NOTICE TO ALL DOCTORAL STUDENTS AND FACULTY

Please be aware that when you form your dissertation committee, the outside member must be a faculty member with the appropriate graduate faculty status outside of Education, but within UMASS Amherst. In the past some students have had outside members from outside of UMASS Amherst. However, the Graduate School is now strictly enforcing their rule that the outside member must be within UMASS Amherst and outside of Education.

ATTENTION FEBRUARY, 2008 DEGREE CANDIDATES

The next degree-granting period will be February, 2008. Listed below are deadline dates to apply for graduation for M.Ed., C.A.G.S., Ed.D. and Ph.D. candidates who will have completed requirements for a February, 2008 degree.

M.Ed. and C.A.G.S. Candidates

Degree Eligibility forms must be completed and returned to Linda Guthrie in the Graduate Program Office, 123 Furcolo, no later than January 9th, 2008. This is to allow time for processing and obtaining the necessary signatures of Linda Griffin, the Graduate Program Director and Dean Christine B. McCormick.

The Eligibility* form must be accompanied by the School of Education Completed Program of Study form (Master’s Form M-2 or CAGS Form C-2). Your advisor must sign the School of Ed form, but NOT the Eligibility form.

Forms can be downloaded from the School of Education home page: http://www.umass.edu/education/academics/main_advising.htm

*** Please note that the Eligibility form is 2 pages. ***

Ed.D. and Ph.D. Candidates:

The Doctoral Degree Eligibility form must be submitted to Linda Guthrie in

(Continued on page 8)
ATTENTION FACULTY AND STUDENTS

We are seeking nominations for the School of Education Outstanding Teacher Award 2007-2008. Please take a few minutes to nominate a 2007-2008 School of Education Outstanding Teacher Award (COTA). As a School of Education, we recognize that you value the scholarship of teaching and that we have many excellent teachers among us.

Please submit your nomination (e-mail or hard copy) by December 21, 2007 to:

Linda Griffin (lgriffin@educ.umass.edu)

Below is the award description.

"The College Outstanding Teacher Award program was instituted as a complement to the Distinguished Teaching Awards given by the Graduate School. While classroom teaching is the fundamental criterion, this award also actively values supervision of field/clinical experiences, supervision of research, and mentoring professional publications and presentations. The purpose of the award is to honor individual faculty members for their teaching and mentoring accomplishments within their own colleges. The $1,000 awards are given during the spring semester, and recipients are recognized at Undergraduate Commencement."

Thank you for your consideration.

Regards,

SOE COTA Committee (2007-2008)
Linda Griffin, Chair
Clement Seldin
William Matthews
**Dean’s Centennial Lecture series**

**Making Diversity Work on Campus**

A Research-Based Perspective

A Discussion with Dr. Jeffrey Milem

Dr. Jeffrey Milem is currently a professor at the Center for the study of Higher education in the College of Education at the University of Arizona. He is the President-elect of the Association for the Study of Higher Education (ASHE).

Dr. Milem’s research interests focus on racial dynamics in higher education, the educational outcomes of diversity, the impact of college on students, and the condition and status of the professorate—including the ways in which faculty effectively utilize diversity in their classroom teaching.

He is a widely recognized expert in the area of racial dynamics in higher education and has been commissioned to do research by several reputable institutions such as the American Council on Education. Dr. Milem has also worked to present a series of technical assistance workshops on affirmative action and college admissions.

**When:**

Thursday,

December 6th, 2007

7:00pm

**Where:**

Hills South Room 365

*Sponsored by the School of Education Umass Amherst & the Department of Educational Policy, Research and Administration (EPRA)*
SPRING 08 ASSISTANTSHIPS AVAILABLE

All positions contingent on funding.

TEACHER EDUCATION AND CURRICULUM STUDIES

Teaching Assistant for STEP EDUC 524

Responsibilities include: Assist instructor with planning and facilitation of STEP EDUC 524, prepare subject materials, support students.

Qualifications include: Doctoral candidate with organizational and leadership skills, able to work well with a team.

Please contact: Barbara Madeloni, 413-577-0495, 103 Furcolo Hall or email at: madeloni@educ.umass.edu.

Teaching Assistant for STEP EDUC 510

Responsibilities include: Part-time assistantship to facilitate 6, 2-hour sessions of the student teaching seminar for Math or History student teachers.

Qualifications include: Considerable classroom teaching experience at the secondary level required.

Please contact: Barbara Madeloni, 413-577-0495, 103 Furcolo Hall or email at: madeloni@educ.umass.edu.

Teaching Assistant for EDUC 192A

One part-time (15 hours per week) assistantship is available 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); 2) attend weekly planning meetings to organize and prepare seminar and other course related content; 3) conduct one weekly small group seminar session; 4) meet with and assist course director, faculty, and TA Team as needed.

Qualifications include: excellent communication and organizational skills, exceptional interpersonal skills that will facilitate teambuilding, significant interests in public school dynamics and media perspective, and well-developed technology skills.

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

EDUCATOR LICENSURE OFFICE

Spring 2008 Project Assistantship – Educator Licensure Office

One half-time (10 hours per week) project assistantship is available for Spring 2008 in the Educator Licensure Office.

Responsibilities include: assisting the Licensure Officer on various projects (data collection, analysis, etc.). Other duties as assigned.

Qualifications include: The candidate must have knowledge of teacher education, work well with undergraduate students, and have good organizational skills, including some knowledge of web maintenance, are important. Previous teaching experience is desirable.

To apply, please submit a letter of application addressing the above qualifications (which will be used as a writing sample) and resume to: Dr. Marge Magouirk Colbert, Educator Licensure Office, School of Education, 130 Furcolo Hall, 813 North Pleasant Street, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, MA 01003-9308.

APPLICATION DEADLINE: December 20, 2007

EDUCATOR INFORMATION OFFICE

Spring 2008 Project Assistantship – Educator Information Office

One half-time (10 hours per week) project assistantship is available for Spring 2008 in the Educator Information Office.

Responsibilities include: advising students interested

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ATTENTION: GRADUATE ASSISTANTS

ANNOUNCEMENTS

FORMATION OF DISSERTATION COMMITTEE

KYUNG TYEK HAN

Proposed Dissertation Title: Impact of Item Parameter Drift on Test Equating and Proficiency Estimates. Statement of the Problem: Since fairness is an important concept in testing and because proficiency estimates could be seriously influenced when differential item functioning (DIF) and/or item parameter drift (IPD) exist(s) and the wrong estimates are used, extensive research has focused on DIF/IPD. Moreover, when test equating is involved, the effects of DIF/IPD, especially on the common items with the anchor test design would be analytically expected to cause flaws in the measurement because DIF/IPD may directly as well as indirectly affect the item parameters via the influence on the equating coefficients. However, an important question that has not yet been examined is how much DIF is required until the effect is consequential.

Chairperson: Dr. Craig Wells.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE EXAMINATION

REIKO KATO

December 4, 2007, 11:00, Room 21C, Furcolo.

Chairperson: Dr. Theresa Austin.

UPCOMING CONFERENCES/WORKSHOPS

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.

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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 interconnectedness 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.
Before January 4, 2008, Department Heads/Chairpersons will consult with elected Personnel Committees to select names of nominees to be forwarded to their academic Deans.

By February 1, 2008 (NO LATER), Deans are asked to submit to the Research Council, c/o Bev Strakose, Office of Research Affairs, Research Administration Building at least two nominations of faculty members up to a maximum of a rounded 1% of their respective faculties when those exceed 200. Each nomination is to be accompanied by a brief statement (not to exceed 1,000 words) from the candidate on how released time would be put to scholarly use, a complete curriculum vita, (supporting letters from the nominee's department head) and a list of referees (no more than five) from whom our office will request recommendation letters.

Pursuant to a rules change effective FY87 the present nominating procedures and qualifications for Faculty Fellowships have been retained with the understanding that other nominations, including self-nominations, may be sent directly to the Research Council (before January 4, 2008), which in turn will be sent to nominee's Dean for recommendation. Self-nominations should include a brief description of how the released time will be used, a curriculum vita and a letter in support of the nomination from a colleague.

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](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.

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**SAMUEL F. CONTI FACULTY FELLOWSHIP AWARDS**

Nomination Procedures for 2008-2009 Award:

The University of Massachusetts Amherst Samuel F. Conti Faculty Fellowship Awards consist of a cash award of $3,000 and a year’s leave of absence to encourage award recipients to concentrate on activities related to graduate education, research, creative work and scholarly attainment.

Selection of the awardees will be based on demonstrably outstanding accomplishment and potential for continued excellence in research and scholarly or creative activity. Awards will be recommended by a committee comprised of members of the Research Council. The Awards Committee will normally consist of representatives from each of the three divisions of the College of Arts and Sciences plus two different professional schools. Recommendations will be forwarded to the Vice Provost for Research after Research Council approval has been given. Names of those receiving 2008-2009 Faculty Fellowship Awards will be announced in late Spring 2008.

**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?

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• 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?

**Room 123 Furcolo, along with the D-9 form (Result of Final Oral Examination) no later than January 9, 2008.** The Eligibility form is sent to each student by the Degree Requirements Office (534 Goodell) after the defense date is scheduled (Form D-8). It can also be downloaded from: umass.edu/gradschool > students > forms. Linda will submit this form to the Degree Requirements Office after it is signed.

Two copies of the dissertation signature page must be signed by Christine B. McCormick, Dean of the School of Education. **Students should submit their signature pages to Linda by January 9, 2008 and she will obtain the Dean’s signature.** She will then return these pages to the student for inclusion with the dissertation.

Dissertation copies, fees and materials must be submitted to the Office of Degree Requirements (Room 534 Goodell) by 5:00 p.m., January 15, 2008. **THIS IS A FIRM DEADLINE!**

**IMPORTANT:** If you do not file for graduation by the degree deadline date, you must pay the Continuous Enrollment Fee of $275.00 to maintain continuous enrollment until you graduate.

**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!