SCHOOL OF EDUCATION - UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS AMHERST

BEACON DEADLINE: Notice! Change in Beacon submission procedure: Please submit Beacon announcements to Room 123 Furcolo Hall or to rkeane@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.

ATTENTION! The Beacon is available on-line at: http://www.umass.edu/education/publications/beacon.htm If you have problems accessing this link, go to the School of Education home page, click on the Beacon button on the left. Earlier issues can be found by going to Publications.

FALL 05/SPRING 06 ASSISTANTSHIPS AVAILABLE (by department)

Please note: All available positions are contingent upon funding.

No positions available this week.

Dean’s Office

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Educational Policy, Research and Administration

EDUCATION 115 FALL 2006-SPRING 2007 ASSISTANTSHIPS

Five Teaching Assistantships available in the department of Education Policy, Research & Administration for fall 06-spring 07 semester to assist with large undergraduate course.

Ed 115 is a course is about cultural diversity in the University community and how we can better understand ourselves and others through an appreciation of college education as a cultural experience, with its own unique set of rules, biases, and expectations. The course is designed for first-year undergraduate students. The objectives are to help students become aware of the ways differences of race, class, religion, ethnicity, gender, sexual identity, and physical disabilities have divided people in American society; to proved ways of thinking about and analyzing differences in order to develop a critically examined position; and to consider ways that knowledge of differences may be used to build a more pluralistic University and a more equitable society.

Responsibilities include: Attending weekly class lecture, meeting weekly with instructor to plan/discuss class, holding weekly office hours, creating facilitation lesson plans, facilitating weekly discussion section, helping with grading, and tracking student attendance.

Qualifications include: Teaching experience at any level and strong organizational skills.

Please send letter of interest outlining qualifications and resume to Gretchen B. Rossman, 277 Hills South. Electronic submissions preferred. Send to gretchen@educ.umass.edu.

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CENTER FOR EDUCATIONAL ASSESSMENT SUMMER 2006 ASSISTANTSHIPS

The Center for Educational Assessment expects up to 7 full- or part-time summer 2006 assistantships associated with the following contracts: Massachusetts Department of Education (Adult Basic Education Project), The U.S. Department of Education (Comprehensive Evaluation of NAEP), All Kinds of Minds Institute, and Measured Progress (MCAS Project).

**Responsibilities include:** Conducting multivariate statistical analyses on educational testing data, assisting with standard setting analyses; writing computer code for linking and scaling NAEP scores across subpopulations; assisting in the development and evaluation of educational test score reports; equating test forms using concurrent item response theory and anchor item methods, and simulating multivariate data.

**Qualifications include:** Extensive knowledge of univariate and multivariate statistical analysis, item response theory, multidimensional scaling, and test construction, experience in implementing different types of item exposure controls in a computerized-adaptive test environment, and the ability to program in FORTRAN.

To apply, please contact Professor Stephen G. Sireci at (413)545-0564 or Sireci@acad.umass.edu.

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CENTER FOR EDUCATIONAL ASSESSMENT FALL 2006-SPRING 2007 ASSISTANTSHIPS

The Center for Educational Assessment in the Department of Educational Policy, Research, and Administration expects up to 12 full-time graduate student research assistantships for the 2006/2007 academic year associated with associated with the following contracts: The Massachusetts Department of Education (Adult Basic Education Project), The U.S. Department of Education (Comprehensive Evaluation of NAEP), All Kinds of Minds Institute, and Measured Progress (MCAS Project).

**Responsibilities include:** Conducting item response theory item calibrations, equating tests, writing and editing test items, entering data, developing surveys, analyzing survey data, editing items in online and CD environments, attending project meetings, writing computer code, performing literature reviews, conducting simulation studies to estimate conditional standard errors of MST scores, and conducting multivariate statistical analyses.

**Qualifications include:** All candidates should have extensive knowledge of item response theory, multidimensional scaling, multivariate statistics, test equating, and test construction. Candidates should also have experience in implementing different types of item exposure controls in a computerized-adaptive test environment, and should be able to program in FORTRAN.

To apply, please contact Professor Stephen G. Sireci at (413)545-0564 or Sireci@acad.umass.edu.

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**Office of Teacher Education**

OFFICE OF TEACHER EDUCATION FALL/SPRING 2006-2007 PROJECT ASSISTANTSHIPS

Half time (10 hours per week) and full time (20 hours per week) Project Assistantships available in the Office of Teacher Education for the Fall 2006-Spring 2007 academic year.

**Responsibilities include:** Advising students interested in Early Childhood or Elementary teaching and the Education minor, maintaining and updating the advising system and office advising materials; planning and assuming responsibility for the Job Fair, assisting the Director of Teacher Education and Certification Officer with data management, analysis and updating program approval documentation; program literature, and MTEL materials. Additional duties include, assisting Educator Licensure Faculty in implementing NCATE assessment plans, teaching MTEL preparation courses, learning to use the Tk20 data management system, assisting faculty in putting assignments, assessments, and rubrics on the system; and train students, faculty and cooperating teachers to use Tk20 data management system, conducting online and face-to-face weekly Tk20 support sessions for students and faculty, developing and administering online surveys to students and cooperating practitioners, and other tasks related to the work of the Teacher Education Office.

To apply, please submit a current resume and letter of application addressing your qualifications for any of the specific duties listed above to Dr. Marge Magouirk Colbert, Room 125, Furcolo Hall by **May 19th**.

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**Student Development and Pupil Personnel Services**

No positions available this week.

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**Teacher Education and Curriculum Studies**

**BILINGUAL, ESL, MULTICULTURAL CONCENTRATION AND READING CONCENTRATION ASSISTANTSHIPS**

Half time (10 hours per week) Project Assistantships are available for advising and/or supervising ELL or Reading practicum for Fall 2006-Spring 2007 academic year.

**Responsibilities include:** Advising students interested in English Language Learning and Reading licensure, maintaining and updating the advising system, student records, and office advising materials, assisting with data management, analysis and reporting and updating program approval documentation; program literature, and MTEL materials, maintaining contact with cooperating teachers and supervisors and communicating with the Teacher Education Licensure Office. Additional duties include, assisting Faculty in implementing NCATE assessment plans, learning to use the Tk20 data management system, assisting faculty in putting assignments, assessments, and rubrics on the system; Supervising duties including: supporting and meeting regularly with student teachers, observing and documenting student teachers in their practicum sites; meeting with cooperating teachers, conducting performance assessments, assisting student teachers with their final e-folios, meeting with faculty and licensure advisors.

To apply, please submit a current resume and letter of application addressing your qualifications for any of the specific duties listed above to Doris Correa dcorrea@educ.umass.edu by June 2nd.

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**TEACHING ASSISTANTSHIPS/ASSOCIATESHIPS**

Several Fall/Spring 2006-2007 half-time (10 hours per week) and full-time (20 hours per week) assistantships and associateships are available in TECS.

**Responsibilities include:** Assisting in supervision of pre-practica and practica students; teaching courses; assisting in teaching courses; leading discussion groups; maintaining schedules; attending class meeting; and/or advise students.

Areas of concentration include the following:

**Language, Literacy and Culture:** Dr. Jerri Willett, Room 205, Furcolo Hall (545-3675)

**Child Studies and Early Education:** Dr. Kevin Nugent, Room 211, Furcolo Hall (545-3650)

**Collaborative Teacher Education:** Dr. Cynthia Rosenberger, Room 209, Furcolo Hall (545-0981)

**Secondary Teacher Education:** Dr. Robert Maloy, 110 Furcolo Hall ( 545-0945)

**EDUC 192A: Education at the Movies:** Nola Stephen, Lecturer, Room 16, Furcolo Hall (545-1186)

**Application review will begin immediately and continue until positions are filled.**

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**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**ANNOUNCEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE EXAMINATION**

Kathryn Wiezbicki-Stevens  May 24, 2006, 1:30 p.m., 301 Goodell (Center for Teaching).

Chairperson: Dr. Elizabeth Williams

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ANNOUNCEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE EXAMINATION
Kai Yu  May 26, 2006, 10:00 a.m., Room 151, Hills South.  
Chairperson: Dr. Jeffrey W. Eiseman.

RESCHEDULING OF COMPREHENSIVE EXAMINATION
Jehann El-Bisi  May 23, 2006, 2-4 p.m  Room 20, Furcolo.  
Chairperson: Dr. Sonia Nieto.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF UMSPA SILENT AUCTION EVENT

The University of Massachusetts School Psychology Association (UMSPA) is proud to host our first annual Silent Auction, featuring over 30 items donated from local merchants in Amherst, Hadley and Northampton. UMSPA has organized professional development activities for graduate students in School Psychology and Counseling, and is also involved in community service activities.

The event will be held Friday, May 19th from 4:30-6:30PM and The University Club (Faculty Club).

FACULTY/STAFF ACTIVITIES, HONORS, AND AWARDS

NEW EDITION OF Teachers and the Law

David Schimmel, with co-authors Louis Fischer (professor emeritus) and Leslie R. Stellman, has a new edition of Teachers and the Law, published by Allyn and Bacon, copyright 2007, and available in summer 2006. The text, which has been described as “the best Education Law book on the market,” provides a question and answer format that addresses every aspect of school law from the perspective of teachers and school administrators. The 7th edition contains new material on the implications of No Child Left Behind and high stakes testing and takes on other current controversies including updated information on school choice, charters schools and the voucher system; the re-authorization of IDEA; issues of bullying, hate speech, and sexual harassment; affirmative action and the rights of homosexuals; and zero tolerance policies. An updated Instructor’s Manual includes edited Supreme Court cases, additional references, discussion guides and examination questions, and key terms.

Seeking Information:

For a Column in the next edition of the School’s Alumnae/ni Newsletter and for occasional updates in our weekly BEACON, please send information about recent (2005) publications, grants, activities, honors, and awards to Laura Holland, ljh@educ.umass.edu.

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