



THE BEACON



UMASS
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SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

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NCATE

Standard 3: *Field Experience and Clinical Practice*

UNACCEPTABLE

Field experiences are not linked to the development of proficiencies delineated in professional, state, and institutional standards. Field experiences and clinical practice do not reflect the unit's conceptual framework(s) and do not help candidates develop the competencies delineated in standards. Clinical practice does not provide opportunities to use information technology to support teaching and learning. Clinical practice is not long or intensive enough for candidates to demonstrate their ability to take full responsibility for the roles for which they are preparing.

Criteria for clinical faculty are not known. Clinical faculty do not demonstrate the knowledge and skills expected of accom-

plished school professionals. Clinical faculty do not provide regular and continuing support for student teachers and other interns.

ACCEPTABLE

Field experiences facilitate candidates' development as professional educators by providing opportunities for candidates to observe in schools and other agencies, tutor students, assist teachers or other school personnel, attend school board meetings, and participate in education-related community events prior to clinical practice. Both field experiences and clinical practice reflect the unit's conceptual framework(s) and help candidates continue to develop the content, professional, and pedagogical knowledge, skills, and

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FAQ's for Faculty:

How do I propose a new course?

New courses must be approved by the Department and School Academic Matters Committee. Course proposal packets are available in the department offices. Once completely filled out, return the forms to your Department Chair for processing.

NOTE: Please make sure to use the check list attached to the packet.

Who do I go to for room scheduling?

Sally Dumont in Room 123 Furcolo, (545-0236, sdumont@educ.umass.edu) will coordinate all room scheduling, with the

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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.

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dispositions delineated in standards. Clinical practice allows candidates to use information technology to support teaching and learning. Clinical practice is sufficiently extensive and intensive for candidates to demonstrate proficiencies in the professional roles for which they are preparing.

Criteria for clinical faculty are clear and known to all of the involved parties. Clinical faculty are accomplished school professionals. Clinical faculty provide regular and continuing support for student teachers and other interns through such processes as observation, conferencing, group discussion, email, and the use of other technology.

TARGET

Field experiences allow candidates to apply and reflect on their content, professional, and pedagogical knowledge, skills, and dispositions in a variety of settings with students and adults. Both field experiences and clinical practice extend the unit's conceptual framework(s) into practice through modeling by clinical faculty and well-designed opportunities to learn through doing. During clinical practice, candidate learning is integrated into the school program and into teaching practice. Candidates observe and are observed by others. They interact with teachers, college or university supervisors, and other interns about their practice regularly and continually. They reflect on and can justify their own practice. Candidates are members of instructional teams in the school and are active participants in professional decisions. They are involved in a variety of school-based activities directed at the improvement of teaching and learning, including the use of information technology. Candidates collect data on student learning, analyze them, reflect on their work, and develop strategies for improving learning.

Clinical faculty are accomplished school professionals who are jointly selected by the unit and partnering schools. Clinical faculty are selected and prepared for their roles as mentors and supervisors and demonstrate the skills, knowledge, and dispositions of highly accomplished school professionals.

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

STUDENTS

Kristen French, a doctoral student in the Language, Literacy and Culture concentration was appointed to the **AERA's Graduate Student Council** for 2006-2007. This honor brings recognition to the of Kristen as an academic researcher.

FACULTY

The **Center for Education Policy** has been contracted by the Department of Education in the state of Massachusetts to conduct a **two-stage review of Professional Standards and Indicators for the Principal and Superintendent** roles. In Phase 1, the team (led by **Rebecca Gajda** with assistance from **Matt Militello** and **Sharon Rallis**) will distill the Department of Education's work to date, the leading standards efforts, and the best practices found in the research literature into a single, draft standards/indicators document, consistent with Massachusetts' education reform vision. In this first phase, they will work to synthesize the DOE-provided standards documents and the research base into a single, clear, understandable, and actionable set of standards and indicators. In Phase 2, the CEP team will refine the draft standards and produce measurable, critical indicators for submission to the Board of Education as proposed amendments to the educator preparation and licensure regulations.

Katie McDermott has an article coming out in the ***American Educational Research Journal*** on the Development of Accountability in four states (MA, CT, VT, and NJ).

Cris Smith has been awarded funding (\$1.1 million) from the Nellie Mae Education Foundation for a new project, the **Adult Transition Longitudinal Study (ATLAS)**, which will begin promptly. **Lisa Keller, Steve Sireci, Gretchen Rossman and Jacqi Mosselson** are also part of this project, which is a five-year longitudinal study looking at GED graduates involved in a college transition program.

Benita Barnes has been appointed to the editorial board for the ***National Association of Student Personnel Administrators (NASPA) Journal*** for a period of three years.



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.



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SPRING 07 ASSISTANTSHIPS AVAILABLE (by department)

Please note: All available positions are contingent upon funding.

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**

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Teacher Education and Curriculum Studies

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*(FAQ continued from page 1)*

exception of Room 100 Furcolo which Mary Bell in Room 117, (545-0246, marybell@educ.umass.edu) handles, and Room 151 Hill South which is coordinated by Celia Miller/Robbie Calliham (545-3610, celia@educ.umass.edu or calliham@educ.umass.edu).

#### **I went into SPIRE to make a grade change and the system will not take the change. What do I do?**

After the SPIRE grading due date, change of grade forms (available in your department office) need to be filled out, signed and returned to Sally Dumont in the Associate Dean's Office.

#### **How do I change an approved course?**

For MINOR course changes, see Sally Dumont in Room 123 Furcolo.

MAJOR changes require a "new" course proposal. New Course Proposal packets are available in the department offices. Fill out and return to your Department Chair for processing.

#### **Many of the forms I have filled out require the signature of the "Graduate Program Director". To whom should I be sending the forms?**

The Graduate Program Director is Linda Griffin. If you require her signature, please bring your form to Linda

Guthrie, Room 123 Furcolo.

#### **Do we still require GRE's as an entrance requirement?**

No, GRE's are not required from students applying to the School of Education.

#### **If a student needs to be:**

- **Readmitted**
  - **Have full-time status verified**
  - **Have statute of limitations extended**
  - **Defer loans**
  - **Take a leave of absence**
  - **Have full/part-time status verified for child care**
- Or, transfer credits, what do I do?**

Send an email with your request to Linda Guthrie (lguthrie@educ.umass.edu). It is helpful if you can send the student's full name and SPIRE ID number along with other pertinent information. Linda Guthrie will then process a memo for Linda Griffin's signature as the Graduate Program Director. DO NOT go to the Graduate School directly. They cannot assist you without Linda Griffin's signature. It will only hold up your request.

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# **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

## **SCHOLARSHIPS FOR SOE STUDENTS**

The School of Education Scholarships and Awards Program is pleased to provide the following opportunities for financial assistance. Please be sure to check the scholarship for which you are applying on the application form. Download Application Form for 2007-2008 at:

**[http://www.umass.edu/education/financial\\_aid/main\\_soe.htm](http://www.umass.edu/education/financial_aid/main_soe.htm)**.

**Joseph Burroughs Scholarship** (Anticipated award amount: \$500) Provides scholarship support to a junior or senior in an undergraduate Education major program or Teacher Certification Program, or a Master's Degree candidate enrolled in a service oriented program. Students in good academic standing, with demonstrated financial need, and evidence of strong service experience with children or youth are encouraged to apply.

**Helen Eaton Timson Scholarship** (Anticipated award amount: \$500) Provides scholarship support to an undergraduate or graduate student in the School of Education .

**Early Childhood Education Graduate Student Fund** (Anticipated award amount: \$1,000) Provides funding for graduate students studying young children and their families with preference given to the study of the needs of the gifted and talented. To provide opportunities for graduate students to enhance their academic experience and become involved in outreach.

**Graduate Student Research Scholarship** (Anticipated award amount: \$2,500) Provides scholarship support to recruit highly qualified graduate students. Scholarship includes tuition and fee waiver. Priority will be given to students who are full-time doctoral students.

### **GRADUATE STUDENTS ONLY**

**Grace Norton Carney Scholarship** : (Anticipated award amount: \$10,000) Provides tuition, fees and some associated costs for students pursuing graduate degrees in the School of Education at the University of Massachusetts Amherst. Students must be in good academic standing.

**There is a separate application for this scholarship.** Go to: [http://www.umass.edu/education/financial\\_aid/main\\_soe.htm](http://www.umass.edu/education/financial_aid/main_soe.htm) and scroll down to the Grace Norton Carney Scholarship.

**Joseph W. Keilty Memorial Scholarship** (Anticipated

award amount: \$1000) Provides scholarship support to graduate students formally admitted as degree candidates. Students with a demonstrated financial need, high academic performance, and exceptional promise are encouraged to apply. Must complete FAFSA.

**C. Lynn Vendien Endowed Scholarship** (Anticipated award amount: \$600) Provides scholarship support to graduate students from foreign countries. Preference will be given to students who are affiliated with Physical Education Teacher Education in the Department of Teacher Education and Curriculum Studies.

**C. Lynn Vendien Professional Prize Award** (Anticipated award amount: \$600) This prize will be awarded to a doctoral student who is studying Physical Education Teacher Education in the Department of Teacher Education and Curriculum Studies.

### **BOTH UNDERGRADUATE AND GRADUATE STUDENTS MAY APPLY**

**Janice Camby Endowed Scholarship:** (Anticipated award amount: \$600) Provides scholarship support to a student accepted or enrolled in a teacher preparation program in the School of Education. Students must be from economically disadvantaged areas and in good academic standing. Must complete FAFSA.

**Camby Scholarship** (Anticipated award amount: \$500) Provides scholarship support for a student accepted or enrolled in a teacher preparation program in the School of Education. Students must be from an economically disadvantaged area, in good academic standing. ALANA students are encouraged to apply. Must complete FAFSA.

**Meline Kasparian Scholarship** (Anticipated award amount: \$2,000) Provides support to students are attending or who would like to attend the University of Massachusetts Amherst and who have exhibited a desire to become public school teachers. Applicants must be accepted or currently enrolled in a teacher preparation program.

**Patricia Silver Award:** (Anticipated award amount: \$500) Provides scholarship support to incoming or current students in a teacher licensure program with demonstrated financial need. Preference for students with a learning disability or some other special need and/or who are committed to working with children with special

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needs. Must complete FAFSA.

**Berkshire County Delta Kappa Gamma Society Scholarship** (Anticipated award amount: \$500) Sponsored by an organization of retired teachers in Massachusetts, this scholarship provides support for an undergraduate or graduate student, accepted or enrolled in a Teacher Licensure Program, who is committed to making a significant difference in the lives of young people in the Commonwealth. Awardee/s must be in good academic standing, a permanent resident of Massachusetts, and have need for financial assistance. Must complete FAFSA.



**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).



**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.

**CALL FOR APPLICATIONS/  
PROPOSALS**

**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).



**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.

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*(Applications and Proposals continued from page 5)*

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 Anthropological 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/

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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

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

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 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).



## **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

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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/itcregistration.cfm>. The conference will be held on April 5, 2007 at the Stur-

bridge 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 current 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/itcregistration.cfm>.

Questions? Contact Mark Schlesinger, Associate VP for Academic Technology [m Schlesinger@umassp.edu](mailto:m Schlesinger@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/>

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### **THE INSTITUTE ON DISABILITY AT THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW HAMPSHIRE**

The Institute on Disability presents the 2007 Spring Symposium, **Raising Expectations: Including All Children in Education** on Tuesday, March 27, 2007 at Center of New Hampshire Radisson Hotel, Manchester, NH. All workshops are from 9 am to 3 pm. \*Registration begins at 8:30 am.

#### **Registration Fee: \$99**

\* Fee includes lunch and workshop materials

\* This workshop qualifies for Staff Development Credits

#### **Presented Workshops:**

The Classroom Assistant's Role in General Education Classrooms

Enlarge Your "Toolbox!" Literacy Instruction for Students with Disabilities

Asperger Syndrome and Social Inclusion

Educating Students with Autism in General Education Classrooms: Evidence-Based and Promising Practices

For more information go to:

<http://iod.unh.edu/spring%20symposium%2007%20brochure%20a.pdf>

## **EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES OFF CAMPUS**

### **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 the Board, continue to cultivate and expand the organization's current donor base and fundraising activities.

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