SPOTLIGHT ON RESEARCH

Announcements

- On March 30, Laura Valdèvivez, TECS, gave an interview on New England Public Radio for the program “Tertulia,” on federal education reform, and discussed the research she has conducted with local schools, as well as her research with teachers serving linguistically and culturally diverse communities.

- The Council for Exceptional Children (CEC) Division for Research announced the recipients of its 2014 Student Research Awards. Recipients were recognized on April 11, 2014 at the DR Business Meeting and Reception held during the 2014 CEC Convention and Expo in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Alexandra Lauterbach, SD, received the Qualitative Design award for her dissertation, entitled How Expert Secondary Special Education Teachers Conceptualize Teaching Literacy in their Content Area to Students with Learning Disabilities.

- Under the leadership of Stephen G. Sireci, EPRA, 10 REMP graduate students and three faculty members, Lisa Keller, Craig Wells, and Ronald K. Hambleton, all EPRA, made a trip to the Educational Testing Service (ETS) in Princeton, New Jersey on March 20 and 21. The main purpose of the trip was for five students, Josh Marland, Molly Faulkner-Bond, Xi Wang, Louise Bahry, and Fernanda Gandara, all Ed.D. candidates, to present research carried out under an ETS-UMass Amherst contract. The trip included an opportunity for the UMass Amherst students to do important job networking with ETS staffs, and to see the facilities of one of the largest assessment agencies in the world.

- Ezekiel Kimball, EPRA, was selected by NASPA’s Faculty Fellows to present at a forum for emerging scholars about a recently received NASPA Region I’s Research Grant. The grant funds a qualitative study of how students with disabilities choose majors and develop purpose during their college years. It is part of project that includes Ryan Wells, EPRA, Alexandra Lauterbach, SD, and a number of graduate students that are investigating the postsecondary experiences of students with disabilities related to access, choice, and student success.

Publications


Funding Opportunities

- The New England Research Center for Higher Education has announced a call for nominations for the Lynton Award for Early Career Faculty. The award emphasizes community-based scholarly work across faculty roles. The deadline is May 16. For additional information, please visit http://nerche.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=1114&Itemid=582.

- The Arthur Vining Davis Foundation has announced a request for proposals targeting professional development of high school teachers and offering best-in-class training to address a significant issue(s) facing teachers. The deadline is rolling, and awards will range from $25,000 to $200,000. For additional information, please contact Linda Sopp at lsopp@admin.umass.edu.

- The Entertainment Software Association Foundation is seeking proposals that use innovative technology and/or computer and video games to positively shape the lives of youth in the United States. The deadline is May 28, and awards will be up to $50,000. For additional information, please visit http://www.esafoundation.org/application.asp.
Funding Opportunities

- The Institute of Education Sciences has released Fiscal 2015 funding announcements for grant competitions in education research:
  - Education Research Grants through the National Center for Education Research
  - Special Education Research Grants through the National Center for Special Education Research.
For details, please visit http://ies.ed.gov/funding/15rfas.asp.

Previous Conference Presentations

- The following faculty recently presented at the American Educational Research Association (AERA) conference in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania April 3-4:

Previous Conference Presentations

- Several SD members and affiliates recently presented at the CEC conference in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania April 9-12:
  - Mary Lynn Boscardin, Joyce Butler, Anne Louise Thompson, Ed.D. candidate, John Provost, North Brookfield Schools, and Jean Crockett, University of Florida, presented at the Program Chair Featured Session: “Contemporary Challenges for the Leadership of Special Education.”
  - Alexandra Lauterbach and others presented, “Using Webinars to Improve the Induction of Beginning Special Education Teachers.”
  - Jason Travers and others presented, “What to Do When No Evidence-Based Practices Meet Your Needs.”
  - Ezekiel Kimball, EPRA, presented, “Using the Extended Case Method to Capture Insights from the Field: Reconciling the Knowledge of Scholars and Practitioners,” at the 2014 NASPA Student Affairs Administrators in Higher Education Conference on March 14 in Baltimore, Maryland.

Corrections

- In the March Spotlight on Research, faculty member Sara Whitcomb’s name was misspelled.

If you would like to submit information to be included in the next College of Education Spotlight on Research, please email educore@educ.umass.edu no later than Friday May 10, 2014.