ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTERNATIONAL PROGRAMS OFFICE (IPO)
TUITION WAIVERS FOR SPRING, 2009

Nominations for tuition waivers for current and new international graduate students are now being solicited by the International Programs office. As there are very few waivers available, they are only for students who have enormous potential but have no immediate financial assistance from their program.

CURRENT STUDENT ELIGIBILITY: Current students must be in a full-time graduate degree program
. Minimum 3.25 GPA
. Demonstrated financial need
. Must not be a citizen or permanent U.S. resident

These waivers are for TUITION ONLY for the SPRING, 2009 term. Recipients are not automatically entitled to renewals, but may reapply for one additional year.

Completed nominations are to be submitted to Linda Guthrie, Graduate Program Coordinator, in Room 123, Furcolo. Linda Griffin, Graduate Program Director, will review and nominate those applications that she believes are the strongest.

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CURRENT STUDENTS MUST SUBMIT:

1. Formal application form (student can pick up form at the International Programs Office, 467 Hills South or download it from: http://www.ipo.umass.edu/ct_fileRetrieve.cfm?File_ID=03054E067274777717270690670609157C07080614750504047274060702750400037303

2. Financial documentation proving student has sufficient funds to cover all academic fees and living expenses other than tuition, (based on an estimated amount of $23,800 for the 2008-09 academic year).

3. Recommendation letter from student’s advisor or chairperson.

Note: For those nominated, GPD will send a memo attached to nomination to IPO.

CURRENT STUDENT DEADLINE TO SUBMIT COMPLETED APPLICATIONS FOR SPRING, 2009 is NOVEMBER 7, 2008.

NEW STUDENT ELIGIBILITY:
- Must be accepted into a full-time graduate degree program
- Have demonstrated financial need
- Have verified access to funds for all non-tuition related expenses, estimated at $23,800 for 2008/2009 academic year. Must not be a citizen or permanent U.S. resident.

NEW STUDENTS MUST SUBMIT:

1. Copy of complete graduate application, signed by concentration head and department chair

2. Recommendation letter from student’s advisor or chair, in Word document format.

Note: Tuition Waiver Nomination Form will be completed by Linda Guthrie

Completed nominations are to be submitted to Linda Guthrie, Graduate Program Coordinator, in Room 123, Furcolo. Linda Griffin, Graduate Program Director, will review and nominate those applications that she believes are the strongest.

These waivers are for TUITION ONLY for the SPRING, 2009 term. Recipients are not automatically entitled to renewals, but may reapply for one additional year.

INCOMING STUDENT DEADLINE TO SUBMIT COMPLETED APPLICATIONS FOR SPRING, 2009 is OCTOBER 24, 2008.

IMPORTANT: ALL NOMINATIONS MUST BE RANK ORDERED BY CONCENTRATION AND DEPARTMENT.

Thesis and Dissertation Formatting with Microsoft Word at UMass Amherst

The Office of Information Technologies offers workshops with detailed instructions on how to format a thesis or dissertation to meet the requirements of the UMass Graduate School with Microsoft Word for Windows or Mac. The workshops include margins, footnotes, bibliographies, page numbering, headings, table of contents, etc. as well as advice about electronic submission. There are two workshops: one for users of Word 2007 (including people who will be working in the OIT classrooms), and one for earlier versions of Word (Mac or Windows).

Word 2007 Workshop
Monday, October 27
9:00 am – 12:00 pm

Word (other versions) Workshop
Wednesday, October 29
1:00 pm – 4:00 pm

Prerequisite
Some knowledge of the version of Microsoft Word that you are using.

Registration
Registration is required and is not complete until you have paid the $10 fee and told us which version of Word you are using. To register, go to the Administrative Desk in A119 Lederle GRC (545-9730). For information, email workshops@oit.umass.edu.

Course materials on Web or CD: Course materials are also available on the OIT Web site: www.oit.umass.edu/workshops/tutorials.html

Consulting on formatting issues
For more information about these workshops, to discuss which one is best for you, or for other consultation on dissertation and thesis formatting issues, please contact Elisa Campbell at campbell@oit.umass.edu.

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Graduate Student Grant Services (GSGS)

Graduate Student Grant Services (GSGS) helps graduate students at UMass Amherst seeking extramural support for their studies, and provides the following services: Personal Consultations, Departmental Workshops, GrantScape Newsletter, Information Sessions

Visit the following website for more information: http://www.umass.edu.gradschool/gsgs/

*NEW*
Development and Learning Sciences (DLS)

National Science Foundation, Directorate for Social, Behavioral, and Economic Sciences (SBE); Division of Behavioral and Cognitive Sciences (PD 08-1698)

Application Receipt Target Dates: January 15, 2009 & July 15, 2009

http://www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm_summ.jsp?pims_id=8671

Helen M. Robinson Award

International Reading Association, Research Grants and Awards Program. Application Receipt Date: January 15, 2009

http://www.reading.org/association/awards/research_robinson.html  Subject area: Dissertation research in the area of reading and literacy

New England Educational Research Organization (NEERO) 2009 Conference

Portsmouth, New Hampshire
May 6-8, 2009
Sheraton Harborside Hotel

Call for proposals
For details about types of presentations and proposal requirements, and to submit all proposals, visit www.neero.org. Please review the CFP before submitting a proposal.

Deadline: October 30

More information about conference registration and hotel reservations will be available later this fall at the NEERO website.

Pioneer Valley STEM Education Showcase and Symposium

Thursday, October 23, 2008
4:00 - 6:00 PM
Kittredge Center
Holyoke Community College

More Information: http://umassk12.net/pvnet
kbaker918@aol.com  413 545-0010

Registration deadline: October 10, 2008

Showcase
• Come to the poster fair to learn about what schools, colleges, museums, and businesses are doing to improve STEM education students and teachers in the Pioneer Valley.
• Bring a poster that describes what your institution is doing for STEM education in the region.

Symposium
• Hear what a panel of Pioneer Valley superintendents have to say and learn from representatives of the MA Department of Education what is happening on the State level.
NERA Conference Dates: October 22-24, 2008
Location: Marriott Hotel in Rocky Hill, CT.
Questions: neramembers@gmail.com.
Theme: "Strengthening Educational Research"
Note: Papers and posters need not be about the conference theme.
Keynote speaker: Marilyn Cochran-Smith, the John E. Cawthorne Millennium Chair in Teacher Education for Urban Schools from the Lynch School of Education at Boston College.

Center for Educational Assessment
Workshop at NERA

October 22, 2008 (Wednesday)
4-5:30 P.M.
Presented by Dr. Ronald K. Hambleton & April L. Zenisky
Center for Educational Assessment
School of Education
University of Massachusetts Amherst

Goals for this workshop include a discussion of the current state of score reporting practices, including promising ideas for communicating test results to audiences, as well as an overview of research in the area & exercises to gain experience in both constructively criticizing score reports and designing better score reports.

SESSION TWO: WEDNESDAY, 4-5:30
PAPER SESSION TITLE: LEARNING AND INSTRUCTION ON THE COLLEGE CAMPUS

Discussant: Barker
Chair: Laguilles
Evaluation of the UMass-Amherst Afghan Project Academic success Initiative
by CIE graduate student Bonnie Sylvester and Dr. Rebecca Gajda

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A conference for educators, pre-K-college hosted by UMass in collaboration with the Western Massachusetts Writing Project

November 1, 2008. 8:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m. Southbridge Hotel and Conference Center Southbridge, MA

The program includes sessions for all grade levels on classroom, state-mandated, and placement assessments on such topics as: Equity in Assessment, Assessing Visual and Multi Modal Texts, Collaborative and Self-Assessment, Professional Development, Assessing English Language Learners Response to Mandated Assessments.

See conference website for full listing of concurrent sessions, conference schedule, and online registration. http://www.umass.edu/reevision

The School of Education on FACEBOOK
Connect with prospective, current, and alumni students from UMass Amherst’s Teacher Education & Curriculum Studies Department under Student Groups/Classes and Departments http://www.facebook.com

HERE’S MORE GOOD NEWS
We post good news on the web and in The Beacon.
http://www.umass.edu/education/publications/