New Look for the Beacon!

We have created a new look for The Beacon in order to bring you more information about the School of Education. As always, 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.

FAQ’s and other information that is good to know:

HOW TO APPLY TO THE FULBRIGHT SCHOLAR PROGRAM

Fulbright program at the US Department of Education is a program designed to give educators and administrators an opportunity to travel overseas and learn more about another country and another culture.

The program pays for a majority of expenses. The participants are not expected to teach or exchange- just to learn.

The program deadline is September 28, 2006.

For more information, please contact:

Gale Holdren
Fulbright Hays Seminars Abroad
& Undergraduate International Studies and Foreign Language
Senior Program Officer
U.S. Department of Education
6th Floor, 1990 K Street, NW
Washington, DC 20006-8521
202-502-7691
202-502-7859 fax
gale.holdren@ed.gov
www.ed.gov/programs/iegpsap/index.html

BEACON DEADLINE: Notice! Change in Beacon submission procedure: Please submit Beacon announcements to Room 123A Furcolo Hall or to llascell@edu.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.
FACULTY/STAFF/STUDENT ACTIVITIES, HONORS, AND AWARDS

LANGUAGE, LITERACY AND CULTURE GROUP TO PRESENT IN TEXAS AND MEXICO

A first for the LLC cohort of 2005! A group will be presenting together! Congratulations to Dr. Stacie Tate, Joshua Lawrence, Kathleen McDonough & Gloria Barragan who will present in Sept. at the Third International Conference on Education, Labor and Emancipation, Sept 28-Sept 30th in El Paso, Texas and Ciudad Juarez, Mexico.

We would like to share in each other’s successes. Please send recent information on publications, grants, activities, honors, and awards to: Linda Rhinehart Neas, Room 123A Furcolo Hall, llascell@educ.umass.edu
Publication deadlines are found at the bottom of the page.

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
No positions available this week.

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Student Development and Pupil Personnel Services
No positions available this week.

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Office of Academic Affairs

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No positions available this week.

Teacher Education and Curriculum Studies

No positions available this week.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

EDUC 838: SEMINAR ON INQUIRY

Instructor: John Clement - Class #: 77662 - Tu 4.00-6.30 - Furcolo 230

This course is titled "Seminar in Science Education" on the UMass Spire registration system (abbreviated Seminar Science Educ) on the web, but its scope is broader and it should really be titled "Seminar on Inquiry in Mathematics, Science, and other Areas of Education."

This course will examine research on the nature of inquiry and the different educational methods that can foster it. Depending on the participants, all grade levels will be considered, from primary to college, and depending on those enrolled, topic areas other than Science and Math will be considered. Two common meanings of inquiry will be examined most closely: aiming at process or thinking skill goals; and using learning methods that are in some degree student directed or where ideas are student generated. A perceived possible conflict between inquiry methods and programs with strong content goals is often noted by teachers. This worry is heightened by the current emphasis on standardized testing. By deepening our conceptual vocabulary for talking about this issue we will enhance our ability to analyze and design effective instructional inquiry situations. We will see that some of these are compatible with targeted content and understanding goals, yet allow for student generation and improvement of ideas. Others are primarily focused on process (thinking) goals. A few are focused on both. We will use video tapes to look at different kinds of student and teacher inquiry processes including student investigations, problem solving processes, and teacher student interactions in classrooms. Topics include: inquiry skills in professional researchers and in students; process vs. content goals; research on relevant teaching strategies; inquiry cycles; computer assisted inquiry environments; and scaffolding and supporting inquiry.

HELP WANTED

Assistant Swim Coach needed for fall/winter season

Belchertown Stingrays Swim Team is looking for an assistant coach for practices which are Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Fridays from 2:45 to 6:00 and Sundays from 6:00-8:00. Most meets are on Saturday mornings. The season goes from Oct 1 thru end of January. The only qualifications is that the individual should have some knowledge of competitive swimming and stroke techniques as well as patience to work with children of various ages and swim levels. This is a paid position. If you are interested, contact Aimee Withers via email at withers95@charter.net

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PROPOSAL WRITING FORUMS

Before you are even settling in, we already have an announcement for you!!! We will again this fall offer PROPOSAL WRITING FORUMS for graduate students applying for extramural funding this upcoming fall/academic year. This year the forums will consist of two parts: an information session and a writing workshop. To attend a writing workshop you MUST have participated in an information session, so please plan ahead!

INFORMATION SESSIONS:

Information Sessions will outline general information on preparing a proposal draft including formatting/sectioning, evaluation criteria, common reasons why proposals are rejected, and compliance for research with human subjects.

- Experienced faculty from a variety of disciplines will be there to answer questions.
- Information Sessions are open to ALL graduate students.
- Refreshments provided.

Information Session I:  Friday September 15, 3-5 pm, Campus Center 803
Information Session II:  Thursday October 5, 4-6 pm, Campus Center 803
Reserve the date!!!

WRITING WORKSHOPS:

- Proposal Writing Workshops are specifically designed for students who are applying for a grant or fellowship in the current funding cycle (fall 2006). You must submit a draft of a proposal to participate!
- They are designed to make your funding proposal more competitive, to have you implement proposal review criteria, and to create a supportive environment among peers.
- To attend a Proposal Writing Workshop, you must first attend a Proposal Writing Information Session!!!
- You MUST pre-register for these workshops!
- Coffee provided ;-) 

Workshop I:  Friday September 29, 9 am - 12noon, Campus Center 802
Social Sciences and Humanities
Pre-registration deadline is September 22nd, 12 noon!

Workshop II:  Friday October 20, 1-4 pm, Campus Center, Room 802
Engineering and Sciences
Pre-registration deadline is October 13th, 12 noon!

Workshop III:  Friday November 10th, 9 am - 12noon, Campus Center 802
Social Sciences, Humanities, Professional Schools
Pre-registration deadline: November 3rd, 12 noon!

For more information or pre-registration materials, please check out our web site www.umass.edu/gradschool/gsqs) or come by our office. We will be open on Tue 10-1, Thu 10-2, and Fri 10-3 this fall. Or simply give us a call.

Graduate Student Grant Service, 517 Goodell Building, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, 413-545-5273
gsqs@resgs.umass.edu, www.umass.edu/gradschool/gsqs.

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