diss_grants/DGFly.html

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### **FACULTY ACTIVITIES, HONORS, AND AWARDS**

**Katie McDermott** has two new publications. In the current issue of *Educational Policy*, which is also the Yearbook of the Politics of Education Association, she has an article entitled "In MINT Condition? The Politics of Alternative Certification and Pay Incentives for Teachers in Massachusetts." Another article, "Incentives, Capacity, and Implementation: Evidence from Massachusetts Education Reform," will soon be published in the *Journal of Public Administration Research and Theory*.

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