Environmentally Mindful!

Access The Beacon, on-line at: http://www.umass.edu/education/publications.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 may be found by going to Publications on the School of Education home page.

NCATE ACCREDITED

National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education

NCATE NEWS

In the upcoming issues of The Beacon we will be including news about NCATE. We hope you will find the information helpful.

11 Unit Capacity

Standard 3: Field Experiences and Clinical Practice

The unit and its school partners design, implement, and evaluate field experiences and clinical practice so that teacher candidates and other school personnel develop and demonstrate the knowledge, skills, and dispositions necessary to help all students learn.

Standard 4: Diversity

The unit designs, implements, and evaluates curriculum and experiences for candidates to acquire and apply the knowledge, skills, and dispositions necessary to help all students learn. These experiences include working with diverse higher education and school faculty, diverse candidates, and diverse students in P–12 schools.

3 “All students” includes students with exceptionalities and of different ethnic, racial, gender, language, religious, socioeconomic, and regional/ geographic origins.

4 Institutional standards are reflected in the unit’s conceptual framework and include candidate proficiencies.

Standard 5: Faculty Qualifications, Performance, and Development

Faculty are qualified and model best professional practices in scholarship, service, and teaching, including the assessment of their own effectiveness as related to candidate performance. They also collaborate with colleagues in...
the disciplines and schools. The unit systematically evaluates faculty performance and facilitates professional development.

**Standard 6: Unit Governance and Resources**

The unit has the leadership, authority, budget, personnel, facilities, and resources, including information technology resources, for the preparation of candidates to meet professional, state, and institutional standards.

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


Mary Deane Sorcinelli was honored Oct. 29, 2006 with the Bob Pierleoni Spirit of POD Award from the annual Professional and Organizational Development Network (POD) in Higher Education, in recognition of outstanding lifetime achievements and leadership in the enhancement of teaching, learning and faculty development in higher education.

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Please send all news of awards, honors, grants, contracts (not assistantships), new publications, etc., to the following new e-mail address: goodnews@educ.umass.edu.

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**FALL 06/ SPRING 07 ASSISTANTSHIPS AVAILABLE** *(by department)*

*Please note: All available positions are contingent upon funding.*

**Dean’s Office**

No positions available this week.

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**Educational Policy, Research and Administration**

No positions available this week.

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Office of Teacher Education

EDUCATOR LICENSURE OFFICE SPRING 2007 PROJECT ASSISTANTSHIPS

Half time (10 hours per week) Project Assistantships are available in the Educator Licensure Office for the Spring 2007 semester.

Responsibilities may 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 Assistant Dean for Educator Licensure and the Licensure Officer with data management, analysis and reporting 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 training 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 Educator Licensure Office.

Preference given to candidates with the following qualifications:

- doctoral student; excellent technology and computer skills; ability to learn new technology quickly; high level of initiative; excellent communication skills; team spirit; ability to work assigned hours which will include some evening hours and flexible hours as assigned.

To apply, please submit a current resume and letter of application which addresses your qualifications for any of the specific duties listed above to Dr. Marge Magouirk Colbert, Room 125, Furcolo Hall by Dec. 15, 2006.

Student Development and Pupil Personnel Services

No positions available this week.

Office of Academic Affairs

No positions available this week.

Teacher Education and Curriculum Studies

TEACHING ASSISTANTSHIPS - Spring 2007. Part-time (10 hours per week)

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

Qualifications: Excellent organizational and communications skills and knowledge of field.

To apply, please send resume and letter of inquiry to Linda Griffin at lgriffin@educ.umass.edu.

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School of Education Business Office

Computer Specialist Assistantship

The School of Education is hiring a computer specialist assistant for ten hours per week starting immediately and working through the Spring, 2007 term.

Qualifications include: Knowledge of Windows XP, 2000 and Macs (installing/trouble shooting), windows networking and computer hardware repair skills. Experience with Active Directory Service and previous work experience in an IT environment, a plus. Possess a driver's license.

Responsibilities Include: Help develop policy and procedures for department and computer labs, coordinate with other computer technicians, provide support to faculty and staff, and trouble-shooting computer, printer, network or server problems, develop a maintenance work list for all IT equipment, review and recommend computer software and equipment upgrades.

Interested applicants should submit a cover letter and resume by email to Susan Young (syoung@educ.umass.edu) no later than 5pm on Wednesday, December 27, 2006.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Graduate Programs Announcements

FORMATION OF DISSERTATION COMMITTEE

BARBARA A. CHOINIERE Proposed Dissertation Title: “The Complexities of the Work Experience of Middle School Teachers on Interdisciplinary Teams in Urban Settings: A Study Through In-Depth Phenomenological Interviews.” Statement of the Problem: Middle school literature describes the “ideal” middle school, its structures, programs, and philosophies. Research has not, though, been conducted on the realities of these characteristics in the middle school nor their affects on middle school teachers who teach on interdisciplinary teams in urban settings.

Chairperson: Dr. Irving Seidman.

FORMATION OF DISSERTATION COMMITTEE

DONG-SHIN SHIN Proposed Dissertation Title: “Weblogs and English Language Learners' Academic Literacy Development.” Statement of the Problem: Material discourse based on an efficiency model has been dominating research studies of computer technologies for literacy education in the field of language arts. There is a need to move away from reductionist views and to reconceive computer technologies for literacy education as situated practices in which pedagogical goals, cultures of teaching and school, and learning conditions are realized in social processes of the classroom.

Chairperson: Dr. Margaret Gebhard.

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Call for Conference Proposal

The Student Research Conference at the Harvard Graduate School of Education (HGSE) offers a unique opportunity for graduate students to present completed research or works in progress on topics related to education. This entirely student-run conference, the largest event of its kind, allows new scholars to receive feedback from and connect with other students and HGSE faculty with shared research interests. Graduate students from any institution and any discipline are invited to submit proposals for presentations on education-related work. Submissions will be accepted online until January 5, 2007, and the conference will be held at HGSE, in Cambridge, MA, on February 23, 2007.

Additional information on the conference, presentation formats, and submitting proposals may be found at the SRC website (http://gseacademic.harvard.edu/src), or you may email questions to src@gse.harvard.edu.

ATTENTION: FEBRUARY, 2007 DEGREE CANDIDATES

The next degree-granting period will be February, 2007. 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, 2007 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, 2007. It is strongly suggested, however, that you submit your forms to Linda before the winter break to be sure you can obtain your advisor's signature.

The Eligibility form must be accompanied by the School of Education Program of Study form (M-2 or C-2) which requires your Advisor's signature. Forms are available in the Graduate Program Office and on the School of Education home page: www.umass.edu/education > Academics > Advising Guidelines.

Ed.D. and Ph.D. Candidates:

The Doctoral Degree Eligibility form must be submitted to Linda Guthrie in Room 123 Furcolo, along with the D-9 form (Result of Final Oral Examination) no later than January 9th, 2007.* The Eligibility form is sent to each student by the Degree Requirements Office (534 Goodell) after the defense date is scheduled (Form D-8).

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 9th,* and she will obtain the Dean's signature.

* It is strongly suggested, however, that you submit your forms to Linda before the winter break to be sure you can obtain your advisor’s signature.

Dissertation copies, fees and materials must be submitted to the Office of Degree Requirements (Room 534 Goodell) by 5:00 p.m., January 16th, 2007. THIS IS A FIRM DEADLINE!

IMPORTANT: If you do not file for graduation by the degree deadline date, you must pay the Program Fee to maintain continuous enrollment until you graduate.

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Attention International Teaching Assistants!

Please make sure you sign up for one of the two English Language Screening Tests being given in January. The tests will be given on January 24, and January 31, 2007.

A limited number of screening appointments will be available at the beginning of the spring semester for new arrivals. Students who are on campus during the winter session should sign up for the earlier date.

Students will need to sign up for the test outside Room 518, Goodell Building. A sample test may be obtained at the time of sign-up on the bulletin board outside in Room 518, Goodell Building or from Lori Baronas in 518 Goodell. All testing will be held in the Campus Center. The test will take approximately 1 hour.

Call for Fellowship Proposals

GOLDSTINE POST DOCTORAL FELLOWSHIP

IBM has announced the '07-'08 IBM Herman Goldstine Postdoctoral Fellowship in Mathematical Sciences. The Goldstine Fellowship provides scientists of outstanding ability an opportunity to advance their scholarship as resident department members at the IBM Mathematical Sciences Research Center. The Research Center is located in Westchester County, less than an hour north of New York City, and provides an atmosphere in which basic research is combined with work on technical problems arising in industry. If you intend to apply to this fellowship, please notify Karen Hayes (545-9586) Research Liaison and Development, so that we can alert the campus's IBM partnership executive and can track the progress of the application appropriately. One fellowship of between $95,000 and $115,000 will be awarded. Access the Goldstine Fellowship website for the application and more information. All proposals should be reviewed by OGCA first (545-0698). The deadline is December 25, 2006.

As a member institution of the Semiconductor Research Corporation (SRC), UMass Amherst can encourage graduate students to apply for the Graduate Fellowship Program. The program rewards talented and promising PhD students whose research coincides with SRC's Global Research Consortium goals. Students must be working under an SRC approved faculty member at UMass Amherst. A list of approved faculty can be found here. SRC offers several other fellowship opportunities to UMass Amherst graduate students, including company-named fellowships and research fellowships. Though online submittal of these proposals may be required, all proposals should be reviewed by OGCA first (545-0698). For more information about these and other opportunities for students through SRC, visit the organization's student programs website. The deadline is February 15, 2007.

Karen J. Hayes
Research Liaison and Development
70 Butterfield Terrace
University of Massachusetts
Amherst, MA 01003-9242
413.545.9586 fax:413.577.1500
khayes@research.umass.edu; web: www.umass.edu/research

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Attention: School of Education Faculty!

OIT/ Academic Computing offering hands-on workshops in January

Academic Computing is offering a wide variety of hands-on workshops for faculty in January. These workshops allow participants to learn new technologies while working with content from their own courses. Workshop schedule, descriptions and registration are available online at: http://www.oit.umass.edu/academic/workshops/registration.html

Workshop topics include:
Workshops on basic use of technology for teaching:
- Overview of available teaching technologies
- Basic creation of digital documents using PDF
- Basic introduction to digital images
- Basic presentation building in PowerPoint
- Basic grade management using Excel

Workshops about course websites:
- Creating public course Web sites using Dreamweaver
- Migrating from WebCT CE to Vista 4
- Creating course Web sites from scratch in Vista 4*
- Building quizzes and surveys in Vista 4
- Using communications tools in Vista 4

*To participate in our Vista 4 workshops, you must be a member of the Vista 4 Spring 2007 pilot. To apply for a spot in the pilot go to: http://people.umass.edu/accoprod/webct/vista4_request_course.html.

Workshops about digital audio and video:
- Basic audio capture and editing for websites and podcasts
- Basic digital video capture and editing in iMovie (MacOS)
- Basic digital video capture and editing in Movie Maker (Windows)

Workshops on emerging technologies:
- Using blogs, wikis and podcasts to distribute classroom content

OIT/Academic Computing also has special topics that it will offer to individual faculty or departments on request. Call OIT at 577-0072 if you or your department is interested in specialized introductions to linking to library resources, copyright issues, video conferencing, or other topics.

If you have questions or comments, call 577-0072.

Employment Opportunities

Paraprofessional Needed for After School Program

The after school program at the middle school is looking to hire a part-time para for seven hours per week to work with a high functioning seventh grade student with Down's Syndrome. He will need assistance M-Th from 2:30-3:30 and on Friday from 2:30-6:30.

Hourly rate is negotiable. We will need someone as soon as possible through the middle of May.

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**New Graduate Student Employee Orientations**

This is to inform you of the dates of the Spring 07 new graduate student employee orientations that are coming up beginning December 7, 2006. At these mandatory orientations new graduate student employees will complete the paperwork necessary for the University to pay them as employees (with the exception of the Assistantship Form - GFAF). Graduate students will be helped with all mandatory federal, state, and required campus forms such I-9’s, W-2’s, and the Participation Agreement. *Assistantship Forms (GFAF)* are completed, as usual, in the department and should, in most cases, be submitted to the Assistantship Office prior to the new student employee attending the orientations. Additionally, graduate student employees will get a comprehensive explanation of their health and dental insurance plans and immunization requirements. These orientations are required and are the best and most efficient way for completing all of these critical requirements. The following times and rooms have been scheduled for the upcoming Spring semester:

**All NEW graduate student employees must attend ONE of the following orientation sessions:**

- Thursday, December 7  CC 165-169   2:00
- Wednesday, December 13 CC 165-169   2:00
- Wednesday, January 10 CC 905-909   2:00
- Thursday, January 11  CC 904-908   2:00

Departments with new graduate student employees who are unable to make one of the mandatory orientations listed above must contact the Graduate School (545-5289) in order to make alternate arrangements.

The presentations last about an hour and there is plenty of time afterwards for students to receive assistance in completing their paperwork and ask questions.

It is very important to tell students attending these sessions that they must bring with them ID and documentation which fulfills federal employment eligibility verification requirements, for instance:

**US Citizens and Resident**

1. US Passport, or
2. Drivers license or University picture ID  
   - and -  
   social security card or US birth certificate
3. Voided check if they desire direct deposit of pay into a checking account

**International Students**

1. Visa
2. Unexpired passport with I-94 card
3. I-20 or DS-2019
4. Social Security card - if you have one
5. List of dates of entry to & exit from the US
6. Voided check if they desire direct deposit of pay into a checking account

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For further information, please contact Amy Jackendorff, Savuka Site Coordinator, Amherst Regional Middle School, 70 Chestnut St., Amherst, MA 01002, JackendorffA@arps.org, 413-362-1965.