ANNOUNCING
THE SCHOOL OF EDUCATION’S INITIAL CALL FOR PROPOSALS

The School of Education is excited to be celebrating 100 years of preparing educators at the University of Massachusetts Amherst and 51 years of the School of Education. As part of the celebration the School will be hosting a Centennial Marathon on June 13 and 14, 2008, a two-day conference bringing together faculty, students, alumni, and friends to exchange ideas, share innovative educational practices, strengthen connections, and honor the School’s legacy of supporting excellence and equity in education.

We have opportunities for a variety of session formats including:

- Poster sessions
- Paper sessions (individual papers)
- Symposium (multiple papers on a theme)
- Interactive session
- Panel discussion
- Other format suggestions welcome!

The sessions are on Friday, June 13 from 1:00 p.m. to 4:30 and Saturday, June 14, from 9:00 a.m. to noon. We will be hosting multiple, simultaneous presentations and will have poster sessions throughout the program.

To assure a place in the program, please complete the Call for Proposal form on the last page of the Beacon or go to: http://www.umass.edu/education/about_soe/ProposalForm.pdf. Forward the proposal form to Sahra Santos, Dean’s Office, 124 Furcolo Hall, School of Education, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, MA 01003 or marathon@educ.umass.edu.

(Continued on page 2)
(Announcements continued from page 1)

**REVIEW FOR REAPPOINTMENT**

The following faculty are scheduled for review for reappointment through tenure decision year during the spring 2008 semester. Those wishing to comment should forward letters to the relevant Department Chairs.

**Educational Policy, Research and Administration**
Joseph Berger, Chair, 161 Hills South
jbberger@educ.umass.edu

Benita Barnes, Assistant Professor
Matt Militello, Assistant Professor
Cris Smith, Assistant Professor

**Teacher Education and Curriculum Studies**
Jerri Willett, Chair, 123 Furcolo Hall
willett@educ.umass.edu

Florence Sullivan, Assistant Professor

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

**NIETO TO RECEIVE LEGACY AWARD**

Sonia Nieto will be awarded the Division K (Teaching and Teacher Education) Legacy Award for 2008 at the AERA (American Educational Research Association) Conference in June. The award was created to honor a retired Division K member who has distinguished scholarship and has given distinguished service to the division. The award will be presented at the Division K Business Meeting on Wednesday evening, March 26th at 6:15pm. There will be a reception immediately following the meeting -- with refreshments, a dj, music and dancing.

**ARE YOU WRITING A DISSERTATION?**

Graduate Women’s Network & Everywoman’s Center Counseling Services are sponsoring a FREE eight week DISSERTATION SUPPORT GROUP for Women. The group will be facilitated by Pamela Plumer, Ph.D. Would you like to meet with other women who are writing dissertations in order to offer and receive support and encouragement?

Thursday Evenings 6:15-7:45
Eight weeks Spring Semester 2008

Registration Begins February, 2008

For more information and to register call: EWC Counseling Services 413-545-1276

**WOMEN, RACE AND CULTURE LECTURE SERIES**

**SPRING 08**

Storming the Borders: Anti-Racist Activisms in the Americas, a program for the Study of Women and Gender, presented at Smith College:

Erika Lee, Associate Professor of History, University of Minnesota, "Asian Exclusions and Migrations in the Americas: Border Making, Border Crossing, Border Communities" on Thursday, March 6, 2008 at 4:30 p.m. in Neilson Browsing Room.

Tanya K. Hernandez, Leroy Sorenson Merrifield Research Professor of Law, George Washington University Law School, "The Role of the State in the Regulation of Race in Latin America" on Tuesday, March 11, 2008 at 5:00 pm in Seelye Hall 201.

Annelise Orleck, Professor of History, Dartmouth College "Storming Caesars Palace: What Happens When Poor Mothers Demand a Share of the American Dream?" on Tuesday, April 8, 2008, 5:00 pm in Seelye Hall 201.

For more information, http://www.smith.edu/swg/wrclecture.html. All events are free and open to the public.

**KAPPA DELTA PI**

The School of Education has an active international honor society in Education called KAPPA DELTA PI. This honor society is currently accepting applications from undergraduate and graduate students with an overall GPA of 3.4

**Criteria for Acceptance** – UNDERGRADUATE Student (Continued on page 3)
• A minimum of 45 completed semester hours
• At least 12 of these credit hours must be at UMass
• Commitment to the field of Education
• A 3.4 GPA

Criteria for Acceptance - GRADUATE student
• Minimum of 12 semester hours
• Commitment to the field of Education
• Minimum 3.4 Grade Point Average

If you have interest, simply email the chapter advisor, Clement Seldin caseldin@educ.umass.edu and a letter of invitation will be emailed to you.

Application deadline is Friday, March 28, 2008.

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GRANT SPACE

GrantSpace, the blog home of the Graduate Student Grant Service is the place to discuss the trials and triumphs of the hunt for funds. Go to the POST YOUR MESSAGE tab to post questions about finding and applying for grants and fellowships; share tips and experiences; vent and make suggestions. Grant Services will be monitoring and providing as much help as possible.

Click on the tabs above for the schedule of upcoming workshops, updates to the Grantscape newsletter (the selected list of grant opportunities, available in your departmental office or at 517 Goodell), and proposal writing tips. Some links to major grants are listed in the blogroll, to the right. If there’s something else related to grants you’d like to see, send an email to: gsgs@grad.umass.edu, or post it on the POST YOUR MESSAGE page.

Check out the website, http://www.umass.edu/gradschool.gsgs, for helpful links and guidance.

To access searchable funding databases — available from any UMass computer or on your laptop if you’re on campus and logged on to the UMass server — click on: http://www.umass.edu/gradschool/gsgs/databases.html

If you need help getting started with database searching, post a message, give Grant Services a call or send an email. They will be happy to consult with you. (See ABOUT GSGS for their contact info.)

SPRING 08 ASSISTANTSHIPS AVAILABLE

All positions contingent on funding.

OFFICE OF DEVELOPMENT
SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

Graduate Assistant

20-hour graduate assistantship available in the Office of Development. Reports to the Director of Development

Responsibilities include: Conduct research on School of Education prospects from multiple sources such as the ADVANCE database system, and world wide web; assist with maintenance and creation of various prospect databases and spreadsheets, including but not limited to ADVANCE, MS Excel and MS Access; assist with prospect and stewardship management; run development reports through ADVANCE; draft and edit various correspondence, mail merges, etc. using MS Word; assist with preparation of marketing materials, such as packets for visits and handouts; order and maintain inventory of marketing materials; assist in preparing and staffing School events; perform other duties as requested.

Qualifications include: Ability to handle confidential information and related materials; sense of humor and flexibility necessary.

Please submit via email your resume and letter of interest to Sahra Santos, Assistant to the Dean at ssantos@educ.umass.edu.

ATTENTION: GRADUATE ASSISTANTS

ANNOUNCEMENTS

FORMATION OF DISSERTATION COMMITTEE

FLORIS W. ORTIZ-MARRERO: Proposed Dissertation Title: "An inquiry group representing the issue of the achievement gap and how this representation changes over time: The tool of critical reflection for unpacking representation." Statement of the Problem: Teachers’ inquiry groups do not always provide members with reflection practices that make visible representations of the issue in discussion. Unless these representations are made visible and acted upon, opportunities for interrupting and transforming the status quo may be elusive or not accounted for.

Chairperson: Dr. Jerri Willett.

FORMATION OF DISSERTATION COMMITTEE

LINDA L. CARRIER Proposed Dissertation Title: "Effective Leaders: A Study of Principal Skills That Increase Organizational Coherence and Capacity for Improving Student Achievement." Statement of the Problem: Instructional leadership, shrouded in an air of mythology and mystery, it is of little wonder that school leaders continue to be unprepared for the challenges posed by the standards-based reform movement in education. What is clear from the review of relevant research is that although some fundamental ideas can be identified, each has a unique perspective on what is meant by instructional leadership. With such little consistency around what is meant by instructional leadership, one is left to ask what exactly instructional leadership is and what does it look like in schools?

Chairperson: Dr. Matthew Militello.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF FINAL ORAL EXAM

STEVEN B. JOHN March 11, 2008, 11:00 a.m., Room 21C, Furcolo. "Teaching Teams and Student Achievement in Vermont’s Middle Schools."

Chairperson: Dr. Matthew Militello

UPCOMING CONFERENCES/WORKSHOPS

WILL CHINA DEMOCRATIZE?

Prof. Martin Dimitrov (Department of Government, Dartmouth College) will give a talk entitled "Will China Democratize?"

The lecture will take place on Friday, February 22, 2008 from 12 noon-1:30 p.m. in the New York Room, Mary Woolley Hall, Mount Holyoke College.

For more information contact, Dr. Calvin P. Chen, (413) 538-2668, cchen@mtholyoke.edu

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.

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, (Continued on page 5)
CALL FOR APPLICATIONS/PROPOSALS

CALICO MONOGRAPH SERIES 2009

Lara Lomicka (University of South Carolina) and Gillian Lord (University of Florida) are editing a volume on so-
cial networking and online collaboration for the CALICO
Monograph Series 2009 and are currently accepting
chapter proposals for the chapters presented below. If
you are interested in any one of them, please submit to
lomicka@sc.edu and glord@rll.ufl.edu a one- to two-
page description of the chapter you would like to write
based on the general outline below. Please refer to the
topics we have provided as a general guideline; you can
amend aspects of the chapter as you see fit. Submissions
should combine SLA theory, research and practice of
relevant applications, such as those listed below. The
book will focus on practical and theory-based applications
and how they relate to SLA and CALL theory, as well as
empirical studies detailing their usefulness to CALL. The
deadline to submit proposals is March 31, 2008.

Website: http://secondgenerationcall.edublogs.org

Wiki: http://secondgenerationcall.wikispaces.com

(Continued on page 6)
VOLUME DESCRIPTION
In recent years the landscape of CALL has been drastically altered, thanks to what have become known as Web 2.0 applications. The phrase "Web 2.0" was coined by O'Reilly Media in 2004 and refers to the second generation of the Internet, in which the emphasis is on online collaboration, networking and sharing among users. With Web 2.0 applications, language teachers have a variety of tools available to use in new and creative ways, and the potential to make us rethink how we act and interact in our lives and in our classrooms. This volume addresses the changes implied in these new applications, focusing on the social and collaborative aspects as well as the theoretical constructs informing their use, the benefits for students from a language perspective, and successful projects implemented in the language classroom.

Chapter topics open to submissions:
Social networking/online communities (FaceBook, MySpace)
Flickr, YouTube, other social media-sharing sites
Chatbots (i.e., Fryer & Carpenter, 2006)
Tagging and folksonomies
RSS (really simple syndication) and feed aggregators
Social bookmarking
Other forms of many-to-many publishing
Other social software applications

The volume will also contain five invited chapters, with the following topics:
Gaming
Blogs
Wikis
Podcasting and audioblogging
Virtual realities

Timeline
March 31: Submission of chapter proposal & commitment to timeline
April 28: Acceptance notices and comments from the editors on chapter descriptions
May 31: Authors post outline and work in progress to wiki
June 30: Authors provide feedback and comments for each other via wiki
August 25: Submission of full chapter to editors and to post wiki
October 6: Comments and requested revisions from the editors on full chapter
November 3: Resubmit final version of chapter to editors and post to wiki

*The volume is expected to go to press in time for the 2009 CALICO conference.

JOURNAL OF CURRICULUM AND INSTRUCTION

The Journal of Curriculum and Instruction would like to invite you to submit or review for our 4th Issue, which focuses on action research. Below are the details.

Our journal can be located at www.joci.ecu.edu. If you are interested please contact Amanda Liles, the graduate assistant, at agl1027@ecu.edu.

The Call for Manuscripts:
The Journal of Curriculum and Instruction (JoCI) is a peer-reviewed, electronic journal that provides a forum for the dissemination of articles focused on research, practice, and related issues relevant to teaching and learning in the Pre K-12 environment. JoCI is supported by the Department of Curriculum and Instruction, in the College of Education at East Carolina University.

Audience & Contributors:
The audience for this journal includes higher education faculty, Pre K-12 teachers, graduate students in education, pre-service teacher education candidates, school administrators, and educational policymakers with an interest in curriculum and instruction. Contributors to the journal include classroom teachers, researchers and other practitioners from Pre K-12 schools, colleges, and universities.

The Journal Layout:
Research Forum - This peer-reviewed section includes empirical and action research, case studies, qualitative research, research reviews, reviews of the literature, empirically-based position papers, and policy analyses. Manuscripts are evaluated on the basis of their innova-
tion, quality of scholarship, and contribution to the field of curriculum and instruction.

**Practitioner's Platform:**

This peer-reviewed section includes practical and descriptive articles that are evaluated on the basis of their innovation, quality of professional writing, and contribution to the field of curriculum and instruction. An emphasis is placed on publishing those articles providing clear and replicable examples of research-based practice applied in Pre K-12 settings. While a detailed literature review and analysis of underlying theory are not required for such articles, manuscripts for this section must describe a literature-supported practice and provide citations that document the relevant literature.

**Perspective:**

This section includes peer-reviewed commentaries or articles describing research-supported perspectives related to issue themes. Innovative approaches and ideas are particularly appropriate for this section.

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**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 [www.hgse-src2008.org](http://www.hgse-src2008.org) starting on November 26, 2007.

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](mailto:tri-chairs@hgse-src2008.org)

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**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 e-mail 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

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF MULTICULTURAL EDUCATORS

The CALL For PRESENTERS is now available on the NAME web site for the 2008 Annual Conference in New Orleans, Nov. 12-16, 2008.

Please go to www.nameorg.org and CLICK on CONFERENCES to download the Call for Presentations.

You can also submit your electronic proposal at the web site: www.nameorg.org. Proposals to present in New Orleans are due: MARCH 31, 2008.

The conference theme is Beyond Celebrating Diversity: ReACTivating the Equity and Social Justice Roots of Multicultural Education.

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 llas-cell@educ.umass.edu.
Primary Presenter/Contact:       Title:

Contact information:

Phone:                                 Email:

Address:

Affiliation: ___ Faculty ___ Alumni       ___Student

Other presenters:

Session Preference

___Full Session (75 minutes): requires multiple participants  
(e.g. symposium, panel discussion, practical session, co-presenters)

___Short session (20 minutes):  
(these will be organized into Full Sessions thematically, when possible)

___Poster Session

Time/Date Session Preference

_____ Friday, June 13th  2 Sessions, starting 1:00 p.m.

_____ Saturday, June 14th, 2 Sessions, starting at 9:00 a.m.

_____ No preference

Session Title:

Brief Description – (100 word minimum)

Equipment needed:

___Overhead projector ___LCD projector  ___Flipchart    ____Markers    ___Other:

Return to: marathon@educ.umass.edu or Attn: Sahra Santos, School of Education, Office of the Dean, 124 Furcolo Hall, University of Massachusetts, 813 N Pleasant Street, Amherst, MA 01003