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UMASS
AMHERST

SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

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NCATE

Standard 2: Assessment System and Unit Evaluation

USE OF DATA FOR PROGRAM IMPROVEMENT:

ACCEPTABLE

The unit regularly and systematically uses data, including candidate and graduate performance information, to evaluate the efficacy of its courses, programs, and clinical experiences. The unit analyzes program evaluation and performance assessment data to initiate changes where indicated. Candidate and faculty assessment data are regularly shared with candidates and faculty respectively to help them reflect on their performance and improve it.

UNACCEPTABLE

The unit makes limited or no use of data collected, including candidate and graduate performance information, to evaluate the efficacy of its courses, programs, and clinical experiences. The unit fails to make changes in its courses, programs, and clinical experiences when evaluations indicate that modifications would strengthen candidate preparation to meet professional, state, and institutional standards. Candidates and faculty are not regularly provided formative feedback based on the unit's performance assessments.

TARGET

The unit has fully developed evaluations and continuously searches for stronger

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

I have a personal email address. Why do I need to have a school email address?

Your UMass email is used the only email address that the Graduate School uses to notify you of important information con-

cerning your graduate program, your status, registration issues, etc. All students should check their UMass Email daily.

Where can I find contact information for the department I am enrolled in?

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BEACON DEADLINE: Please submit *Beacon* announcements to: **Room 123A Furcolo Hall or to llascell@educ.umass.edu.** The deadline remains 3:30 p.m. on Monday. All assistantships will run for two issues unless otherwise indicated. Examinations and dissertation proposals run for only one issue.

(NCATE continued from page 1)

relationships in the evaluations, revising both the underlying data systems and analytic techniques as necessary. The unit not only makes changes when evaluations indicate, but also systematically studies the effects of any changes to assure that the intended program strengthening occurs and that there are no adverse consequences. Candidates and faculty review data on their performance regularly and develop plans for improvement.

FACULTY/STAFF/STUDENT ACTIVITIES, HONORS, AND AWARDS

From **In The Loop:**

NIETO HONORED AT NATIONAL PUERTO RICAN DAY FESTIVITIES

Sonia Nieto, professor emerita in the School of Education, will be honored May 23 by the National Puerto Rican Day Parade, Inc. as the organization marks the 50th anniversary of Puerto Rican parades in New York City.

The group is recognizing Nieto for her "dedicated efforts and exemplary performance as a truly progressive leader, farsighted educator, and administrator." She and 12 other honorees will be feted at a banquet in the Bronx about two weeks before the parade, which attracts about 1 million people for across the country and Puerto Rico.

"I'm the only non-New Yorker on the list, but I hope that this will be a new trend as more than half of all Puerto Ricans living in the U.S. now live outside New York City," said Nieto, who is regarded as a leading expert on multi-cultural education and the education of Latinos, immigrants, and students of diverse cultural and linguistic backgrounds.

The parade organization promotes the self-esteem of the Puerto Rican community and use its pride to promote economic development, education, cultural recognition and advancement. By highlighting the achievements made by thousands of Puerto Ricans in business, government and industry, the organization also encourages youth to realize their dreams and ambitions through education, dedication and hard work.



MINI-TENURE REVIEW

The following faculty are scheduled for review for reappointment through tenure decision year during the spring

2007 semester. Those wishing to commend should forward letters to the relevant Department Chairs.

Educational Policy, Research and Administration

Joseph Berger, Chair, 161 Hills South

jbberger@educ.umass.edu

- Rebecca Gajda, Assistant Professor
- Jacqi Mosselson, Assistant Professor
- Craig Wells, Assistant Professor

Teacher Education and Curriculum Studies

Linda Griffin, Acting Chair, 123 Furcolo Hall

lgriffin@educ.umass.edu

- Jason Ranker, Assistant Professor



THE SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING AND MATHEMATICS EDUCATION INSTITUTE

STEM will host a talk on Tuesday, February 27, 2007, 4 p.m. Hasbrouck Lab, Room 126, University of Massachusetts Amherst by **John A. Armstrong**, IBM Vice President, Science & Technology (ret.); Trustee, University of Massachusetts on "Reflections on STEM Education"

Based on a 55 year career of learning, doing and managing research, and extensive experience in hiring STEM professionals, the speaker will reflect on STEM education, both for the specialist and for the educated public.

The program begins at 4 PM; refreshments at 3:45 PM. Parking available at the Campus Center Garage.

For more information, contact STEM Ed Institute at 545-0453. STEM seminars are held on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month at 4 PM.

Next talk: March 6, 2007, **John M. Francisco**, Teacher Education & Curriculum Studies, University of Massachusetts, "Teachers Attending to Students' Mathematical Activity"



AERA/NCME SCHOOL OF EDUCATION RECEPTION

Please join us for our annual AERA/NCME School of Education Reception on Thursday, April 12th, 2007 from 7-9pm. This year we will be at the Sheraton Chicago Hotel & Towers, Chicago Ballroom VIII, 301 E North Water Street Chicago IL. If you would like more information please contact Sahra Santos, 413-545-2705 or ssantos@educ.umass.edu.

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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Educator Licensure Office

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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**School of Education Business Office**

No positions available this week.

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Teacher Education and Curriculum Studies

No position available this week.

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*(FAQ continued from page 1)*

Contact information may be found on the School of Education web site under Departments. Go to <http://www.umass.edu/education/>. Click on "Departments" on the side bar, then click on your department.

**I am supposed to get an Excess Check. Where can I get information on where to go to get it?**

You can go to the Bursar's Office to pick up a check. It is recommend that student sign up for Excess Express to have their excess monies directly deposited into their bank accounts. For more information go to: <http://www.umass.edu/bursar/>



The greatest revolution in our generation is that of human beings, who by changing the inner attitudes of their minds, can change the outer aspects of their lives. -- Marilyn Ferguson

Marilyn is publisher and editor of the Brain/Mind Bulletin, an influential news bulletin which focuses on neuroscience, culture and consciousness with subscribers in fifty countries. Marilyn authored the best seller, Aquarian Conspiracy: Personal and Social Transformation in Our Time, which has been translated into twelve languages and was named "book of the decade" in 1990 by readers of New Options.  
From: <http://www.visionaryaudiovideo.com/vis-cart-bio.asp?id=249>

# **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

## **ANNOUNCEMENT OF FINAL ORAL EXAMINATION**

**CINZIA PICA** April 18, 2007, 9:30 a.m., Room 21C, Furcolo Hall. "Children's Perceptions of Interracial and Interethnic Friendships in a Multiethnic School Context."

**Chairperson: Dr. J. Kevin Nugent.**



## **ANNOUNCEMENT OF FINAL ORAL EXAMINATION**

**MARY MONICA GOMES** March 15, 2007, 1:00 - 4:00 p.m., Room 151, Hills South. "Accelerated Learning as an Alternative Approach to Education: Possibilities and Challenges Faced by Cholen, an NGO Program in Bangladesh."

**Chairperson: Dr. David R. Evans.**



## **ANNOUNCEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE EXAM**

**JANE CAREY** February 21, 2007, 1:00 - 3:00 p.m., Room 228, Furcolo Hall.

**Chairperson: Dr. Masha K. Rudman.**



## **ANNOUNCEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE EXAM**

**SAWSAN ABBADI** April 18, 2006, 3:00 -5:00 p.m., 21C, Furcolo.

**Chairperson: Dr. Margaret Gebhard.**



## **ATTENTION: DOCTORAL STUDENTS FILING FOR GRADUATION**

The Graduate School has just announced that beginning with degrees conferred for the May, 2007 degree period, all dissertations must be submitted via the Graduate School's electronic submission process. Exceptions to this policy will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis within the Graduate School.

Details of the process can be found on the Graduate School website at <http://www.umass.edu/gradschool/dissertationandthesis/elecdis.html>.

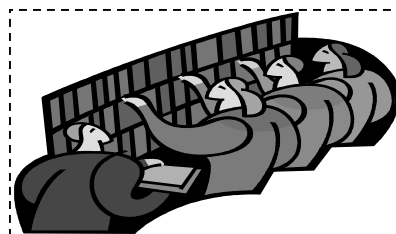
## **EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION NIGHT AT THE POPS**

University of Massachusetts Night at the Pops 2007 will be held on Thursday, May 10, 2007 from 8:00 to 10:00 p.m. (Doors open at 7 p.m.) at Symphony Hall in Boston.

Featuring Keith Lockhart and the Boston Pops, the evening is a recognition of excellence in education.

To purchase tickets, go to [www.massachusetts.edu/pops/](http://www.massachusetts.edu/pops/)

Groups of tickets available. For more information call 617-287-5772 or email [pops@umassp.edu](mailto:pops@umassp.edu).



## **HOW TO START A RESEARCH LAB WORKSHOP**

"Setting Up Shop: How to start a research laboratory" will be offered on February 22, 2007 (Thursday) at 5:30-7:00PM, (Dinner from 5:30-6PM) in Polymer Science Conte, Rooms A110/A111 by Prof. Klaus Nüsslein (Department of Microbiology)

Registration FREE, but required at: <http://www.umass.edu/gecdi>

After spending some years learning the ropes of your specialty, one of the next possible steps is to move to a position as an academic researcher. The speaker will share experiences and advice about negotiating a new investigator position and setting up a laboratory. The speaker will also address issues such as hiring and managing staff, writing the first grant application and seeking advice from colleagues and mentors.

Some questions that will be addressed at this workshop are listed below:

- What should be included in a start-up package?
- How do you decide what equipment you need for

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(Announcements continued from page 4)

your research (what is a necessity and what is a bonus)?

- How to create a comprehensive list?
- How much space do you need?
- How much space can you negotiate?
- Negotiating initial teaching load to allow you to write grants to start you research?
- How select lab personnel?
- Are people friendly in terms of sharing equipment (on campus and at surrounding universities)?



### **EDUCATIONAL POLICY FORUM**

**Massachusetts Commissioner of Education David P. Driscoll** will discuss **"Public Education in the Commonwealth: Reflecting Back and Moving Forward"** on Thursday, March 8, at 11:00 AM in the Campus Center, Second Floor Reading Room.

A former secondary school mathematics teacher, Driscoll has served over 40 years in the field of public education. As Commissioner of Education, he oversaw the development of the state's curriculum frameworks, the implementation and expansion of the Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment System (MCAS), the development of the state's School and District Accountability System, and the development and administration of the Educator Certification Test and the new licensure regulations. Reflecting back on these and other changes in public education in the Commonwealth, Driscoll will also look ahead to consider future directions in the field.

This Educational Policy Forum with Commissioner Driscoll is sponsored by the Department of Educational Policy, Research and Administration in the School of Education.

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## **CALL FOR APPLICATIONS/ PROPOSALS**

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### **RUTH SIMMS HAMILTON RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP**

In honor of the memory of Dr. Ruth Simms Hamilton, outstanding educator, visionary scholar and pioneer of the study of the African Diaspora, the TIAA-CREF Institute is pleased to invite applications for the TIAA-CREF Ruth Simms Hamilton Research Fellowship. This fellowship is open to eligible graduate students in recognition of their groundbreaking research that advances understanding of the African Diaspora. Applications will be

evaluated by a blue-ribbon panel of judges from some of America's most prestigious institutions. The submission period closes March 1, 2007. For further information and eligibility requirements visit: [www.tiaa-crefinstitute.org](http://www.tiaa-crefinstitute.org).



### **GRADUATE STUDENT TRAVEL GRANTS**

The Graduate School will be awarding a limited number of student travel grants for graduate students who will be presenting at recognized conferences during the 2006-7 academic year. The application and expense summary can be downloaded from: [www.umass.edu/gradschool](http://www.umass.edu/gradschool) > students > travel grant application

#### **NOTE:**

**While P. 3 of the application will be signed by Linda Griffin, the Graduate Program Director, students must provide the requested student information for that page, as well as for pages 1 and 2. Students must also provide a written recommendation from their advisor or chairperson with their application.**

Applications will be considered exclusively for travel to recognized conferences for the purpose of presenting the results of research conducted during graduate coursework at UMASS Amherst. Awards are for presentations rather than just attendance at a conference or event.

Criteria for nomination include merit of the project, prestige of the conference or event and financial need of the student.

Awards will be made to the individual student rather than for a project (divided among several students). Grant amounts are up to \$ 300.00 for domestic and \$ 400.00 for international travel. The Travel Grant Committee may not be able to fund all nominations that are forwarded for consideration

**DEADLINE to submit the complete application with faculty recommendation and expense summary to Linda Guthrie in the Graduate Program Office, 123 Furcolo:**

**FEBRUARY 28, 2007\***

#### **IMPORTANT**

\* While the Graduate School's deadline is March 15<sup>th</sup>, Linda must receive your complete nominations by February 28<sup>th</sup> so that they can be reviewed and rank ordered by the appropriate department and by Linda Griffin.



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(Applications and Proposals continued from page 5)

**GEXCEL FELLOWSHIPS FOR JUNIOR SCHOLARS**  
**2007-08**

Örebro University and Linköpings University of Sweden are pleased to announce the launch of a five-year project supported to establish a Centre of Gender Excellence--Gendering Excellence (GEXcel): Towards a European Centre of Excellence in Transnational and Transdisciplinary Studies of Changing Gender Relations, Intersectionalities and Embodiment. With support from the Swedish Research Council, GEXcel will carry out new research and become the foundation for a more permanent Sweden-based European Collegium for Advanced Transnational and Transdisciplinary Gender Studies.

A Visiting Fellows Program has been organized to attract promising younger scholars from Sweden and abroad with a variety of disciplinary backgrounds, who will carry out thematically organized, joint gender research, under the direction of one of the six professors in Sweden who are responsible for the program and working in collaboration with invited senior researchers.

In 2007-08, the theme of research is "Gender, Sexuality, and Global Change," directed by Anna G. Jónasdóttir, Professor of Gender Studies at Örebro University. Positions for junior scholars (doctoral students and postdoctoral scholars) to participate in "Gender, Sexuality, and Global Change" thematic research are now open for competition.

Proposals are invited from doctoral students outside Sweden for one-month fellowships (One fellowship in Fall 2007; two fellowships in Spring 2008) Fellowships include salary, housing stipend and travel to Sweden.

Proposals are invited from postdoctoral scholars (priority given to applicants from Europe, including Sweden) for two fellowships of six months' duration (One in Fall 2007; one in Spring 2008). Fellowships include salary, housing stipend and travel to Sweden.

Proposals must include a current CV, an abstract of the proposed project, a narrative description (maximum: five



pages) of the project to be undertaken during the fellowship, and a short bibliography. Applicants must explain specifically how the work will contribute to understanding at least one of the sub-themes of the "Gender, Sexuality, and Global Change" research theme (see detailed description on [www.oru.se/sam/GEXcel](http://www.oru.se/sam/GEXcel)). Doctoral Candidates must include the name and contact information for their research supervisor. Postdoctoral applicants must also include two samples of their work (published or unpublished) on the topic.

All proposals and supporting materials should be submitted electronically to Professor Anna G. Jónasdóttir, GEXcel Research Theme I Director (mail to: [anna.jonasdottir@sam.oru.se](mailto:anna.jonasdottir@sam.oru.se)) and Prof. Kathleen B. Jones, GEXcel Advisory Board Member (mail to: [profjones@cox.net](mailto:profjones@cox.net)). A committee will evaluate all applications and select finalists.

Application Deadline: 30 April 2007 for Fall 2007 (Awards Announced in May 2007) 15 October 2007 for Spring 2008 (Awards Announced in November 2007).

Anna G. Jónasdóttir, Professor, Department of Social and Political Sciences, Gender Studies/Center for Feminist Social Studies, Örebro University, 701 82 Örebro, SWEDEN Tel.: +46-19-303012, Fax: +46-19-303484



**SOCIETY FOR HUMANISTIC ANTHROPOLOGY**  
**2007 ETHNOGRAPHIC POETRY & FICTION**  
**COMPETITIONS**

*THE 2007 ETHNOGRAPHIC **POETRY** COMPETITION*

The Society for Humanistic Anthropology announces our annual poetry competition as a means to encourage scholars to use alternative literary genres to explore anthropological concerns. These concerns may be any of those associated with the fields of anthropology: Archaeological, Biological, Linguistic, Sociocultural, and Applied.

Winning entries and honorable mentions will be recognized at the annual meeting of the American Anthropological Association in fall 2007, and will be published in the Society's journal, *Anthropology and Humanism*. The winner(s) will receive an award of \$100. All entries will be considered for publication in the journal.

There is no entry fee for members of the American An-

(Continued on page 7)

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thropological Association. If you are not a member, there is a \$10 fee.

Judges will be: Misha Cahnmann Taylor [cahnmann@uga.edu](mailto:cahnmann@uga.edu), Department of Language and Literacy Education, University of Georgia; Kent Maynard [maynard@denison.edu](mailto:maynard@denison.edu), Department of Anthropology, Denison University; Dorine Preston [dopresto@uga.edu](mailto:dopresto@uga.edu), Department of English, University of Georgia.

Submissions must be unpublished and include: a) one copy of a cover letter with home and institutional addresses & a short bio, b) three copies of no more than three poems of any length totaling no more than 10 pages in all (please do not include your name/address on the poems, c) a self-addressed stamped envelope for contest results, to be posted by the end of May 2007, and d) proof of AAA membership or a \$10 check made to the Society for Humanistic Anthropology. Send unpublished poems only. Complete submissions must be postmarked by March 10, 2007 to:

Dr. Misha Cahnmann Taylor  
Department of Language and Literacy Education  
125 Aderhold Hall  
Athens, GA 30602  
(off.) 583-8127  
email: [cahnmann@uga.edu](mailto:cahnmann@uga.edu)

Electronic or faxed submissions will not be accepted except by request from ethnographic poets working outside the U.S. and Canada.

#### ***THE 2007 ETHNOGRAPHIC FICTION COMPETITION***

The Society for Humanistic Anthropology announces our annual fiction competition to encourage anthropologists to use alternative literary genres to explore anthropological concerns. These concerns may be any of those associated with the four fields of anthropology.

Stories should not exceed 20 pages typed double-spaced. There is a limit of one story for each submission. Three hard copies per entry should be submitted.

Winning entries and honorable mentions will be recognized at the annual meeting of the American Anthropological Association in San Jose, CA in November 2006. The winning story will be published in the Society's journal, *Anthropology and Humanism*. The winner (s) will receive a cash award of \$100.

There is no entry fee to enter this competition.

The judging committee consists of: Ayala Emmett (chair), Ruth Behar and Judy Labensohn.

Submissions and queries should be sent to:  
Ayala Emmett  
Associate Professor  
Department of Anthropology  
University of Rochester  
P.O. Box 270161  
Rochester, NY 14627  
Phone: (585) 275-8736  
e-mail: [aemt@mail.rochester.edu](mailto:aemt@mail.rochester.edu)

The deadline for RECEIPT of submissions is June 1, 2007.



### **2007 UNH COMPOSITION CONFERENCE** **CALL FOR PAPERS**

The University of New Hampshire is offering a composition conference on October 12-13, 2007 with keynotes Ellen Cushman (Michigan State University), Paul Kei Matsuda (University of New Hampshire), Gwendolyn D. Pough (Syracuse University) and Stuart Selber (Penn State University). The theme of the conference is Literacies--Personal, Professional, Academic. The focus will be on exploring literacy as it is learned inside and outside of school, and its multiple uses.

We invite proposals for 75-minute concurrent sessions. Sessions can be proposed by an individual or a group of presenters. We prefer interactive sessions and hope to avoid the reading of papers. Among the possible topics to be addressed are: literacy, technology and accessibility; multi-media literacies; virtual reading and writing communities; non-school sponsors of literacy; literacy norms and second language learners; literacy and popular culture; and new discourse conventions in academic writing.

Proposals should include: Session Title; Proposal Type (individual or group); Complete contact information of each presenter including name, address, daytime phone and email address; A 400-word session description as well as a 50-word summary.

For more information visit: <http://www.unh.edu/composition/conference>

Send to: UNH English Department, Attn: Composition

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Conference, 95 Main Street, Durham, NH 03824  
**Postmark deadline: Monday, May 14, 2007**

Please direct all questions to Sabina Foote at:  
sabina.foote@unh.edu.



### **SMALL GRANTS IN SUPPORT OF DIVERSITY EDUCATION**

The report of the Diversity Commission calls on the University administration to "support the development of more General Education Diversity courses that focus on issues of difference, culture, power and privilege." To that end, the Chancellor's Action Plan proposes "incentive grants for curriculum and pedagogical development projects" in diversity education. (See <http://www.umass.edu/campusdiversity/>.) The Provost has allocated funds to support these grants and has asked the General Education Council to award them.

The Council will consider any proposal that promises to improve diversity education at the University, but there is a particular interest in proposals that address one or more of the following needs:

- Courses that satisfy the General Education U ( U.S. diversity) requirement, especially from departments or colleges that currently offer few such courses. The Council welcomes proposals for new courses, for improvement of existing U courses, or for modifications of established courses to bring them into the scope of the U requirement.
- Programs to train and mentor teaching assistants or associates in diversity courses.
- Curricula that more fully integrate diversity education into the major. (These need not involve general education courses).
- Ideas for improving diversity education in large lecture courses.
- Ideas that readily scale up and transfer to other courses and departments.

The Center for Teaching will offer consultation to participants when they begin their projects and when they are ready to prepare their final reports. Participants will also meet regularly as a group to discuss their ideas and

experiences.

Up to 10 grants of about \$6,000 each are envisioned, but proposals for larger amounts will be considered with sufficient justification. This competition will occur annually, and renewals as well as new proposals will be considered.

Collaborative and interdisciplinary projects are welcome.

The proposal cover sheet and instructions are available at <http://www.umass.edu/provost/diversitygrant.html>. Questions should be addressed to the chair of the General Education Council, Randall Knoper ([knoper@english.umass.edu](mailto:knoper@english.umass.edu)). **The deadline for receipt of proposals is March 12, 2007.**



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## **UPCOMING CONFERENCES**

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### **INSTRUCTIONAL TECHNOLOGY CONFERENCE**

The Scholarship of Teaching & Learning: Technology & Reflective Practice is the theme of this year's Information Technology conference. Registration is now open at: <http://www.massachusetts.edu/it/itregistration.cfm>. The conference will be held on April 5, 2007 at the Sturbridge Host Hotel, Sturbridge, Massachusetts from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Keynote Speaker is Randy Bass (for bio, see <http://www.georgetown.edu/faculty/bassr/bassbio.htm>) Professor of American Studies, Georgetown University; Executive Director, Center for New Designs in Learning and Scholarship; Director, Visible Knowledge Project.

From the mid 1990's until 2000, the Information Technology Council sponsored an annual "UMass Instructional Technology Conference." On April 5, 2007, we shall begin anew. Some issues have not changed: how do we adopt and adapt instructional technology to best meet the institution's commitment to excellence in learning? With "Web 2" technologies affording richer teaching and learning environments, the choices, challenges, and opportunities are more abundant than ever. The question isn't whether to adopt particular technologies. It's how better to understand and build on their capability to enhance learning and teaching. This conference will present the best cur-

(Conferences continued from page 8)

rent thinking on what questions to ask, what insights to build on.

See UMass faculty and staff discuss and demonstrate their innovative ventures in such areas as electronic portfolios, video capture, podcasting, personal response systems, collaborative applications, tablet PC's and PDA's, and resources in support of scholarly research. Visit with vendors of hardware and software products related to these same ventures.

Attendance, parking, and food are free. Session schedule forthcoming.

To register, click on <http://www.massachusetts.edu/it/itregistration.cfm>.

Questions? Contact Mark Schlesinger, Associate VP for Academic Technology [mschlesinger@umassp.edu](mailto:mschlesinger@umassp.edu); 617-287-7102

### **NORTHEASTERN EDUCATIONAL RESEARCH ASSOCIATION CONFERENCE**

The 2007 Annual Conference of the Northeastern Educational Research Association (NERA) is October 17-19, 2007. We have a new location this year, just south of Hartford, CT, at the Rocky Hill Marriott. This new location is accessible by both air and train. Dr. Wayne Camara, Vice President for Research at the College Board, will be a keynote speaker at the conference.

The call for papers will follow in a few weeks. Please check the website for further details at: <http://www.nera-education.org/>



### **THE INSTITUTE ON DISABILITY 2007 WORKSHOPS AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES**

Between January and June 2007, the Institute on Disability (IOD) at the University of New Hampshire has assembled a roster of trainings and workshops designed to address the increasingly diverse and complex needs of individuals, families and professionals in New England. From strategies to better include children in general education classrooms to training on legal issues for those who work with older adults, the IOD, with the help of direct input from many partners and consumers, has organized 22 programs to address several key priority areas. In an effort to make these research and best-practice based op-

portunities more accessible, the IOD is offering workshops in almost every region of the Granite State. More information and online registration can be found on the IOD website at [www.iod.unh.edu](http://www.iod.unh.edu).

### **THE 2007 AUTISM MINI-SERIES**

*Informative and interactive topical discussions on ASD designed to provide practical ideas to complement teaching and parenting strategies.*

**Description:** Join experts on Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD) for topical discussions related to children with ASD, their families, and the systems of support in their lives. Each small group session is designed to be informative, interactive, and filled with practical ideas to embed within your own parenting and teaching strategies.

**Registration Fee:** \$25 for each session

**Location:** All sessions will be held on the University of New Hampshire Campus at the Institute on Disability's Conference Room, 10 West Edge Drive, Suite 101, Durham NH 03824.

#### **Workshops:**

**Educating Students with ASD in General Education Classes: Fostering Academic Learning**

**Date:** April 11, 2007

**Time:** 4:00 pm - 6:00 pm

**Presenter:** Cheryl M. Jorgensen, Ph.D.

**Educating Students with ASD in General Education Classes: Fostering Communication**

**Date:** May 7, 2007

**Time:** 4:00 pm - 6:00 pm

**Presenter:** Rae Sonnenmeier, Ph.D., CCC-SLP

**PECS & Augmentative Communication**

**Date:** March 14 & June 13, 2007

**Time:** 4:00 pm - 6:00 pm

**Presenter:** Michael McSheehan

### **LIFE AS A PARAPROFESSIONAL**

*Strategies for Working with Students with Challenging Behaviors*

**Description:** Join Cathy Apfel and other paraprofessional colleagues for an in-depth examination of Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) with an emphasis on classroom-based approaches designed to enhance the learning and emotional well being of stu-

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dents. In this, highly inter-active session you will learn to promote responsible student behavior.

**Workshop Instructor:** Cathy Apfel

**Time:** 9:00 am - 3:00 pm

**Registration Fee:** \$90

**Dates and Locations:**

March 15, 2007 - Highlander Inn, Manchester, NH

April 5, 2007 - Common Man, Plymouth, NH

May 3, 2007 - Highlander Inn, Manchester, NH

**WHOSE DECISION IS IT ANYWAY?** *Training on Legal Issues for those Who Work with Seniors*

**Description:** When can and can't a person legally make decisions about his or her own affairs? As people age, concerns can arise about some individuals' ability to make their own decisions. This workshop will help those who work with seniors to understand the rules and laws around decision making. Participants will be able to describe who can, and cannot, make their own decisions as well as the legal documents that are required to give others decision making authority. The discussion will include informed decisions and competency issues using case examples.

**Presenter:** Mary McGuire, Esquire

**Registration Fee:** \$12

**Dates and Locations:**

Thursday, March 29, 2007 - E.F. Lane Hotel,

Keene, NH 8:00 am - 12:00 pm

*Whose Decision is it Anyway?* has been approved by the NH Chapter NASW for three (3) Category I Continuing Education Credits in Ethics for social workers.

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## **EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES OFF CAMPUS**

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### **MDSC OPENS POSITION FOR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

The Massachusetts Down Syndrome Congress (MDSC), a nonprofit organization has an opening for Executive Director. The MDSC, based in the Boston area, is committed to strengthening the information, networking opportunities, and advocacy on Down syndrome for parents, educators, people with Down syndrome, health care professionals, and the community-at-large in Massachusetts.

### **Position**

In order to accomplish the goal of reaching more people with expanded services, the Board of Directors has unanimously agreed to hire an Executive Director for the first time. Reporting to the Board, the Executive Director will be responsible for working with the volunteer leadership to meet short-term and long-range fundraising, organizational, and programmatic goals; for developing and implementing statewide strategies, partnerships and procedures for accomplishing those goals and objectives; for ensuring that the organization has individual, state and federal financial resources that sustain and allow for the deepening of its impact. Initially, the Executive Director will be based in a home office; however, he/she will work with Board to secure an appropriate office location in a timely manner.

Specific responsibilities include:

**Strategic Leadership** — Work closely with the Board of Directors in implementing, tracking and updating the strategic development plan; develop and implement a strategic communications plan to continually inform MDSC's constituencies; develop plans and recommendations to ensure that the MDSC membership roster is continually expanding, particularly reaching the diverse communities in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

**Operational Management** — Develop, present and implement an operational plan that provides for the following: management directives for all fiscal and budgeting activities; prompt replies to inquiries from parents, educators, professionals, and community; provide oversight and an annual review to all other persons on the management team, including the First Call Coordinator and one additional program manager (to be hired by the Executive Director); organize and effectively manage MDSC events including but not limited to the following: Annual Conference; Annual Buddy Walk; Educators' Forum; MDSC-Bruins Alumni Hockey Game; Annual Holiday Appeal; Young Adults' Social; Literary Book Drive; Newsletter; Annual Family Picnic; Parents' First Call Program.

**Fundraising and Partnerships** — Act as a passionate advocate for the organization and as a liaison to national Down syndrome organizations. Work with the Board, staff, and volunteers to develop new partnerships and enhance MDSC's visibility. Together with the Board, raise MDSC's profile by establishing and maintaining close relationships with state legislators, appropriate agencies, commissions, committees and media outlets to address issues affecting the MDSC membership. Together with

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