



Volume XXV  
Number 51  
August 29, 2006  
Contact: Dean's Office

SCHOOL OF EDUCATION - UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS AMHERST

## New Look for the Beacon!

We have created a new look for *The Beacon* in order to bring you more information about the School of Education. As always, *The Beacon* is available on-line at: <http://www.umass.edu/education/publications/beacon.htm> 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*.



## FAQ's and other information that is good to know:

***I am a graduate student in the School of Education and I do not know how to get an assistantship. Where do I go?***

Assistantships are listed weekly in *The Beacon*. You can also go the School of Education Website, click on Publications and see the most recent *Beacon* as well as archived issues. If you are in Furcolo Hall, a *Beacon* is posted on the bulletin board directly across from the Dean's Office (Furcolo 124). It can also be found in the magazine rack in the Lobby of Furcolo Hall.

***Ok, I found a position I am interested in, now what?***

To apply for a position found in *The Beacon*, follow the directions at the bottom of the ad under, "To apply..." You will be directed to send information to a specific faculty member.

***What paperwork will I need to fill out?***

The Business Office will contact you once your paperwork has been completed and signed. You will need to bring the following even if you worked last semester:

### **US Citizens and Resident**

1. US Passport, or
2. Drivers license *or* University picture ID  
- *and* -  
social security card *or* US birth certificate
3. Voided check if they desire direct deposit of pay into a checking account

### **International Students**

1. Visa
2. Unexpired passport with I-94 card
3. I-20 or DS-2019
4. Social Security card – if you have one
5. List of dates of entry to & exit from the US
6. Voided check if they desire direct deposit of pay into a checking account

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### ***When will I get paid and how will I get paid?***

Pay checks are issued every other week. The schedule for Fall 2006 is:

<b>For work done in pay period</b>	<b>Check Issue Date</b>
09/03/06 - 09/16/06	09/22/06
09/17/06 - 09/30/06	10/06/06*
10/01/06 - 10/14/06	10/20/06
10/15/06 - 10/28/06	11/03/06
10/29/06 - 11/11/06	11/17/06
11/12/06 - 11/25/06	12/01/06
11/26/06 - 12/09/06	12/15/06
12/10/06 - 12/23/06	12/29/06

**\*Note: No GIC or Non Unit Dental deductions scheduled for this Pay Period.**

Paychecks will be held at the Department Office in which you work. Pay stubs for those desiring direct deposit will be found in your assistantship mailbox in the building in which you work.

It is important to note that for those using direct deposit, the first paycheck will not be directly deposited. An actual check will be issued and may be picked up at the Department Office. Your second paycheck should go to direct deposit.



### **HOW TO APPLY TO THE FULBRIGHT SCHOLAR PROGRAM**

Fulbright program at the US Department of Education is a program designed to give educators and administrators an opportunity to travel overseas and learn more about another country and another culture.

The program pays for a majority of expenses. The participants are not expected to teach or exchange- just to learn.

The program deadline is September 28, 2006.

For more information, please contact:

Gale Holdren  
Fulbright Hays Seminars Abroad  
& Undergraduate International Studies and Foreign Language  
Senior Program Officer  
U.S. Department of Education  
6th Floor, 1990 K Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20006-8521  
202-502-7691  
202-502-7859 fax  
[gale.holdren@ed.gov](mailto:gale.holdren@ed.gov)  
[www.ed.gov/programs/iegpssap/index.html](http://www.ed.gov/programs/iegpssap/index.html)



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## **FACULTY/STAFF/STUDENT ACTIVITIES, HONORS, AND AWARDS**

We would like to share in each other's successes. Please send recent information on publications, grants, activities, honors, and awards to:

Linda Rhinehart Neas, Room 123A Furcolo Hall, [lascell@educ.umass.edu](mailto:lascell@educ.umass.edu)

Publication deadlines are found at the bottom of the page.



### **FALL 06/SPRING 07 ASSISTANTSHIPS AVAILABLE (by department)**

*Please note: All available positions are contingent upon funding.*

#### **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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#### **Office of Teacher Education**

No positions available this week.

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#### **Student Development and Pupil Personnel Services**

No positions available this week.

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#### **Office of Academic Affairs**

No positions available this week.

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

No positions available this week.

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## **On Campus Graduate Assistantship Vacancy Notice**

INTERNSHIP IN THE UNDERGRADUATE REGISTRAR OFFICE

One 20-hour per week internship

**Responsibilities include:** installing and troubleshooting PC's running Windows NT, Windows 2000 or Server 2003 with TCP/IP networking; supports end users running MS Office applications, SPIRE, user mail and print services including PeopleSoft printing issues; assists systems staff with reporting needs, writing documentation, and helps maintain and administer the Registrar's LAN and Website; performs weekly tape backups

**Qualifications include:** one year experience maintaining and administering PC's, LAN and TCP/IP networking. One year experience programming in any of the following languages: SAS, Visual Basic, Pascal, C, Java, Delphi, PeopleSoft Query, or Access. Knowledge of HTML and good technical writing skills helpful, experience supporting end users and troubleshooting their problems essential

Dates of appointment are from 9/3/06 to 1/13/07. This internship has a stipend of \$352.

To apply, please submit resume to Alan Corey, 213 Whitmore, 577-0246, [acorey@registrar.umass.edu](mailto:acorey@registrar.umass.edu).



## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **INTERNATIONAL TEACHING ASSISTANTS (ITA) SCREENING TEST OF SPOKEN ENGLISH FALL SEMESTER 2006**

The screening test of Spoken English Communication skills for fall semester 2006 will be conducted from September 6 to September 18, 2006. The purpose of the test is to identify any potential difficulties international teaching assistants may have in understanding spoken English or in being understood in the undergraduate classroom.

All incoming international teaching assistants/associates (ITAs and ITOs) and returning students who will be assuming TA responsibilities for the first time are required to demonstrate their oral English proficiency by passing a test of spoken English. A standardized test, (SPEAK test), designed by the Educational Testing Service, is used for assessing and measuring the spoken English ability of International Teaching Assistants. A score of 50 or above is required to pass the test. We recommend that students who are not currently funded but who may be funded for a TA or TO position in the future should also take the test.

Students who do not pass the test are encouraged to either participate in the English communication instruction classes, offered by the Graduate School, or enroll in another suitable program recommended by their Graduate Program Director (GPD).

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The English communication classes are free, meet in small groups for one hour twice a week and are offered throughout the academic year and summer. When space is limited, priority is given to those with the greatest need. Therefore, students with a score of 45 are included in classes on a space available basis. At the end of each semester, students are reevaluated and progress report is sent to the graduate program directors. Students, who do not meet the criteria, may continue in the Communication Instruction classes for additional semesters. International Research Assistants and graduate students without funding may participate in the instructional classes offered during spring and summer on a space available basis.

Students will need to sign up for the test outside Room 514, Goodell Building. A sample test may be obtained at the time of sign-up or from Lori Baronas in Room 518, Goodell Building. The test will take approximately 1 hour.

Screening Test dates, times and rooms are listed below.

International Teaching Assistant English Language Screening Test  
Fall 2006

DATE	TIME	ROOMS
September 6, 2006	8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.	811-15, 902, 903, 905-09 & 911-15 Campus Center
September 7, 2006	10:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.	801, 903, 905-09 & 911-15 Campus Center
September 8, 2006	1:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.	801, 802, 805-09 & 811-15 Campus Center
September 11, 2006	8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.	801, 805-09, 811-15 & 902 Campus Center
September 13, 2006	4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.	801, 802, 805-09, & 811-15 Campus Center
September 14, 2006	10:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.	801, 901, 903, & 911-15 Campus Center
September 18, 2006	8:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.	801, 901, 903 & 805-09 Campus Center



**BUILDING EXCELLENT SCHOOLS FELLOWSHIPS**

Building Excellent Schools is an established national non-profit organization based in Boston, MA committed to improving the academic achievement of students in the nation’s urban centers. Our core program is the Building Excellent Schools Fellowship, a 12-month, full-time, comprehensive training program that prepares dedicated, hard-working, and talented individuals to design and open academically excellent urban charter schools. To date, 20 Building Excellent Schools Fellows have founded schools that have opened or will open by the Fall of 2006.

In its quest to build and perpetuate educational excellence, Building Excellent Schools holds the core belief that

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academic performance drives every element of a school, including design, leadership, culture, decisions, and governance. Building Excellent Schools further believes that the only legitimate measure for a school's performance is the academic achievement of its students.

The Fellowship is a year long full time commitment for which Fellows are paid a stipend of \$80,000. Included in that year of intensive training is:

- 90+ Training days at Building Excellent Schools' central offices in Boston led by expert Building Excellent Schools' staff, and nationally recognized experts in charter school design and operation
- visits to 20-25 of the highest performing urban charter schools in the Northeast and beyond
- extended residency in high-performing urban charter school
- ongoing coaching and support around board and charter application
- development.

Building Excellent Schools Fellows share common beliefs far more than they share common experiences. Our Fellows represent a vast range of professional experience including education, business, law, and public administration. Classroom experience is not a pre-requisite for participation in the program. Ultimately, Building Excellent Schools is looking for high-capacity individuals that are deeply committed to fundamentally changing urban education. An exemplary Fellow is:

- A relentless achiever
- Demanding of oneself and others—good is not good enough, only great will suffice
- Willing to learn—accepts that only with careful study, guidance, and preparation can a great school be built
- Highly flexible—can adapt to new knowledge, skills, and situations with ease
- Mature and professional—can successfully operate in multiple professional environments, including business and government.

Territories include: Chicago; Gary & Indianapolis, IN; Milwaukee; Los Angeles, CA; Oakland; San Diego; Sacramento; Fresno; St. Paul and Minneapolis; Ft. Lauderdale & Miami; Atlanta; Denver; New York City; Cleveland; and DC.

Apply now to the Fellowship, nominate a leader, or for more information, visit our website at [www.buildingexcellentschools.org](http://www.buildingexcellentschools.org).



### HELP WANTED

#### Assistant Swim Coach needed for fall/winter season

Belchertown Stingrays Swim Team is looking for an assistant coach from October to the end of January. This is a paid position. If you are interested, email Denise Veroneau at [Veroneau@van-pak.com](mailto:Veroneau@van-pak.com)



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