New Grants

- The Center for International Education (CIE) in conjunction with Family Health International (FHI) 360, Purdue University, Afghan Holding Group, and Altai Consulting, have been awarded a 5-year, $95 million education development project by United States Agency for International Development (USAID). The Afghanistan University Support and Workforce Development Program (AUSWDP) will provide continued support for tertiary education in Afghanistan and will build upon successes of CIE’s previous work with the Afghanistan Higher Education Project (HEP) for the past eight years. CIE’s contributions are led by David Evans, EPRA, and Associate Dean for Research and Engagement Joseph Berger as Principal Investigators (PIs) who will manage a sub-award of $23 million and will provide leadership for all technical aspects of the entire project.

- April Zenisky, EPRA, has been awarded a $156,868, 2-year sub-contract as part of a $386,000 award from the National Science Foundation to the UMass Amherst Center for Educational Software Development. The award will work to leverage the capacity in comparative assessment within chemistry as represented by the traditional, norm-referenced tests produced by the American Chemical Examinations Institute by devising tools that assist faculty in characterizing student learning through comparisons of performance based on both their own test items and ACS Exam test information.

Proposals Submitted YTD

- Since the start of the Fiscal Year, the following proposals have been submitted by the College of Education:
  - EPRA: (10)
  - TECS: (9)
  - SD: (8)

Publications


Funding Opportunities

- The University of Massachusetts President’s Office is currently soliciting applications for the 2014 Initiatives Funds, as well as the UMCTTS Life Sciences Moment Fund Program. Funding opportunities include: President’s Science & Technology (S&T) Fund, President’s Creative Economy (CE) Fund, and the UMCCTS Life Sciences Moment Fund. All College of Education concept papers and letters of intent must be submitted to educore@educ.umass.edu no later than Friday, February 21 at 5pm. For additional information, please visit http://www.umass.edu/research/internal-funding-opportunities or e-mail Loren Walker at loren@research.umass.edu.
- The Pioneer Valley Educational Readiness Center (PERC) invites proposals for regional professional development, research, and/or convening projects with a goal of improving teaching quality in Franklin, Hampshire, and Hampden counties. For details, please contact Andy Churchill at achurchill@educ.umass.edu. Please submit all proposals to educore@educ.umass.edu by January 17 at 5pm.
Previous Conference Presentations

- Theresa Austin, TECS, gave several presentations on literacy and language learning:
  - “Multimodality and Multiliteracies in Preparing Teachers for High School Math and Science,” Massachusetts Association of Colleges for Teacher Education on October 25.
  - “‘They Just Don’t Get It’: Struggling to Educate Bilingual Learners in an ‘English Only’ Context,” International Society for Literature Studies on June 14 in Puerto Rico.
  - With Mare-Christine Polizzi, TECS, and Maria José Botelho, TECS: “Multiliteracies for Academic Content Learning: Redesigning Resources and Constructing Knowledge,” Massachusetts Association of Teachers of Speakers of Other Languages on March 25.

Upcoming Conference Presentations

- Several LLC community members and one EPRA doctoral student will participate in the upcoming 35th Annual Ethnography in Education Research Forum at the University of Pennsylvania in late February:
  - 3 Ed.D. candidates will participate in the panel, “Multimodal Teaching and Learning: Complexities and Dynamism in Three Communities”:
    - Helen-Ann Ireland, EPRA, will present, “Multimodal Math Lessons: Situated and Social in the Classroom.”
    - Simone Gugliotta, TECS, will present, “Researching the Effects of Playful Collaborative Learning in a Lusophone Heritage Language Community.”
    - Zil Ahmad, TECS, will present, “The Sri Lankan Education Experience in the United States.”
  - 4 Ed.D. candidates in TECS will participate in the panel, “Imagining Pedagogical Possibilities in the Teaching and Learning of Literacies and Languages in Colleges in the Northeast U.S.A.”:
    - Brenda Abbott will present, “First Generation College Students Restoring Literacy Experiences through Literacy Narratives.”
    - Marsha Liaw will present, “Negotiating and Becoming a Literacy Teacher.”
    - Shinji Kawamitsu will present, “Literacy Development of Japanese Language Learners: Critical Language Awareness and Discourse-Community.”
    - Yuko Takahashi will present, “Learning Japanese as Critical Literacies.”
  - Maria José Botelho, TECS, and Margaret Felis, Ed.D candidate, TECS, will contribute to this research forum conversation with their collaborative inquiry on, “Teaching Ethnographically: Qualitative Inquiry as Pre-Service Teacher Education.”

Upcoming Conference Presentations