



THE BEACON

Volume XXVI

Number 11

November 14, 2006

Contact: Associate Dean's Office

SCHOOL OF EDUCATION - UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS AMHERST

Environmentally Mindful!

Access *The Beacon*, 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 may be found by going to *Publications* on the School of Education home page.



NCATE

ACCREDITED

National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education

NCATE NEWS

In the upcoming issues of *The Beacon* we will be including news about NCATE. We hope you will find the information helpful.

DEVELOPMENT OF NCATE STANDARDS *

NCATE revises its unit accreditation standards every five years to ensure that the standards reflect current research and state-of-the-art practice in the teaching profession. The Standards Committee of NCATE's Unit Accreditation Board is charged with the task of revising the unit standards. The revision process for the NCATE standards began in 1997. The Committee reviewed literature in the following areas: research on teaching and learning; research on effective teacher preparation programs; and research on regional accreditation, including a comparative matrix of NCATE accreditation and regional accreditors. The Committee also conducted an in-depth study of the standards of three specialized accrediting bodies; model standards for beginning teacher licensing, created by the Interstate New Teacher Assessment and Support Consortium (INTASC) through the Council of Chief State School Officers; the development of standards and assessments of the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards; NCATE's existing state partnership framework for performance-based accreditation and licensing systems; draft standards for professional development schools; and NCATE's elementary standards project.

NCATE's Standards Committee heard from a wide range of educators and policymakers, and conducted hearings at professional conferences. The work of the Standards Committee was continuously posted to NCATE's website. Feedback was regularly received, read, and incorporated. State policymakers were briefed and NCATE solicited their feedback. By the time that NCATE's Executive Board ratified the standards in May 2000, the field had provided significant guidance in the development of the standards.

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The standards measure an institution's effectiveness according to the profession's expectations for high quality teacher preparation as America enters the 21st century. The profession of teaching has developed and articulated standards for the preparation of those who enter its ranks. The profession has reached a consensus about the knowledge and skills a teacher needs to help P-12 students learn. That consensus forms the basis for the NCATE standards. That consensus is also the basis for NCATE's specialized program standards. These are an integral part of the NCATE accreditation system as they describe the specialized content that teacher candidates should master.

The way in which the effectiveness of the institution is measured has undergone significant change in these standards. Until 2000, institutions were measured largely by a review of what they offered to candidates—the quality of the curriculum and how it was implemented. While the curriculum is certainly an important component in preparing educators, the NCATE 2000 standards take accountability to an important next step: results. Have the candidates acquired the necessary knowledge and skills to become educators, and have they demonstrated their knowledge and skills in measurable ways? Has the institution provided clear evidence of the competence of their candidates? Can candidates help students learn?

* For the latest guidance on NCATE policies and procedures, visit the NCATE website at www.ncate.org.



FACULTY/STAFF/STUDENT ACTIVITIES, HONORS, AND AWARDS

OUTSTANDING ACADEMIC ADVISOR AWARD

The Selection Committee for the 2006-2007 Outstanding Academic Advisor Award invites all students, faculty and staff to nominate academic advisors whose practices distinguish them from other advisors. The characteristics of an outstanding advisor include but are not limited to:

- * Building strong relationships with students
- * Monitoring students' progress toward academic and career goals
- * Making appropriate referrals
- * Knowing and understanding institutional regulations, policies and procedures

Nominations of faculty and staff who advise undergraduate students should be submitted to:

Outstanding Academic Advisor Award Committee
Office of the Provost
362 Whitmore Building

Nominations (in writing, by phone, or by e-mail to getinde@provost.umass.edu) should be received by Friday 12/1/06. For further information, call the Provost's Office at 545-2554.

Nominations may also be made by supervisors, colleagues and alumni/ae. When a nomination is received in this office, the individual's department head will be notified, and asked (if he or she supports the nomination) to assemble a package of materials for submission to the Committee. Supporting materials are due on or before January 29, 2007.

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Please send all news of awards, honors, grants, contracts (not assistantships), new publications, etc., to the following *new e-mail address*: goodnews@educ.umass.edu.



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

TEACHING ASSISTANTSHIP – TWO 10 HOUR POSITIONS

The current, *Issues in Higher Education* course, is a 300 education course for undergraduates. We are hiring 2 graduate 10 hour TA's. The seminar will examine current issues confronting institutions of higher education and their policy implications. The course emphasizes critical thinking, class discussion, persuasive writing and revision, and presentation. Individuals interested in these positions must have the time of the course (Mondays 10-12:30) free, have studied and/or have significant professional experience in higher education.

Duties include: Prepare curriculum materials, lead discussion sections, grade papers, meet with the professor regularly to plan the course.

Please submit a hard copy of resume and cover letter highlighting your teaching experience, knowledge of current issues in higher education, experiences working with undergraduates, and a brief writing sample to: **Dr. Kerry Ann O'Meara**, 256 Hills South. Review of applications will begin immediately.

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GRADUATE ASSISTANTSHIP – 10 HOUR POSITION

Spring 2007 graduate research assistantship in the concentration of Educational Administration and Leadership. This is a 10 hour per week position.

Duties include: Assistance in the development and preparation of materials for two new courses: Leadership for Curriculum and Instruction & Collaboration for Student Achievement; assistance in conducting field research in public school settings; assist in the preparation of grant applications and manuscripts for publication

Public school teaching and/or administrative experience or significant study in these areas preferred.

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If interested, please submit via email an electronic copy of your resume and a cover letter that highlights your relevant experience and qualifications to: **Dr. Rebecca Gajda**, Rebecca.Gajda@educ.umass.edu. Review of applications will begin immediately.

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

SUPERVISORS - Secondary Teacher Education Program (STEP)
Spring 2007. Part-time (8-10 hrs/wk)

Responsibilities include: supervising science/math and English/social studies student teachers, a total of five observations with written reports, three face-to-face meetings with student teacher and supervising practitioner, four meetings with program coordinator, oversight of student teacher's portfolio development and the meeting of Massachusetts Department of Education and School of Education Practicum Assessment requirements. Student teachers placed in middle and high schools.

Please contact **Barbara Madeloni**, Director of STEP Student Teaching, madeloni@educ.umass.edu, 413-577-0495 with resume and cover letter.

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TEACHING ASSISTANTSHIPS - Part time assistantships (10-20 hours per week) are available for Spring 2007 for the course: Educ 192A: Education at the Movies.

Responsibilities include: 1) attend weekly large group presentations and facilitate supervision of students (i.e., supervise students' arrival and departure, record attendance, collect assignments, be available for general questions and answers from students); 2) attend weekly planning meetings to organize and prepare seminar and other course related content; 3) conduct weekly small group seminar sessions; 4) meet with and assist course director, faculty, and TA team members as needed.

Qualifications include: excellent communication and organizational skills, exceptional interpersonal skills that will facilitate team building, significant interest in public school dynamics and media perspective, and well-developed technology skills. Previous teaching experience would be an asset.

To apply, please contact **Nola Stephen**, 16 Furcolo Hall, at 413-545-1186 or nola@educ.umass.edu.



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ANNOUNCEMENTS

ANNOUNCEMENT OF FINAL ORAL EXAMINATION

RAYMOND R. MCCARTHY November 30, 2006, 1:30 p.m., Room 151, Hills South. "Unexpected Transition; Moving Beyond Cultural Barriers: Successful Strategies of Female Technology Education Teachers."
Chairperson: Dr. Joseph B. Berger.

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ANNOUNCEMENT OF FINAL ORAL EXAMINATION

YIJIE ZHAO November 30, 2006, 3:30 p.m., Room 151, Hills South. "A Case Study of the Impact of Urban Immersion Teacher Preparation and Urban School Workplace on the Perceived Self-Efficacy, persistence and Institutional Commitment of Urban School Teachers."
Chairperson: Dr. Joseph B. Berger.



SCHOLARSHIPS, FELLOWSHIPS AND INTERSHIPS – MULTICULTURAL EDUCATION

The following is a list of scholarships and fellowships with upcoming deadlines. Click on the link provided to get the details.

<http://www.multiculturaladvantage.com/opportunity/scholarships/scholarships.asp>

To receive a monthly update of scholarships, send an email to:
tma-scholarship-subscribe@yahoogroups.com

To find internship opportunities for undergrads and grads, go to:
<http://www.multiculturaladvantage.com/opportunity/internships/internships.asp>



FELLOWSHIPS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION OF PRESENT AND PROSPECTIVE TEACHERS

**MARION AND JASPER WHITING FOUNDATION
SUITE 1025
50 CONGRESS STREET
BOSTON, MA 02109
(617) 557-7413 (MAIN NUMBER)
(617) 557-7419 (FACSIMILE)**

Origins and Statement of Purpose:

The Marion and Jasper Whiting Foundation is a permanent charitable trust fund established under the will of Jasper Whiting, a resident of Dublin, New Hampshire, who died on August 18, 1941. Mr. Whiting left the residue

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of his estate to the Foundation, as did his wife, Marion, a resident of Boston, Massachusetts, who died on January 28, 1965. The Foundation began awarding annual fellowships after Mrs. Whiting's death. In 2006, the trustees received 99 applications and made 20 awards totaling \$100,966; or approximately \$5,048 per fellowship.

The primary purpose of the Foundation is to award fellowships to present and prospective teachers, with an emphasis on present teachers at the college or university level, to enable them to study abroad or at some location or locations other than that with which they are most closely associated. The aim is to stimulate and broaden the minds of teachers so as to improve and enhance the quality of their instruction. Most grants are primarily for travel and related expenses and not as salary substitutes, scholarships or grants in aid. According to Mr. Whiting's will, the benefits under the Foundation are to be conferred at the sole discretion of the trustees but shall not at any time be denied for reasons of race, color, nationality, religion or sex. There are three trustees of whom two were appointed pursuant to Mr. Whiting's will by Harvard University and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

While Mr. Whiting expressed a preference toward teachers at Harvard University and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, he encouraged the trustees to look beyond these institutions and, indeed, the trustees have welcomed applications from teachers at all New England colleges and universities. In 2006, the 20 winners came from 15 different New England Schools. There is no specific limit to the number of winners from any particular school.

Application Procedure:

Candidates should submit the following material in triplicate to the Foundation's office address above (Attention: Robert G. Bannish, Trustee) **NO LATER THAN JANUARY 26, 2007.**

- (1) a written summary of the project or study contemplated of about two to five pages;
- (2) a curriculum vitae showing the applicant to be a university teacher or a graduate of a college or university progressing toward a teaching career on the college or university level;
- (3) a budget indicating the estimated expenses to be incurred in carrying out the project;
- (4) three supporting letters from fellow faculty members, professors, or similar persons who can speak both to the candidate and to the *project*; *and any* other information that the candidate believes will help his or her application.

All material submitted will become the property of the Foundation and will not be returned. If the candidate wishes the trustees to acknowledge receipt of the application, he or she should include a stamped self-addressed postcard. Please note that the supporting letters should be sent by the writers directly to the Foundation's office: **MARION AND JASPER WHITING FOUNDATION, SUITE 1025, 50 CONGRESS STREET, BOSTON, MA 02109**

In an agreement with the Internal Revenue Service, the trustees have set forth certain procedures for making grants from the Foundation. Specifically, the trustees have agreed to make grants with the concurrence of the college or university with which the applicant is affiliated. Such college or university will be responsible for supervising the project. Also, the actual payment will be made to the college or university, which will then disburse funds to the recipient only for purposes related to the project. Finally, the recipient must agree to make a brief report to the trustees within twelve months of the completion of the project.

Applications postmarked after January 16, 2007 will not be considered. It is expected that awards will be announced on or about March 2, 2007. The trustees look forward to hearing from you with your application.

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SOE WEBSITE SURVEY

We are in the process of examining the School of Education website for changes and to make it more “user-friendly.” We are asking the help of those who use the website most often: our faculty, staff, students and alumni.

Please complete the attached survey and return it by November 28, 2006 to:

Linda Rhinehart Neas, Assistant to the Associate Dean, Room 123A Furcolo, lascell@educ.umass.edu

Thank you for your assistance in this effort.

School of Education Web Survey

Name: _____

Department: _____

Email: _____

Please take the time to share your ideas by answering these questions. Thank you!

1. Please give suggestions for any new sections, pages, columns, etc. you would like to see incorporated in a new website.
2. Would you like to see special revolving pages such as, faculty or student of the month or special bulletins pertaining to important events or information? If so, what special revolving pages would be most helpful to you or your students?
3. Please provide references of any website(s) which we can browse to get new ideas from for our new website.
4. What else can we do to make your experience using the SOE website more informative and functional?

Please return this survey to Room 123 Furcolo Hall or email it to: lascell@educ.umass.edu. Thank you.

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