ATTENTION:  ALL GRADUATE STUDENTS

BE SURE TO DOWNLOAD THE MASTER’S, CAGS OR DOCTORAL ADVISING GUIDELINES FROM THE SCHOOL OF EDUCATION WEBSITE:

http://www.umass.edu/education/academics/main_advising.htm

These forms and guidelines are required by your graduate program.

2007 W-2’S ARE NOW AVAILABLE

W-2 forms must be picked up and signed for in person by Tuesday, January 29th.

Please go to:

125 Furcolo Hall – If your office/mailbox is located in Furcolo Hall or if you pick up your pay stub or check in this building.

161 Hills South – If your office/mailbox is located in Hills South/Hills North or if you pick up your pay stub or check in this building.

All forms not picked up by January 29th will be mailed.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>INSIDE THIS ISSUE:</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>IMPORTANT GRADUATE STUDENT NOTICES</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FACULTY/STAFF/STUDENT NEWS, ACTIVITIES, HONORS, AND AWARDS</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FALL 07 ASSISTANTSHIPS</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UPCOMING CONFERENCES/WORKSHOPS</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CALL FOR PROPOSALS</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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.
reading, speaking and listening skills as well as on grammatical mastery and vocabulary expansion. Emphasis is placed on critical inquiry and cross-cultural investigation.

Graduate students should be advised that enrollment is on a space available basis. The English as a Second Language Program is located at 308B Bartlett Hall. For more information, call 545-4210, email esl@acad.umass.edu, or visit their website at http://www.umass.edu/esl/.

What do I do in case of an emergency?
If there is a life-threatening medical emergency, call 911 right away. Otherwise, call University Health Services (UHS), 577-5000, or come to Urgent Care, which is open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

If there is a mental health crisis, counselors are available 24/7. Call Mental Health Services, 545-2337 weekdays, 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.; after hours, call UHS or come to Urgent Care.

If you are sexually assaulted, the Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner (SANE) program UHS is a designated SANE site for Western Massachusetts. If you have been assaulted, come to Urgent Care as soon as possible; tell the staff you need to see a SANE.

Where do I go if I am depressed or feel stressed?
Counseling and Assessment Services (CAS) provides a broad spectrum of clinical and skills-related services to all students at the University. Services are available to students in the areas of psychological counseling and therapy, diagnostic assessment, career counseling, biofeedback, and stress management. In addition, workshops on motivation, improving academic achievement, career concerns, time management, and stress reduction are scheduled each semester. All students who might benefit from these services should either call 545-0333 or come to Room 123 Berkshire House to make an appointment for intake services, available Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Students with questions regarding CAS services are encouraged to visit or call.

CAS also provides academic support services to students with documented psychological disabilities. Calls concerning this should be made to 577-2457.

What support organizations exist on campus for graduate students?
Graduate Student Organizations are the lifeblood of GSS; they provide a social, political, and cultural context for graduate students. Every student is encouraged to either join an existing GSO or start your own. You can find a listing of the existing GSOs at http://umassgss.org/student-organizations.html

(Continued on page 9)
### SPRING 08 ASSISTANTSHIPS AVAILABLE

All positions contingent on funding.

#### TEACHER EDUCATION AND CURRICULUM STUDIES

**TEACHING ASSISTANTSHIP**

One part-time (10 hours per week) assistantship is available for Spring 2008 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, etc.);
2) attend weekly planning meetings to organize and prepare course related content and other related business;
3) design the mid-term and final exam;
4) supervise student requests relating to add/drop period and other student needs;
5) meet with and assist Course Director, faculty, and TA Team members as needed;
6) complete other course related tasks as assigned.

**Qualifications include:** excellent communication and organizational skills, exceptional interpersonal skills that will facilitate team building, significant interest in public school dynamics and media perspective, well-developed technology skills, a professional attitude and commitment to duties.

To apply, please contact Nola Stephen, 16 Furcolo Hall, at 545-1186 or nola@educ.umass.edu

---

### Project Assistantship – TECS Department

Two 10-hour graduate project assistantship available in the Department of Teacher Education and Curriculum Studies.

**Responsibilities include:**
- Assist in the development of a comprehensive plan to recruit and retain diverse graduate students. Tasks may include developing an advertising strategy, producing a recruitment video and other materials, developing a workshop to assist potential students in the application process, organizing an Open House, and communicating with target schools.
- Assist in the development and organization of the TECS Centennial Celebration Plans and Activities. Tasks may include developing a database of alumni and cooperating teachers working in area schools and contacting them, assisting preservice and inservice teachers with their presentations, planning and arranging for guest speakers, and developing and organizing events connected with the Centennial.

**Qualifications include:** Excellent communication, organizational and/or artistic and technology skills; experience and skill in producing short videos and/or advertising and presentations; sensitivity and commitment to cultural diversity is a must and/or experience working with cooperating teachers of TECS teacher education programs.

If interested, please submit via email an electronic copy of your resume and a cover letter that highlights your relevant experience and qualifications to Department Assistant, Dawn Budd, at dmbudd@educ.umass.edu. Review of applications will begin immediately.

---

### Teaching Assistantship - EDUC. 378: Survey of Children's Literature

One half-time (10 hrs. per week) teaching assistantship is available for Spring Semester 2008 in the Department of Teacher Education and Curriculum Studies, with Masha K. Rudman. Class meets on Mondays from 9:30 a.m. – Noon.

**Responsibilities include:**
- Assisting in teaching a section of 378; holding weekly office hours for students enrolled in the course; collaborating with other Teaching Assistants to plan course activities, readings, and requirements; grading student papers and other course requirements; meeting with supervisor as needed to review progress of the course.

(Continued on page 4)
UPCOMING CONFERENCES/WORKSHOPS

NEW ENGLAND EDUCATORS RESEARCH ORGANIZATION

Registration for the 2008 conference is now open. The 40th annual NEERO Conference will be held April 9-11 in Hyannis, Massachusetts at The Cape Codder Resort and Spa.

NEERO has moved to online registration this year. You may access the online registration form at www.neero.org. After completing the registration form, you may either submit your payment immediately by credit card via PayPal or send a check through the mail.

NEERO is pleased that they were able to respond to members’ requests and can accept credit card payments this year. You do not need a PayPal account to submit a payment, and you will be able to print a receipt for your payment.

Please register early to obtain the discounted registration fee.

Please visit www.neero.org often for updated conference information.

STATEWIDE EDUCATION SUMMIT:

A Statewide Educational Summit will be held at the Reading Memorial High School, Reading, MA on January 26, 2008 from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. The Education Summit will foster a critically important dialogue with our state’s most prominent leaders in public education. Plan to attend to shape our policy initiatives for 2008, deepen the advocacy skills that make our members uniquely effective in Massachusetts, and build relationships with parents, educators, and community leaders from across the Commonwealth.

- **Hear** from state leadership on education initiatives
- **Network** with citizen advocates, educators and leaders from 50 towns
- **Learn** how to make local and state changes that help children in your community
- **Understand** how education funding is calculated and distributed

(Continued on page 5)
Learn how to talk effectively to lawmakers and the media

Learn how to win a Proposition 2 1/2 campaign


Collaborating Partners

Stand for the Children is honored to welcome these organizations as partners in the Stand for Children Statewide Education summit. We value their dedication to children, and appreciate their collaboration as we work to improve education in the Commonwealth. Collaborating Partners are: Massachusetts Parent Teachers Association, Massachusetts Teachers Association, Citizens for Public Schools, Teachers21, Massachusetts Association of School Superintendents, Early Education for All, Massachusetts 2020, Public Policy Institute, Deval Patrick Committee Readiness Project, Massachusetts Municipal Association, Mass Insight Education and Research Institute, SPEDwatch, Suburban Coalition.

FIVE COLLEGE FACULTY SEMINAR

Saki Santorelli, author of "Heal Thy Self" and Director of the Mindfulness Based Stress Reduction Program at UMASS Medical School Worcester, will present to the Five College Faculty Seminar in New Epistemologies and Contemplation (NEC) on Tuesday evening, February 12, 2008 at 6:45 p.m. UMass Amherst in the Large Conference Room, Communication Disorders Bldg, 358 N. Pleasant St. Amherst (corner of Fearing St). Light refreshments will be served.

AMERICAN EDUCATIONAL RESEARCH ASSOCIATION (AERA) ANNUAL MEETING AND EXHIBIT

The 2008 AERA Meeting and Exhibit will be held on Monday, March 24 – Friday, March 28 in New York City. The 2008 AERA Program Theme: Research on Schools, Neighborhoods, and Communities: Toward Civic Responsibility.

This year’s Annual Meeting theme provides an intellectual space for scholarship focused on schools, neighborhoods, and communities. Examples of relevant research topics include, but are not limited to (1) higher education and community development, (2) education and social service partnerships, (3) community-based teacher education, (4) project-based learning in metropolitan settings, (5) juvenile justice and opportunity to learn, (6) fiscal policy and planning, and (7) educational role of the professions (e.g., health, law, and engineering).

For more information go to: http://www.aera.net/meetings/Default.aspx?menu_id=342&id=2936

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF COLLEGES FOR TEACHER EDUCATION (AACTE) ANNUAL MEETING

The Annual AACTE meeting will be held on February 7-10, 2008 at the Hilton New Orleans Riverside in New Orleans, LA.

This year’s theme is Quality Matters: Our Commitment to All Learners.

Over the years, AACTE has established a legacy of addressing quality matters in the preparation and support of teachers, counselors, and educational leaders. This tradition continues with the 2008 Annual Meeting, which will showcase AACTE member institutions in action through presentations and sessions on matters of quality related to equity, access and advocacy, collaboration, innovation, and accountability and impact. Given the current context in which quality matters more than ever to the public and to the profession, this year’s theme is designed to provide opportunities for demonstrating and sharing evidence of quality programs and outcomes for educator candidates and for all students.

Quality Matters in Equity, Access, and Advocacy
Quality Matters in Collaboration
Quality Matters in Innovation
Quality Matters in Accountability and Impact

Registration: http://www.aacte.org/Events/08amregform.pdf

INTERNATIONAL ALLIANCE OF TEACHER SCHOLARS

In 2008, the International Alliance of Teacher Scholars will host its 20th annual Lilly Conference on College & University Teaching on March 21 & 22 in Southern California. We call for your proposals and hope you will be able to participate. More information is below.

For almost 30 years the international and national Lilly Conferences have provided a forum for learning about, reporting, and discussing the results of the Scholarship of Teaching & Learning. Lilly Conferences are retreats that combine Scholarship of Teaching and Learning sessions, and major addresses, with lots of opportunities for informal discussion about excellence in college and university teaching and learning. Internationally-known scholars join new and experienced faculty members and adminis-
trators from all over the world to discuss topics such as gender differences in learning, incorporating technology into teaching, encouraging critical thinking, using teaching and student portfolios, implementing group learning, and evaluating teaching. Information on the International and other National Lilly Conferences can be found at Lilly Conference Information.

The welcoming "Lilly Spirit" and the high level of scholarly attention to teaching and learning enable everyone to contribute to the forum. You are invited to join as a presenter or an involved participant.


---

**CALL FOR APPLICATIONS/PROPOSALS**

**COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY EDUCATION ACROSS THE AMERICAS 6TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE**

?Educational Equity, Policy, and Transformation in the Americas?

Hosted by the Association of Latin American Students (ALAS) and co-sponsored by the Society of International Education, the Program of International Education at Teachers College, Columbia University and by the Institute of Latin American Studies at the School of International and Public Affairs, Columbia University.

VENUE: Teachers College, Columbia University, 525 West 120 Street, New York, NY10027 on March 14th & March 15th, 2008. **Deadline for proposals: Wednesday, January 30, 2008.**

We welcome the abstract submission of presentations addressing topics within the broad realm of education in Latin America or the education of Latinos in the United States. Topics may include: Access and Equity, Educational Policy, Institutional Sustainability, Education and Minority Groups, Indigenous Education, Education and Human Rights, Gender and Race, Bilingual and Intercultural Education, Curriculum and Teaching, Transnational Learning, Education and Non-profits, Popular Education, Activism and Community Based Initiatives, Education and Economic Development, Educational Finance, Educational Leadership.

Proposals should include:

- Title, author(s), institutional affiliation(s), Name and e-mail address of primary contact.
- An abstract of approximately 200 words including the purpose, problem statement, research questions and/or hypotheses. Please note that if your paper is accepted, this abstract will be included in the information distributed to conference attendees and it also will be posted on the ALAS website.
- Willingness to serve as a chair or discussant for other sessions.
- Submit via e-mail to rt2012@columbia.edu

---

**EQUITY & EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS:**

**EDUCATION FINANCE & SOCIAL JUSTICE**

The theme for this forthcoming special issue focuses on the possibilities and tensions of applying social justice frameworks to the field of education finance. As the research literature in social justice education continues to expand in its influence, the work often has surfaced critical resource implications that necessitate methodological improvements in conceptualizations and systematic analyses. Therefore, there is an increasing need to create forums for dialogue among scholars, practitioners, and advocates who can illuminate the social justice implications for elementary, secondary, and higher education finance, economics of education, and resource allocation issues.

This special issue offers an opportunity to examine a variety of analytical challenges that arise as social justice frameworks are applied to education finance and economic issues. Within the scope of this special issue, we strongly encourage an effort to understand the intercon-
nectedness of the theoretical, practical, and advocacy work that is required to advance a social justice perspective in K-16 education today. Submissions may cover, but need not be limited to, the following topics or analytical approaches:

**Contrasting perspectives:** Outlining differences in social justice perspectives among constituents of education and the implications for conceptualizing the tensions and possibilities of social justice and education finance;

**Empirical inquiries:** Case studies or large-scale studies of the impact of school finance, higher education finance, student financial aid and other similar policies on communities of color, low-income students, women, immigrant students, or other marginalized groups in education; Case studies of schools or districts or college campuses that employ a social justice approach to allocating resources to support student learning (or other relevant educational aims); Analyses of the democratic involvement of constituents, for example, in formulating school budgets, responding to changes in student fees, etc. and the challenge of institutional barriers, lack of access to information, and/or lack of transparency in institutional systems and processes.

**Historical inquiries:** Surfacing longstanding patterns of inequity in school finance that produce certain social justice implications.

**Policy inquiries:** Analyses of the institutional biases that exist within various K-16 funding distribution systems and their impact on different student populations.

**Theoretical inquiries:** Examinations from a variety of critical perspectives (e.g., critical race theory, feminist theory, social reproduction theory) and/or disciplinary approaches to illuminate the important linkages that exist between education finance and social justice.

Diverse conceptual, methodological, and empirical work is encouraged. Manuscripts may focus on any subset of the K-16 educational system.

**Submission Guidelines:**

*Equity & Excellence in Education* is a peer-reviewed quarterly journal with an audience of K-16 educators, administrators, and researchers, edited by Maurianne Adams, Professor of Education. Finished manuscripts must be submitted by **May 1, 2008**. Total page length should not exceed approximately 25 double-spaced pages. Please see the journal’s website (http://www.tandf.co.uk/journals/titles/10665684.asp) for detailed author guidelines and submission procedures. All submissions (3 copies and a disk) should be mailed to: *Equity & Excellence in Education*, 370 Hills South, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, MA 01003. For further information or inquiry about this special issue, please contact Gloria M. Rodriguez at gmrodriguez@ucdavis.edu.

---

**US DEPARTMENT OF STATE, BUREAU OF EDUCATION AND CULTURAL AFFAIRS - SUMMER SCHOLARSHIPS FOR CRITICAL NEED LANGUAGE INTENSIVES**

The U.S. Dept. of State, Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, is offering scholarships to attend its summer "critical need" language intensives abroad. Languages being offered are: Arabic, Bangla/Bengali, Chinese, Hindi, Korean, Persian, Punjabi, Russian, Turkish and Urdu. This program is part of the National Security Language Initiative, "a U.S. government interagency effort to expand dramatically the number of Americans studying and mastering critical need foreign languages...Recipients are expected to continue their language study beyond the scholarship period and later apply their critical language skills in their professional careers."

Grant benefits:
All program costs are covered for participants. This includes travel between the student's home city and program location, pre-departure orientation costs, applicable visa fees, room, board, travel within country and all entrance fees for program activities. University level credit may be available. Note: U.S. passport fees will not be paid by the scholarship.

Eligibility:
Applicants must be U.S. citizens. Students in all disciplines including business, engineering, science, the social sciences, and humanities are encouraged to apply.

Deadline:
For the online application: **Friday, January 25**. For letters of reference and transcript(s): **Friday, February 8**.

For more information and online application see the program website: [http://clscholarship.org/home.php](http://clscholarship.org/home.php)

---

**HARVARD GRADUATE SCHOOL OF EDUCATION STUDENT RESEARCH CONFERENCE (SRC)**

The Harvard Graduate School of Education Student Research Conference will be held on **March 14, 2008**. The HGSE Student Research Conference is a student-run conference designed to provide professional development for presenters who will gain valuable insights
from Harvard faculty and colleagues into how to enhance their own research. The call for proposals will be on the SRC website

This year’s theme is: "The Power of Educational Research: Translating Knowledge into Action."

- How can we focus our research so it impacts the lives of students, teachers, schools and communities?
- How can we, as the next generation of educational researchers, create work that brings together research, policy and practice?
- Finally, and perhaps most importantly, how do we use our work to generate meaningful and positive social change?

Are you working to create a new curriculum or technological intervention in order to make a difference for kids? Are you focusing on how children learn? Are you studying international or domestic issues on systemic school reform? Are you hoping to mobilize families and communities to reform education? All of these represent ways in which educational research can be translated into action and all (and more) are topics on which you can present at this year’s SRC!

In the meantime, please sign up for our mailing list and continue to check the website for updates on proposal submission, training sessions and other conference-related announcements. For further information email: tri-chairs@hgse-src2008.org

UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS AMHERST
MAUREEN FLanagan SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT

Are you a student (preference given to women):
- At UMass Amherst
- With financial need?
- Interested in travel, internships, or service that complements your campus course work?

Here’s a scholarship that may help:

Scholarship Description:

The purpose of this endowment is to establish scholarships for undergraduate students, with a preference for women, who have financial need as demonstrated in the content of their Financial Aid Application. The scholarships will offer students opportunities above and beyond the standard college experience such as, but not limited to, study abroad, research, summer Internships, alternative spring breaks, community service, or other initiatives that complement and enhance the chosen course of study of the students selected. Each year, the Director of Stewardship will remind the Schools and Colleges, via their respective Directors of Development, and other relevant departments about this scholarship.

How to Apply:

Student applicants must prepare a one-page proposal, which describes the initiative and the projected costs, and submit the proposal to the Financial Aid Office by March 31, 2008. Proposals may be submitted via email as an attachment or in person. The Associate Director of Financial Aid Services and the Director of Stewardship will review the statements and select the scholarship recipient(s). The number of recipients may vary each year.

Questions may be directed to:

Ms. Anne Peramba, Assoc. Director of Financial Aid Services, Financial Aid Office, 243 Whitmore Building, 413-545-2886, peramba@finaid.umass.edu
Or, Ms. Janet Muzzy, Director of Stewardship, Development Office, Memorial Hall, 413-545-5473, jmuzzy@admin.umass.edu

CALL FOR NEWS

If you know of a student, faculty, or staff member who has been honored with an award or is involved in an interesting activity, please email Linda Neas at llascell@educ.umass.edu. Thank you for your assistance!
Where can I find computers that I can use?

1) The Open Lab, which is located in the basement of Furcolo in room 21 L, has both Macs and PCs. It is for student use only. There are Pay to Print (.05 per page) printers in the Hills South Computer Lab and the Furcolo Open Computer Lab. The Open Lab at Furcolo is open Monday: 12-7 p.m., Tuesday, Wednesday, & Thursday: 12-10 p.m., Friday: 11 a.m.-2 p.m.; the Open Lab at Hills is open Monday –Thursday 3 to 7 p.m. pending scheduled classes.

2) The UMass Amherst Learning Commons is located on the Lower Level of the W.E.B. Du Bois library. There are 164 computers in the Learning Commons, as well as easy access to Ethernet ports and the wireless network for those with laptops. OIT Help Desk and Classroom Consultants, as well as Library Consultants, are on hand at the Learning Commons and Technical Support Desk to answer your computing and account questions. The Learning Commons are open 24/5 hours (Sunday 11 a.m. – Friday 9 p.m.; Saturday 9 a.m. – 9 p.m.).

Anyone on the UMass network who is using a Windows 2000 or XP machine can send a print job to the OIT printers in the Learning Commons (LC) from any place on campus. If you are working on your laptop in the LC, you no longer need to wait for an LC workstation to open up before you can print your document. You can even submit print jobs to the LC from your dorm room! After you submit your print job, you will have 8 hours to get to the LC and print it out.

For further information go to: http://www.oit.umass.edu/classrooms/printing/remote.html

How does the library system work?

The library system offers a variety of resources and services to support graduate studies and research through collections stored in the 28-story W.E.B. Du Bois Library, the Integrated Sciences and Engineering Library, and the Music Reserve Lab. The W.E.B Du Bois Library houses materials in the social sciences and the humanities as well as the Government Documents and Patents Collection, the Map Collection, and Special Collections and Archives. It is also the repository of the papers of noted African American scholar W.E.B. Du Bois and other scholars. The science collection is found in the Integrated Sciences and Engineering Library (ISEL) in the Lederle Graduate Research Center, which brings together the disciplines of agriculture, astronomy, biochemistry, biology, chemistry, computer science, engineering, food science, geosciences, mathematics and statistics, physics, polymer science, and wood technology.

Reference librarians offer research consultations, assist students in the use of the collections, and provide course-related library instruction. Semester loans are available to doctoral students. Through a service called Library Express, students may request delivery of articles or books from the library collections for a fee. In addition to the materials in the UMass Amherst library system, students are entitled to request materials from the other four libraries in the Five College Consortium. A Five College automated library system allows on-line computer access to the catalog records of each library; provides information on circulation status, periodical holdings, and titles currently on order; and permits direct borrowing from the five libraries. A free interlibrary loan messenger service also operates between the Five Colleges. A current UMass Amherst ID serves as a library card at all libraries in the Five Colleges. For more information, see the library website at www.library.umass.edu or call 545-0414 (library hours) or 545-0150 (Reference)

I do not have a car. How do I get around town/campus?

UMass Transit is a student-operated bus and van system servicing the University/Five College communities. Check out their webpage at http://www.umass.edu/transit/schedules_maps.html for schedules and maps.

UMass Transit operates PVTA bus routes around the Amherst, Massachusetts area. Schedules for PVTA routes not operated by UMass Transit Service can be found at www.pvta.com.

“Now, I say to you today my friends, even though we face the difficulties of today and tomorrow, I still have a dream. It is a dream deeply rooted in the American dream. I have a dream that one day this nation will rise up and live out the true meaning of its creed: 'We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal.’”

Martin Luther King Jr.,
Speech at Civil Rights March on Washington, August 28, 1963