



THE BEACON



UMASS
AMHERST

SCHOOL OF EDUCATION Educators for Excellence and Equity

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FACULTY/STAFF/STUDENT ACTIVITIES, HONORS, AND AWARDS

ATTENTION FACULTY

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SPECIAL FACULTY SENATE MEETING will be held, Thursday, May 3, 2007, 1:30 p.m. in THOMPSON HALL, ROOM 102. The guest speaker will be **STEPHEN P. TOCCO**, Chairman of the Board OF Trustees. Questions and discussion to follow.



ATTENTION: MAY, 2007 DEGREE CANDIDATES

The next degree-granting period will be May, 2007. Listed below are deadline dates to apply for graduation for M.Ed., C.A.G.S., Ed.D. and Ph.D. candidates who will have completed requirements for a May, 2007 degree.

M.Ed. and C.A.G.S. Candidates

Degree Eligibility forms must be completed and returned to Linda Guthrie in the Graduate Program Office, 123 Furcolo, no later than April 23rd, 2007. This is to allow time for processing and obtaining the necessary signatures of the Linda Griffin, Graduate Program Director and Dean Christine McCormick.

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SCHOOL OF EDUCATION JOB FAIR



Prospective K-12 school professionals from UMass Amherst, as well as, from the 5 College Network are invited to the School of Education Job Fair to be held on Wednesday, April 25 from 3:00 pm to 5:30 pm in the UMass Amherst Student Union Ballroom. (Handicap access available.)

Lists of school districts sending recruiters and their expected vacancies will be posted at: www.umass.edu/education in April.

For further information or questions, contact: **Eric Carpenter**, teo@educ.umass.edu

BEACON DEADLINE: Please submit *Beacon* announcements to: **Room 123A Furcolo Hall or to lascell@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.

(Activities and Awards continued from page 1)

The Eligibility form must be accompanied by the School of Education Completed Program of Study form (Master's Form M-2 or CAGS Form C-2) . Your advisor must sign the School of Ed form, but **not** the Eligibility form.

Forms can be downloaded from the School of Education home page: www.umass.edu/education
 . Academics
 . Advising Guidelines

Please note that the Eligibility form is 2 pages.

Ed.D. and Ph.D. Candidates:

The Doctoral Degree Eligibility form must be submitted to Linda Guthrie in Room 123 Furcolo,

along with the D-9 form (Result of Final Oral Examination) no later than April 23rd, 2007. The Eligibility form is sent to each student by the Degree Requirements Office (534 Goodell) after the defense date is scheduled (Form D-8). Linda will submit this form to the Degree Requirements Office after it is signed.

Two copies of the dissertation signature page must be signed by Christine B. McCormick, Dean of the School of Education. **Students should submit their signature pages to Linda by April 23rd, and she will obtain the Dean's signature.** She will then return these pages to the student for inclusion with the dissertation.

Dissertation copies, fees and materials must be submitted to the Office of Degree Requirements (Room 534 Goodell) by 5:00 p.m., April 30th, 2007.

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NCATE - Standard 4: Diversity

Supporting Explanation:

America's classrooms are becoming increasingly diverse; more than one-third of the students in P-12 classrooms are from minority groups. The families of an increasing number of students are immigrants, many with native languages other than English and from diverse religious backgrounds. Growing numbers of students are classified as having disabilities. At the same time, minority teachers are less than 15 percent of the teaching force. As a result, most students do not have the opportunity to benefit from a diverse teaching force. Teacher candidates need to develop proficiencies for working with students from diverse backgrounds and with exceptionalities to ensure that all students have the opportunity to learn. Regardless of whether they live in areas with great diversity, candidates must develop knowledge of diversity in the United States and the world, dispositions that respect and value differences, and skills for working in diverse settings.

One of the goals of this standard is the development of educators who can help all students learn and who can teach from multicultural and global perspectives that draw on the histories, experiences, and representations of students from diverse cultural backgrounds. Therefore, the unit provides opportunities for candidates to understand the role of diversity and equity in the teaching and learning process. Coursework, field experiences, and clinical practice are designed to help candidates understand the influence of culture on education and acquire the ability to develop meaningful learning experiences for all students. Candidates learn about exceptionalities and inclusion as well as gender differences and their impact on learning. Proficiencies, including those related to dispositions and diversity, are drawn from the standards of the profession, state, and institution; they are clear to candidates and are assessed as part of the unit's performance assessment system.

Field experiences and clinical practice support the development of educators who can apply their knowledge of diversity, including exceptionalities, to work in schools with all students. They provide opportunities for candidates to reflect on their observations and practices in schools and communities with students and families from diverse ethnic, racial, and socioeconomic groups. Clinical faculty design learning experiences for candidates in field experiences and clinical practice to help candidates process diversity concepts and provide feedback to candidates about their performance.

A cohort of candidates and faculty from diverse groups informs the unit's curriculum, pedagogy, and format in culturally meaningful ways. Diversity in education programs assists candidates in addressing teaching and learning from multiple perspectives and different life experiences. It provides for different voices in the professional development and work of the education profession. It allows a greater range of backgrounds and experiences among faculty and candidates to enhance understanding and interaction with colleagues from different backgrounds. In this regard, the unit recruits, admits or hires, and retains candidates and faculty from diverse cultural backgrounds. A plan, which is monitored and revised regularly, may provide guidance in ensuring and maintaining diverse representation.

Candidates have the opportunity to interact with adults, children, and youth from their own and other backgrounds throughout their college careers, and particularly in their professional preparation programs. Candidates, higher education faculty, school faculty, and P-12 students with whom candidates work are males and females with diverse ethnic, racial, language, religious, and socioeconomic backgrounds and histories and from different regions of the country and world. Candidates also have opportunities to work with adults and students with exceptionalities.

ATTENTION: GRADUATE ASSISTANTS

A copy of the School of Education Graduate Assistantship Appointment and Reappointment Policies and Procedures, revised as of February 2007, is attached to this week's Beacon and is available at the Provost Office at <http://www.umass.edu/provost/appoint/index.html>.

SPRING 07 ASSISTANTSHIPS AVAILABLE (by department)

Please note: All available positions are contingent upon funding.

Teacher Education and Curriculum Studies

Research Assistantship—Children's Literature

One half-time (10 hrs. per week) research assistantship is available starting Summer, 2007

Responsibilities include: assisting in research for the writing of a book for a professor in the School of Education; engage in research in Children's Literature.

Qualifications include: Knowledge of Refworks and/or End Notes a plus. Excellent writing and communication skills.

Work-study eligible students only.

To apply please contact **Dr. Masha K. Rudman**, Room 224B, Furcolo Hall (545-1116) or email: rudman@educ.umass.edu

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##### **TEACHING ASSISTANTSHIPS**

Part time assistantships (10-20 hours per week) are available for Fall 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, in particular as a former TA, would be an asset.

To apply, please contact **Nola Stephen**, 16 Furcolo Hall, at [nola@educ.umass.edu](mailto:nola@educ.umass.edu) or 413-545-1186. (Please include a copy of your resume plus a cover letter of application. Also, please include your telephone number with your contact information.)

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No positions available this week in the following:

Dean's Office

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

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Educator Licensure Office

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

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Office of Academic Affairs

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#### **School of Education Business Office**

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## **FORMATION OF DISSERTATION COMMITTEE**

**KAI YU** Proposed Dissertation Title: "Exorcizing the Haunting Specter of Meritocracy: A Qualitative Research on the Implementation of Inclusive Education in Beijing." Statement of the Problem: The problem this study addresses is the gap between tracking--grouping students by ability, a practice that stems, in part, from a prevailing meritocratic ideology--and inclusive education--grouping students heterogeneously, a practice that the central government has adopted as official policy. The goals of this study are to (1) discover attitudes, strategies, tactics, and other behavior (embraced or engaged in by school principals, teachers, and other actors) that support and inhibit the government's policy of dismantling the tracking structure, and (2) to explore their causes and consequences.

**Chairperson: Dr. Jeffrey Eiseman.**



## **ANNOUNCEMENT OF FINAL ORAL DEFENSE**

### **CORRECTION:**

**JEHANN EL-BISI** April 25, 2007, 11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m., Room 21B, Furcolo Hall. "Ms. Cowhey! I have a Text to World Connection!" - Gabriella, 1st Grade: Critical Intertextuality in a Multicultural 1st Grade Classroom.

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



## **ANNOUNCEMENT OF FINAL ORAL EXAMINATION**

**AARON M. KUNTZ** May 23, 2007, 10:00 a.m., Room 151, Hills South. "Disciplinary Practices and Faculty Activism: Conceptions of Faculty Work."

**Chairperson: Dr. Joseph B. Berger.**

"It is time for us to stand and cheer for the doer, the achiever, the one who recognizes the challenge and does something about it."

- Vince Lombardi

Best known as the coach for the Packers, Lombardi was voted Coach of the Century by ESPN for his humor and inspirational quotes that "still resound in locker rooms around the world."

Resource: <http://www.vincelombardi.com/about/bio.htm>

## UPCOMING CONFERENCES/ WORKSHOPS

### NEERO CONFERENCE

The 2007 NEERO Conference will be held at the Sheraton Harborside Hotel & Conference Center in historic Portsmouth, New Hampshire from April 25 through April 27. The keynote address will be given by Henry Braun.

Many UMass Amherst faculty and graduate students will be presenting throughout the conference.

Visit <http://faculty.education.uconn.edu/edlr/ccobb/neero/> to register.



### NORTHEASTERN EDUCATIONAL RESEARCH ASSOCIATION CONFERENCE

The Call for Papers for the 2007/38<sup>th</sup> Annual Northeastern Educational Research Association (NERA) conference is now available online at: <http://www.nera-education.org/conference07.html>. Proposal submissions for individual papers, symposium sessions, and posters are due **June 1, 2007!**

This year's conference will be held October 17-19, 2007, and will be in a new location: the Hartford Marriott Rocky Hill in Rocky Hill, Connecticut. The conference theme is *Making Differences through Educational Research: Bridging Research and Practice*, and will feature keynote speakers Dr. Wayne Camara of the College Board and Dr. Cora Marrett of the National Science Foundation. In addition, Robert Gable of Johnson and Wales University will offer a conference pre-session on Program Evaluation and Hariharan Swaminathan and Jane Rogers of the University of Connecticut will present a pre-session focusing on Item Response Theory.



### NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR MULTICULTURAL EDUCATION (NAME) CONFERENCE

The brochure for the New England NAME conference is now available: <http://www.nameorg.org/conferences/New%20England/Oct11NECME2007.pdf>

As you will see, UMass current and former students are well represented among the presenters!



## **GLOBAL HORIZONS SPRING 2007 WORKSHOPS**

The workshops are not only free for K-12 teachers but we now offer a \$20 stipend to participants to cover costs of travel and time. Lunch is included. 10 PDPs available per day.

**April 7th – The Enduring Legacy of Ancient China: Making China come alive in the classroom:** Designed by Primary Source, this workshop will include a presentation on traditional China and its modern relevance. Participants will learn how to teach about China with primary sources (such as the sayings of Confucius) and make cross-cultural connections.

**April 14th -Tools for Coaching and Mentoring International Students:** This workshop will enhance the abilities of participants to coach and mentor international students in their classrooms. Role plays and group discussion will be used to explore the spectrum of opportunities available to and challenges faced by diverse student populations.

**April 15th – Cross-Cultural Communication in Multicultural Classrooms:** This workshop is designed to promote the sharing and appreciation of different cultures, countries, and people within diverse classrooms. Participants will develop skills of intercultural communication and understanding both across and within nations around the world.

Please note that the workshops will feature lesson plans, classroom resources, or teaching aids on the various topics that can be used as a supplement to teachers' curricula.

The workshops will take place from 9am to approximately 3pm at 275 Hills South at UMass.

For more information or to register, please contact Karen Binger, Global Horizons at [kbinger@educ.umass.edu](mailto:kbinger@educ.umass.edu) or 1-413-687-5904.



## **RESEARCH ON FAMILIES LECTURE**

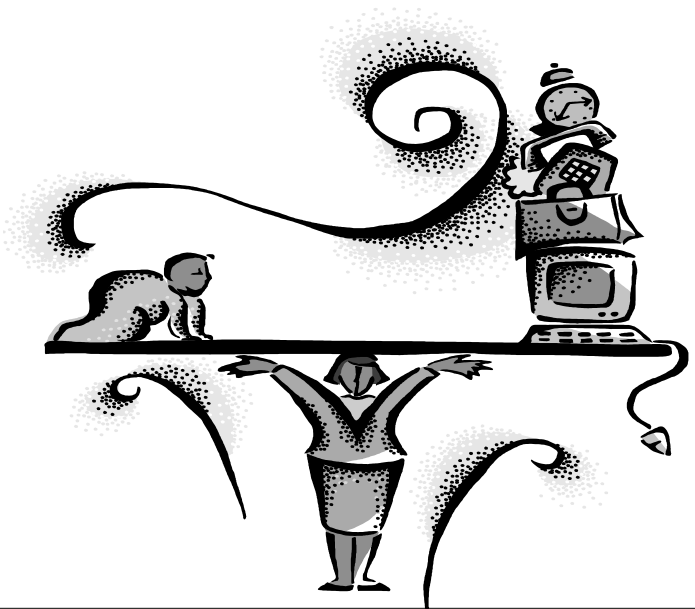
UMass Amherst Center for Research on Families welcomes renowned scholar and author, ANN C. CROUTER of the College of Health and Human Development and

Social Science Research Institute at Pennsylvania State University. Her talk, "The long arm of the job: Implications for families", will be given on Thursday, April 12<sup>th</sup>, 2007, at 4:00 p.m., in 620 Thompson Hall at University of Massachusetts Amherst.

*The lecture is free and open to all.*

Ann C. Crouter is one of the nation's leading scholars on issues of work and family. Her research has focused on the connections between parents' work conditions, family dynamics, and the development of children and adolescents. She has explored these issues with her long-time collaborator, Susan McHale, in the context of three longitudinal research studies focused on dual-earner families, all funded by the National Institute for Child Health and Human Development (NICHD). She currently collaborates on research to examine similar themes in ethnic minority families, as well as a large investigation of the work and family circumstances of low-income, rural parents, part of an NICHD-funded program project conducted by researchers at the University of North Carolina and Penn State. Most recently, with support from the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation and NICHD, Crouter is co-directing a set of inter-related studies that closely examine the work-family interface for managers and employees in the hotel industry. These studies combine surveys, daily diaries, and the collection of biomarker data to look closely at the implications of work stress in this exciting but challenging sector of the service economy. Crouter co-organizes, with sociologist Alan Booth, Penn State's National Symposium on the Family, an annual conference and edited book series supported by a host of Penn State organizations and by NICHD. She serves on the editorial board of Journal of Marriage and the Family and is im-

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mediate past-chair of the Board of Directors of the Christian Children's Fund (CCF), a non-profit, non-denominational NGO providing education, nutrition, and health services to children and families in need around the world via community development projects. Dr. Crouter is Professor of Human Development at Pennsylvania State University and directs Penn State's Social Science Research Institute and Children, Youth, and Families Consortium. In June, she will become the next Dean of the College of Health and Human Development.

Ann Crouter's presentation is part of CRF's *Tay Gavin Erickson Lecture Series*, a forum which brings nationally recognized speakers with expertise in family research to campus each year. The lecture series began in 1999 though an endowment established in memory of Tay Gavin Erickson. The speakers provide public lectures, highlighting the importance of research on the family and its implications for public policy. The Center for Research on Families (CRF) at the University of Massachusetts Amherst actively supports and disseminates social and behavioral sciences research on issues relevant to families. For more information go to [www.umass.edu/family](http://www.umass.edu/family) or contact Wendy Varner, 545-3593.

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## **CALL FOR APPLICATIONS/ PROPOSALS**

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### **RESEARCH LEADERSHIP IN ACTION (RLA) GRANTS**

Applications due May 1, 2007 for the Spring 2007 Research Leadership in Action (RLA) grants. The RLA, an internal grant program launched in 2005 by the Vice Provost for Research, is designed to support faculty interested in showcasing leadership in their field of research and scholarly activity. RLA grants support highly visible campus events such as conferences, professional meetings and performances that bring together researchers, industry, government and the public. Awards ranging from \$5,000 to \$25,000 are distributed twice annually, in the spring and fall.

More details, including the RFP, application, past recipients and FAQs are available at:

**<http://www.umass.edu/research/rla/>**

Applications should be submitted to Martha Martin (545-5270). For more information, contact Karen Hayes (545-9586), program administrator.

For other funding opportunities go to:

**<http://www.umass.edu/research/ora/fund.html>**

Karen J. Hayes, Associate Director, Research Liaison and Development (formerly ILED), 70 Butterfield Terrace, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, MA 01003-9242 413.545.2706.



## **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 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](mailto:sabina.foote@unh.edu)**.



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### THIS IS A FIRM DEADLINE!

**IMPORTANT:** If you do not file for graduation by the degree deadline date, you must pay the Program Fee to maintain continuous enrollment until you graduate.



### IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

The **Faculty/Staff Social** is Wednesday, May 16<sup>th</sup>, 3-5p at the University Club. Join us for Hors D'oeuvres and a cash bar! Please RSVP by Monday, May 14<sup>th</sup> to Sahra, 545-2705 or ssantos@educ.umass.edu

The **Graduate Degree Recipient Reception** is on Thursday, May 24<sup>th</sup> 7-9pm in the Massachusetts Room, Mullins Center, we will have Hors D'oeuvres, plenty of desserts and a cash bar. Please RSVP before Wednesday, May 16<sup>th</sup> to Sahra, 545-2705 or ssantos@educ.umass.edu.

The **Graduate Commencement** is Friday, May 25<sup>th</sup>, 2-4pm, Mullins Center with a reception to follow. **Candidates must check in between 12:30 and 1:00 p.m.**, wearing Regalia, at the tent set up to the west of the Mullins Center. Please visit [www.umass.edu/commencement/2007/graduate/](http://www.umass.edu/commencement/2007/graduate/) for details.



### GRANT SCHOLARS PROGRAM NOMINEE

The **William T. Grant Scholars Program** supports promising early career researchers from diverse disciplines. The award is intended to facilitate the professional development of early career scholars who have some demonstrated success in conducting high quality research and are seeking to further develop their skills and research program. Studies from these Scholars contribute to theory and policy/practice for improving the everyday settings of youth.

Candidates are nominated by a supporting institution and must submit five-year research plans that demonstrate creativity, intellectual rigor, and a commitment to continued professional development; are grounded in theory and sound research methods; and provide evidence for appropriate mentoring from senior investigators. Every year, four to six William T. Grant Scholars are selected

*No one can force a person towards permanent and creative learning. They will learn only if they will to. Any other type of learning is temporary and inconsistent with the self, and will disappear as soon as the threat is removed."*

**Abraham Maslow**

Dr. Maslow taught at Brooklyn College and was a crusader for humanistic psychology.

Resource: <http://webspace.ship.edu/cgboer/maslow.html>

and each receives \$350,000 distributed over a five-year period.

Congratulations to **Meg Gebhard** for her nomination to this prestigious award.



### LGBT STUDIES SPEAKER SERIES

**Stephen Miller**, Assistant Professor, Japanese, UMass Amherst  
*"Gender 'Despair-ity': The 'Wounded Woman' in Contemporary Gay Japanese Film and TV"*

Wednesday, May 9, 4:30 pm

**All talks are open to the public and take place at the UMass Amherst Stonewall Center (Crampton Hall, SW)**

Sponsored by the UMass Stonewall Center and the Five Colleges, Inc.

For more information: [stonewall@stuaf.umass.edu](mailto:stonewall@stuaf.umass.edu) or 545-4826



### GUEST SPEAKER AT SOE

Professor Cliff Konold will speak on Wednesday, April, 25, 4-6:30 PM, Room 222, School of Education, Furcolo Building.

Prof. Konold is a Research Professor at UMass's Scientific Reasoning Research Institute. For the past 25 years, he has been researching how people, from Kindergartners to adults, reason about chance and data and applying this research to the design of instruction and educational software. He headed the project team that developed the

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*Love is that which holds us together, and love is also that which liberates us all.*

— Maya Angelou

Maya Angelou is an author, poet, historian, songwriter, playwright, dancer, stage and screen producer, director, performer, singer, civil rights activist and through example, educator.

*(Activities continued from page 7)*

educational data analysis software, TinkerPlots and currently directs the NSF-funded Model Chance project, which is developing probability simulation software and classroom activities for the middle school.

All are welcome. Refreshments will be served.



### **TECS STUDENTS PRESENT AT NCTFL**

Sawsan Abbadi and Ekaterina Ites, LLC doctoral students from the Teacher Education and Curriculum Studies Department, research and teaching contributes to the advancement of the teaching of critical languages, a goal promoted by the National Security Foreign Language Initiative (NSFLI) in January 2006, successfully presented at the annual Northeast Conference on the Teaching of Foreign Languages, held in New York City on April 12-14.

Sawsan Abbadi presented her research entitled, "Learning

Arabic in the U.S. Post-9/11: Ideologies and Identities in Conflict" which focused on teaching Arabic to adult learners, with an emphasis on language programs for specific purposes.



## Commencement 2007

| Day              | Time                    | Event                               | Location                     |
|------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| May 24, Thursday | 7-9pm                   | SOE Degree Recipient Reception      | Massachusetts Rm, Mullins    |
| May 25, Friday   | 2-4pm<br>Seating @ 1:30 | Graduate Commencement               | Mullins Center               |
|                  | 4pm                     | Reception                           | Tent, west-side Mullins Cen- |
| May 26, Saturday | 12:30-2:30pm            | Undergrad Commencement              | McGuirk Alumni Stadium       |
|                  | 2:30-3:30pm             | Receptions for all Schools/Colleges | McGuirk Alumni Stadium       |