I just started Graduate School this semester. Where do I get the Master’s Guidelines and Forms?

The Master’s, Doctoral and CAGS guidelines can be found on the web at: http://www.umass.edu/education/academics/main_advising.htm

Besides the Beacon, where else can I find listings for assistantships?

You can also check the listings at the Graduate Assistantship Office at 239 Whitmore.

I don’t live on campus and commute to classes. What are my parking options?

(Continued on page 2)
FACULTY/STAFF/STUDENT ACTIVITIES, HONORS, AND AWARDS

Dan Moylan, a 180 Days 2006 graduate, has been selected as a recipient of the Pioneer Valley Excellence in Teaching "New Teacher Award". Dr. Burke, Springfield's Superintendent, went to Central High today to announce the award. Dan teaches in the Science Department and also voluntarily works with special needs students, something he began last year when he was a 180 Days teacher at Central!

Stonewall Dessert Reception this Thursday, February 1, 4:30-6 p.m.

To kick-off the Spring semester, the Stonewall Center at UMass Amherst welcomes LGBT and allied students, staff, and faculty to the center for desserts and warm beverages. The Stonewall Center is located in Crampton Residence Hall in SW (a map is located at: http://www.umass.edu/stonewall/directions).

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

The Provost’s Office and the UMass Amherst Alumni Association are pleased to offer two unique opportunities to recognize exceptional graduating seniors: The 21st Century Leaders Award and the Alumni Association Senior Leadership Award. Below are brief descriptions of each award and links to websites for additional information and nomination forms. We hope that you will take the time to nominate your outstanding seniors so that their accomplishments may be recognized.

21st Century Leaders Award

This award recognizes the strong academic record and exemplary achievement of undergraduate students who further distinguished their intellectual accomplishments, and enhanced the reputation of the University by contributing to the campus community through their leadership skills, academic achievements, community service, and artistic or athletic accomplishments.

Nominees, who must be graduating seniors, will be characterized by their determination to fulfill their academic potential and achieve personal goals. They will be recognized for high academic performance and for the prestige and honor they bring to the University of Massachusetts Amherst. The deadline is Friday, February 16, 2007 at 5:00 p.m.

Additional information and nomination forms are available online at http://www.umass.edu/commencement. If you have questions, please call the Provost’s Office at 545 - 2554.

2007 Alumni Association Senior Leadership Award

The Senior Leadership Award was established by the UMass Amherst Alumni Association to recognize graduating seniors who have demonstrated outstanding leadership and service to the campus. Seniors who have made major contributions in areas such as academic excellence, student organizations, athletics, campus jobs, or community and volunteer services are eligible. In addition to active involvement in the life of the campus, eligible candidates must demonstrate a serious commitment to their academic pursuits.

Student must be a member of the Class of 2007 and have a minimum GPA of 2.5. The deadline is Friday, February 16, 2007 at 5:00 p.m.
SPRING 07 ASSISTANTSHIPS AVAILABLE (by department)

Please note: All available positions are contingent upon funding.

Dean’s Office
No positions available this week.

School of Education Business Office
No positions available this week.

Educational Policy, Research and Administration
No positions available this week.

Teacher Education and Curriculum Studies

Teaching Assistantship – Spring 2007 – EDUC. 378 – Section 3 – Survey of Children's Literature

One half-time (10 hrs. per week) Teaching assistantship is available starting Spring, 2007 in the Department of Teacher Education and Curriculum Studies, with Masha K. Rudman.

Responsibilities include: help keep track of the students' progress, advise them on their projects, and monitor the materials and research.

Qualifications include: interest in and knowledge of children’s literature is a benefit; work-study eligible students preferred.

To apply please contact Dr. Masha K. Rudman, Room 224B, Furcolo Hall (545-1116) or email: rudman@educ.umass.edu

Educator Licensure Office
No positions available this week.

Office of Academic Affairs
No positions available this week.

"Teachers, I believe, are the most responsible and important members of society because their professional efforts affect the fate of the earth."

--Helen Caldicott, author and peace activist

At the School of Education, you can use the metered spaces (.25 cents for 15 minutes); get a parking sticker to park in one of the lots either outside Mark’s Meadow/Furcolo Hall (Lot 66), or up the hill (Lot 44) or across the street (Lot 27) (You will need to go to the Parking Services in Lot 25 just down from the Mullen’s Center in the Mullen’s parking lot.), or get a parking sticker to park in the Lutheran Church parking lot next door to Furcolo Hall at 867 North Pleasant Street, 413-549-0322.

How do I know when my professor has office hours?
All office hours are posted outside the individual professors office door with contact information.
ANNOUNCEMENTS

ATTENTION INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS
WITH TEACHING ASSISTANTSHIPS

This is just a reminder. If you are an international students who will be a teaching assistant for the spring 2007 semester, please come to room 518 Goodell Building to sign up for the mandatory Speak Test being held on January 31st.

This is for those students who have not already taken and passed the test.

For further information, please contact: Lori Baronas, Graduate Dean’s Office, 518 Goodell Building, University of Massachusetts Amherst, 140 Hicks Way, Amherst, MA 01003, 413-545-5278

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS/PROPOSALS

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT GRANTS

The President’s Office has opened its annual grant program, “Enhancing Teaching Through the Use of Technology” (formerly called “Professional Development Grants”). The Request for Proposals can be downloaded from http://media.umassp.edu/massedu/itc/ATGFY08.pdf. (The proposal deadline is February 23.)

This year’s program is expanded both in the amount of funds available and the proposal categories. Proposals are sought for Professional Development Grants, Strategic Initiative Grants, and Grants for Scholarship of Teaching and Learning with Technology. (Proposals may qualify under more than one category.)

For additional information, contact Mark Schlesinger at the President’s Office: mschlesinger@umassp.edu, 617-287-7102.

2007 UNH COMPOSITION CONFERENCE

October 12-13, 2007
http://www.unh.edu/composition/conference

Theme: Literacies--Personal, Professional, Academic

The University of New Hampshire is offering a composition conference with keynotes Ellen Cushman (Michigan State University), Paul Kei Matsuda (University of New Hampshire), Gwendolyn D. Pough (Syracuse University) and Stuart Selber (Penn State University). The focus will be on exploring literacy as it is learned inside and outside of school, and its multiple uses.

We invite proposals for 75-minute concurrent sessions. Sessions can be proposed by an individual or a group of presenters. We prefer interactive sessions and hope to avoid the reading of papers. Among the possible topics to be addressed are: literacy, technology and accessibility; multi-media literacies; virtual reading and writing communities; non-school sponsors of literacy; literacy norms and second language learners; literacy and popular culture; and new discourse conventions in academic writing.

Proposals should include: Session Title; Proposal Type (individual or group); Complete contact information of each presenter including name, address, daytime phone and email address; A 400-word session description as well as a 50-word summary.

Send to: UNH English Department, Attn: Composition Conference, 95 Main Street, Durham, NH 03824
Postmark deadline: Monday, May 14, 2007

Please direct all questions to Sabina Foote at: sabina.foote@unh.edu.

GRADUATE SCHOOL FELLOWSHIPS

Nominations for the Graduate School Fellowship are now being solicited by the Graduate School. The purpose of this Fellowship is to promote the recruitment and retention of academically excellent students. PREFERENCE IS GIVEN TO INCOMING DOCTORAL STUDENTS although Master’s and CAGS students may also apply. Incoming students are defined as students new to UMASS as of Fall, 2007. Current students will ONLY be considered if any awards to incoming students are declined. A maximum of six students may be nominated from the School of Education and 3 from School Psychology ((incoming and current combined).

Although the actual amount of the stipend has not been established, last year it ranged from $10,000 to $15,000.

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Award includes a waiver of tuition and payment of the Curriculum Fee and the mandatory health fee. Students are allowed to supplement the Fellowship stipends with other sources of funding.

**If you are an incoming student as of Fall, 2007 and wish to be considered for this fellowship,** contact the concentration that you applied to and speak with the concentration head. **INCOMING** graduate students must be nominated by the concentration head.

**INCOMING** nominations consist of:

- Copy of the Graduate School Fellowship Incoming Nomination form
- Copy of the complete Graduate School Application with two letters of recommendation, transcripts and personal statement.
- Nomination by Linda Griffin, Graduate Program Director. She will review all nominations and recommend those that she feels are the strongest.

**CRITERIA** for Incoming Students (in descending order)

- Graduate Program Director recommendation
- Recommendations
- Personal Statement
- GPA
- Additional information (papers delivered at conferences, publications, honors, exhibits, etc)

**DEADLINE for CONCENTRATIONS TO SUBMIT INCOMING NOMINATIONS TO DEPARTMENTS IS, FEBRUARY 5, 2007.**

NOMINATIONS MUST BE RANK ORDERED by Concentration and Department before being submitted to Linda Guthrie.

Incoming students who receive awards will be notified by March 8, 2007.

**CURRENT** graduate students need to submit the following:

- Fellowship nomination form, completed by student
- Personal statement by the student (Statement & C.V. not to exceed 3 pages, in 12 pt. font)
- CV (include papers delivered, publications, performances, exhibits, service to the University/ community)
- Graduate Program Director Recommendation Letter (Linda Griffin will write a recommendation for those she nominates)
- Two Faculty Recommendation Letters (one must be from chair/advisor) (one of whom is the student’s major advisor/chairperson)
- Unofficial copy of student’s latest graduate transcript (available from SPIRE)

Nomination and recommendation forms are available from Linda Guthrie in 123 Furcolo, who will be serving as the liaison between students and Linda Griffin, Graduate Program Director for the School of Education.

The Graduate Fellowship Committee asks that you DO **NOT** submit extra material and advises that incomplete applications will not be considered.

Criteria used by the committee to rank applications are listed in order of importance as follows:

1) Recommendation from Linda Griffin, GPD
2) Two letters of recommendation from faculty
3) Curriculum Vitae
4) Personal statement
5) Student’s graduate transcript

**DEADLINE FOR CURRENT STUDENTS TO SUBMIT THEIR COMPLETE NOMINATION PACKETS TO THEIR CONCENTRATION COORDINATOR IS, APRIL 2, 2007.**

Nominations must be rank ordered by Concentration and Department before being submitted to Linda Guthrie.

Current students who receive awards will be notified by the Graduate School by May 7, 2007.

**SMALL GRANTS IN SUPPORT OF DIVERSITY EDUCATION**

The report of the Diversity Commission calls on the University administration to "support the development of more General Education Diversity courses that focus on issues of difference, culture, power and privilege." To that end, the Chancellor’s Action Plan proposes "incentive grants for curriculum and pedagogical development projects" in diversity education. (See http://www.umass.edu/campusdiversity/.) The Provost has allocated funds to support these grants and has asked the General Education Council to award them.

The Council will consider any proposal that promises to

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improve diversity education at the University, but there is a particular interest in proposals that address one or more of the following needs:

- Courses that satisfy the General Education U (U.S. diversity) requirement, especially from departments or colleges that currently offer few such courses. The Council welcomes proposals for new courses, for improvement of existing U courses, or for modifications of established courses to bring them into the scope of the U requirement.
- Programs to train and mentor teaching assistants or associates in diversity courses.
- Curricula that more fully integrate diversity education into the major. (These need not involve general education courses).
- Ideas for improving diversity education in large lecture courses.
- Ideas that readily scale up and transfer to other courses and departments.

The Center for Teaching will offer consultation to participants when they begin their projects and when they are ready to prepare their final reports. Participants will also meet regularly as a group to discuss their ideas and experiences.

Up to 10 grants of about $6,000 each are envisioned, but proposals for larger amounts will be considered with sufficient justification. This competition will occur annually, and renewals as well as new proposals will be considered.

Collaborative and interdisciplinary projects are welcome.

The proposal cover sheet and instructions are available at http://www.umass.edu/provost/diversitygrant.html. Questions should be addressed to the chair of the General Education Council, Randall Knoper (knoper@english.umass.edu). The deadline for receipt of proposals is March 12, 2007.
strategies to better include children in general education classrooms to training on legal issues for those who work with older adults, the IOD, with the help of direct input from many partners and consumers, has organized 22 programs to address several key priority areas. In an effort to make these research and best-practice based opportunities more accessible, the IOD is offering workshops in almost every region of the Granite State. More information and online registration can be found on the IOD website at www.iod.unh.edu.

THE 2007 AUTISM MINI-SERIES

Informative and interactive topical discussions on ASD designed to provide practical ideas to complement teaching and parenting strategies.

Description: Join experts on Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD) for topical discussions related to children with ASD, their families, and the systems of support in their lives. Each small group session is designed to be informative, interactive, and filled with practical ideas to embed within your own parenting and teaching strategies.

Registration Fee: $25 for each session

Location: All sessions will be held on the University of New Hampshire Campus at the Institute on Disability’s Conference Room, 10 West Edge Drive, Suite 101, Durham NH 03824.

Workshops:

Educating Students with ASD in General Education Classes: Fostering Academic Learning
Date: April 11, 2007
Time: 4:00 pm - 6:00 pm
Presenter: Cheryl M. Jorgensen, Ph.D.

Educating Students with ASD in General Education Classes: Fostering Communication
Date: February 12 & May 7, 2007
Time: 4:00 pm - 6:00 pm
Presenter: Rae Sonnenmeier, Ph.D., CCC-SLP

Challenging Behaviors at Home and School
Date: Tuesday, February 13, 2007
Time: 3:00 pm - 5:00 pm
Presenter: Ann Dillon, M.Ed.

PECS & Augmentative Communication
Date: March 14 & June 13, 2007
Time: 4:00 pm - 6:00 pm
Presenter: Michael McSheehan

LIFE AS A PARAPROFESSIONAL

Strategies for Working with Students with Challenging Behaviors

Description: Join Cathy Apfel and other paraprofessional colleagues for an in-depth examination of Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) with an emphasis on classroom-based approaches designed to enhance the learning and emotional well being of students. In this, highly inter-active session you will learn to promote responsible student behavior.

Workshop Instructor: Cathy Apfel

Time: 9:00 am - 3:00 pm
Registration Fee: $90

Dates and Locations:
February 8, 2007 - Highlander Inn, Manchester, NH
March 15, 2007 - Highlander Inn, Manchester, NH
April 5, 2007 - Common Man, Plymouth, NH
May 3, 2007 - Highlander Inn, Manchester, NH

WHOSE DECISION IS IT ANYWAY?

Training on Legal Issues for those Who Work with Seniors

Description: When can and can’t a person legally make decisions about his or her own affairs? As people age, concerns can arise about some individuals’ ability to make their own decisions. This workshop will help those who work with seniors to understand the rules and laws around decision making. Participants will be able to describe who can, and cannot, make their own decisions as well as the legal documents that are required to give others decision making authority. The discussion will include informed decisions and competency issues using case examples.

Presenter: Mary McGuire, Esquire

Time: 8:00 am - 12:00 pm
Registration Fee: $12

Dates and Locations:
Tuesday, January 30, 2007 - Best Western Hotel, Portsmouth, NH
Thursday, March 29, 2007 - E.F. Lane Hotel, Keene, NH

Whose Decision is it Anyway? has been approved by the NH Chapter NASW for three (3) Category I Continuing Education Credits in Ethics for social workers
EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

TEACHING ASSISTANTSHIPS FOR 2007-2008
(OUTSIDE THE SCHOOL OF EDUCATION)

INTERNSHIP IN
ACADEMIC PLANNING AND ASSESSMENT

The Department of Academic Planning and Assessment has an opening for a 10-15 hour internship beginning immediately (appointment runs from January to May). The intern would be assisting professional members of the staff in the development, management, and statistical analysis of large-scale databases and serve as statistical consultant for various office analysis.

**Duties include:** working with professional staff on creation and management of large-scale databases and the application of appropriate statistical analysis. Support other statistical analysis needs and provide additional support such as data clean-up, coding, error checking and troubleshooting on an as needed basis.

**Qualifications include:** strong statistical knowledge/experience, analytical skills, and experience with the statistical software package SAS required (including familiarity with data step, base SAS and statistical procedures, and macro language). Experience developing predictive models (including logistic regression), and using large databases is essential. Familiarity with Microsoft Excel or equivalent spreadsheet applications is a plus. Applicants with a background in higher education, social studies, or public health are preferred. Strong organizational skills, ability to work independently, and attention to detail are important.

For more information, please contact: Jennifer Goodspeed, 237 Whitmore, 413-545-5148, goodspeed@oirp.umass.edu.

UNITED ASIA LEARNING RESOURCE CENTER (UALRC) GRADUATE ASSISTANTSHIP OPENING

Twenty (20) hour assistantship for Spring Semester:

**Responsibilities include:** Assist UALRC staff in counseling diverse student populations in resolving problems, career planning and providing appropriate information on resources and opportunities intended to help them attain their educational goals; actively promote their developmental growth and well-being. Assist UALRC staff with special projects and other duties as required such as participating in Outreach Activities to diverse student populations.

**Qualifications include:** Experience working with diverse student populations; teaching experience (for Peer Mentoring Program); high level of computer capability and proficiency needed in the performance of duties;
excellent oral and written communications skills; strong organizational and interpersonal skills are required.

Active status in a graduate degree granting program related to the job duties is required. Education, Counseling, and Psychology degree programs preferred. Some nights and weekends required.

Please submit cover letter and three references with current resume/CV to: Linda Asai Olf, Assoc. Director, Knowlton Offices, 545-1844

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**HOMELESS CHILDREN NEED VOLUNTEERS**

You don’t see them on the streets. In fact, you’re probably not aware of them at all. But there are 80,000 of them right here in Massachusetts. They’re homeless children. Child and family homelessness is a crisis in our community. Homeless kids are often transient, staying in shelters when they can, and even living in cars with their families. So they’re out of sight, and unfortunately, out of mind. Well, Horizons for Homeless Children is here to help them. And you can help, too. By volunteering two hours per week, you can bring a lot of fun and relief to children living in shelter. We are looking for volunteers to go into shelters in Orange, Greenfield, Northampton, Springfield, Holyoke, and Amherst to play with the kids for two hours every week.

If this is something you're interested in, please feel free to call us at 413-532-0467, email us at: creed@horizonsforhomelesschildren.org, or check out our website at http://www.horizonsforhomelesschildren.org/.

You would be surprised at the difference just two hours a week can make.

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**CENTER FOR EARLY EDUCATION AND CARE**

**TEMPORARY OPENINGS**

The Center for Early Education and Care (formerly University Child Care) of the University of Massachusetts Amherst is seeking early childhood educators to teach in our on-campus toddler and preschool classrooms. We are requesting your assistance in identifying individuals to fill the following temporary classroom staffing positions:

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**TEMPORARY EARLY CHILDHOOD TEACHER POSITION** (18 month leave replacement)

**General Duties:** The Early Childhood Teacher develops and implements curriculum, classroom environment, behavior guidance, and parent partnerships according to Center for Early Education and Care (CEEC) guidelines, state licensing regulations and standards, and national accreditation criteria. Provides a nurturing, safe environment for children which facilitates the social, emotional, intellectual, and physical growth of all children assigned to the classroom. Supervises student staff assigned to the classroom.

**Qualifications:** Associate Degree in Early Childhood Education, or closely related field and one year full-time experience in a licensed early childhood classroom including planning and implementing curriculum and writing developmental assessments. Able to meet EEC Teacher qualification for Infant/Toddler and/or Preschool. Infant/Toddler and Preschool Teacher preferred. Lead Teacher qualification for Infant/Toddler and/or Preschool preferred. Must hold current First Aid certification at date of hire. Able to lift, move, and hold children and objects up to 40 pounds. Able to engage in full range of motion to lift, reach, squat, climb, sit, and otherwise fully participate in classroom activities. Able to supervise and interact with children outdoors for extended periods of varied weather conditions.

Duties involve some evening and weekend hours. Experience working with ethnically diverse populations and/or bilingual fluency preferred.

**Hiring Salary:** $29,300 annual.

Review of applications will begin immediately and continue until the position is filled.

Submit cover letter, resume, EEC certificate, name and phone number of three references to: Maryanne Gallagher, Center for Early Education and Care, 21 Clubhouse Drive, Amherst MA 01003.

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**EARLY CHILDHOOD ASSOCIATE TEACHERS/SUBSTITUTES**

**General Duties:** The Early Childhood Associate Teacher assists a professional classroom teacher with all aspects of classroom management, helps to maintain health and
safety of children and classroom environment, assists children with daily routines, and participates in curriculum implementation.

**Qualifications:** High School diploma or equivalent. Department of Early Education and Care (EEC) Infant/Toddler and/or Preschool Teacher qualification. Infant/Toddler and Preschool Teacher qualified, Lead Teacher preferred. One-year work experience in a licensed early childhood setting preferred. Experience working with ethnically diverse populations and/or bilingual fluency preferred. Available for same day and advance planned assignments.

Hourly Salary: $12.00 - $14.00 based on qualifications and experience.

Review of applications will begin immediately and continue until the position is filled.

Submit cover letter, resume, EEC certificate, name and phone number of three references to: Maryanne Gallagher, Center for Early Education and Care, 21 Clubhouse Drive, Amherst MA 01003.

Women and members of minority groups are encouraged to apply. The University of Massachusetts is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer.

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Nomination forms are available online at www.UMassAlumni.com/students. For any additional information, contact Melanie Corbeil in the Alumni Association at 545 - 2317.

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**Attitudes are more important than facts.**

-- George MacDonald

**Criteria for selection includes:** teaching effectiveness and creativity; impact on students; subject mastery and scholarship; contributions to teaching mission.

Please submit nominations to Linda Griffin by Friday, February 16, 2007.

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**GRADUATE STUDENT SENATE**

What's going on at UMass and in the GSS:

**Childcare Applications due February 12, 2007**

Childcare Applications, found online at http://umassgss.org/child-care.html, are due on Add/Drop day, which is Feb.12. If you are a graduate student with one or more children use this resource to help pay for your childcare costs!

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**WANTED: Represent Graduate Student Concerns**

There are vacant seats on very relevant, influential University committees and councils, that would greatly benefit from the participation of progressive and attentive graduate students. If you are interested in helping shape the course of this University, but don't have a lot of time to spare, spending 1-2 hours a month serving as a graduate student body representative is an effective way to be involved.

Please email Jeff Napolitano, at: gss-pres@grad.umass.edu for more information.

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(Continued on page 11)
Next Senate Meeting on February 5th

The next Senate meeting will be on February 5th, at 6:30PM, in a room to be announced (keep an eye on the website and next week’s email). An agenda will be forthcoming, but will include a ramped up campaign that will focus on housing issues as well as holding the University to its commitments on affirmative action.

This meeting will be a general meeting, so all graduate students will have a vote just by attending.

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The Third Distinguished Faculty Lecture
2006 - 2007

On Monday, February 5, at 4 pm Distinguished Professor Joseph I. Goldstein of the Department of Mechanical and Industrial Engineering will present a lecture in the Massachusetts room in the Mullins Center. The event is free and open to the public and a reception follows the talk.

Professor Goldstein's talk is titled, "Extraterrestrial Metals: New Clues on Asteroids and the Early Solar System." He says some asteroids contain material that's 4.65 billion years old -- the oldest known samples of the early solar system. The lecture will explore how asteroids form and how they interact with each other to make craters on the moon and the samples collected on Earth.