**Funding Opportunities**

- The Nellie Mae Education Foundation is seeking three intermediaries to increase public awareness, understanding, support and demand for student-centered learning throughout New England. To review the full RFP for the scope of work, expectations, and how to apply, please visit [http://www.nmefoundation.org/grants](http://www.nmefoundation.org/grants).

- The Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation in conjunction with the Grand Challenges family of grant programs are soliciting applications for “rewarding innovative ideas.” For more information, please visit [http://www.grandchallenges.org/explorations/Pages/introduction.aspx](http://www.grandchallenges.org/explorations/Pages/introduction.aspx) or contact Linda Sopp at lsopp@admin.umass.edu.

- The University’s Corporate and Foundation Relations Department is available to assist in applying for non-governmental institutional grant opportunities at the $25,000 level or greater. For questions and referrals, please contact Linda Sopp at lsopp@admin.umass.edu.

**Publications**


**Previous Conference Presentations**

- Ezekiel Kimball, EPRA, and Andrew Ryder, UNC Wilmington: “The Past as a Tool for Reflexive Practice: Why History Matters to Student Affairs Professionals,” at the NASPA Conference in Baltimore, Maryland, March 15.

- On March 8, the following TECS faculty and students presented their research at the Second International Conference on National Heritage Languages at UCLA’s Resource Center in Los Angeles, California:

**Announcements**

- Congratulations to David R. Evans, EPRA, who was named Honorary Fellow of the Comparative and International Education Society in recognition of his outstanding contribution to the field of comparative and international education.

- Congratulations to the following faculty who were chosen by UMass Civic Engagement and Service Learning as recipients of CESL Faculty Fellowships to develop new and existing courses to integrate community engagement as a core compartment of the course: Benita Barnes, EPRA, UC 115: Embracing Diversity; Florence Sullivan, TECS, EDUC 594LT: Learning and Teaching with Computational Media; Sara Whitcomb, SD, EDUC 698RR: Advanced Practicum in School Psychology; Marie Christine Polizzi, TECS, EDUC 533: Methods and Practices of Teaching ESL/EFL and EDUC 698AP: LLLC-AP Advanced Practitioners Practicum; and Robert Maloy, TECS, and Ruth-Ellen Verock-O’Laughlin, TECS, EDUC 613/EDUC 514: New Developments in History and Political Science.


**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 April 11, 2014.**
Previous Conference Presentations

- SD Continued:
  - Catherine Ross, Ph.D. candidate: “Assessing the Social Validity of AIMSweb’s Curriculum Based Measurement Software.”
  - Shannon Barry, Ph.D. candidate, and Sara Whitcomb: “Developing a Universal Suicide Prevention Program for High Schools.”
  - Sarah Whitcomb and Jessica Fede, SD alumna: “Cognitive Behavioral Therapy Strategies for Anxiety in School.”
  - Kristine Zytka, CAGS candidate: “Promoting Mental Health Through Physical Activity.”
  - Sheera Hefer, Ph.D. candidate, Elizabeth Barker, Ph.D. candidate, and Sarah Whitcomb: “Office Discipline Referral Data Entry Barriers.”
  - Sara Whitcomb, Abbey Nachman, Ph.D. candidate, and Sheera Hefer, Ph.D. candidate: “Understanding Implementation Science Related to Social-Emotional Learning.”

Upcoming Conference Presentations

- Members of the College of Education’s National Science Foundation project, Supporting STEM Teaching and Learning through Communities (S2TLC), have been invited to present at the National Science Teachers Association (NSTA) conference in Boston in April and at the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics in New Orleans, Louisiana:
  - Kathleen Davis and teaching fellows from area schools, Angie Ruggeri, Yvonne Hilyard, Keith Wright, and Uma Palreddy: “Coming to See What’s Possible: Linking STEM Curricula to the Cultural Communities of Schools.”
  - Barbara Schulze, Mahar Regional High School, and Jesse Trzpitt, Hopewell High School, Huntsville, North Carolina: “From Lemons to Activity Series.”
  - Andrew Bowersox, Greenfield High School: “Teaching Content Standards: A Thematic Approach.”
  - Sandra Madden: “Supporting STEM Teaching and Learning through Communities.”
  - Jeremiah Barrett, Peck Full Service Community School: “Teaching Reading Comprehension in Math Using Read Aloud—Think Aloud.”
  - Linda Singer and Annie Parker of Springfield Public Day Middle School: “Patterns and Operations: Teaching Algebra to Special Populations.”
  - Ezekiel Kimball, EPRA, and Yedalis Ruiz, Ed.D. candidate, EPRA: “The Problem of Validity in Research on Student Development,” at the ACPA College Student Educators International Conference on April 1, in Indianapolis, Indiana.
Within the Department of Educational Policy, Research and Administration:
- Fen Fan, Ed.D. candidate, and Jennifer Randall: "Investigating the Effects of Social Contexts and Students' Perceptions on Math Achievement in Singapore and USA."
- Fernanda Gándara, Ed.D. candidate, and Jennifer Randall: "Investigating the Relationship Between School-Level Accountability and Science Achievement Across Four Countries: Australia, Korea, Portugal, and the United States."
- Fernanda Gándara, Ed.D. candidate: "Evidence-Centered Design in Large-Scale Assessments of English Language Learners."
- Ronald Hambleton: "Applying IRT Models to Assessment in Higher Education."
- Joshua Marland, Ed.D. candidate: "Age Matters: Grouping Approaches for Detecting Differential Item Functioning Due to Age."
- Minjeong Shin, Ed.D. candidate, Craig Wells, and Jennifer Randall: "Model Selection, Fit, and The Invariance Property in IRT."
- April Zenisky: "Applying Lessons Learned in Educational Score Reporting to Credentialing." April Zenisky and Ronald Hambleton: "New Developments with Score Reporting."

Within the Department of Teacher Education and Curriculum Studies:
- Keisha L. Green will chair two symposiums and present, "Civic Counterstories for Critical Times: Civic Activism Among Youth in the Global South."