SEEKING NOMINATIONS FOR THE COLLEGE OF EDUCATION’S COLLEGE OUTSTANDING TEACHER AWARD

The College Outstanding Teacher Award program was instituted as a complement to the Distinguished Teaching Awards given by the Graduate School. The purpose of the award is to honor individual faculty members for their teaching and mentoring accomplishments within their own colleges. 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 Office of Academic Affairs is seeking nominations by colleagues and/or students. Please submit your nomination to Jane Clukay (jclukay@educ.umass.edu) in the form of a letter highlighting why your nominee should be considered for this award.

Deadline for receiving nominations is Friday, February 21, 2014.

College of Education scholarship applications are due March 14! Find the link to the application form on our home page. www.umass.edu/education

The Beacon Deadline is FRIDAY
- Please submit general news and announcements to: dms@educ.umass.edu by 5:00 P.M. Friday for inclusion in the following issue.
- All assistantship notices will run in two issues.
- Please submit notices of examinations and formation of dissertation committees to Kristin Tyler at ktyler@educ.umass.edu. These types of announcements will run for one week.

The Beacon is posted online every week. http://www.umass.edu/education/news/beacon
ANNOUNCEMENT OF FINAL ORAL EXAMINATION

TECNAM YOON  March 10, 2014, 9:00 a.m., Room 228 Furcolo Hall. “Developing Multimodal Literacy: the Application of Digital Storytelling as a New Avenue for Effective English Learning with EFL Elementary School Students in Korea.”

Chairperson: Dr. K.C. Nat Turner

MAY 2014 DEGREE DEADLINES
Listed below are the deadline dates to apply for a May 2014 degree for Master's, CAGS, and Doctoral students who will complete their degree requirements during the spring 2014 semester.

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

The Degree Eligibility Form and College of Education Master's Form M-2 or CAGS Form C-2 must be completed (typed) and submitted to Kristin Tyler in the Office of Academic Affairs, 123 Furcolo, no later than April 1, 2014. This is to allow time for processing and obtaining the necessary signatures of Dr. Linda Griffin, Associate Dean for Academic Affairs and Graduate Program Director, and Dean Christine McCormick (Department Head). Your advisor must sign the College of Education Master's Form M-2 or CAGS Form C-2, but NOT the Degree Eligibility Form.

Forms can be downloaded from the following URL. If you have any difficulty, please open the documents in Internet Explorer or Safari:
http://www.umass.edu/education/students/current/forms

Ed.D. and Ph.D. Candidates

Doctoral students planning on a May 2014 degree must submit their Doctoral Form D-8 to Kristin Tyler to schedule their final oral defense at least 4 weeks in advance of the defense date. Students should schedule their defense no later than March 25, 2014 to have time to make any necessary edits. Rooms are reserved by contacting Robert Heath (rheath@umass.edu).

The Doctoral Degree Eligibility Form, the Form D-9 (Result of Final Oral Examination) and one original Signature page (on acid free paper) must be submitted to Kristin Tyler in Room 123 Furcolo no later than April 1, 2014.

The Doctoral forms can now be typed into and are found at the following URL:
http://www.umass.edu/education/students/current/advising-guidelines/doctoral-guidelines

Kristin will submit these forms to the Graduate School after they are signed by Dr. Linda Griffin, Associate Dean for Academic Affairs and Graduate Program Director, and Dean Christine McCormick (Department Head).

The dissertation must be submitted electronically, and fees and other required materials must be submitted to the Graduate School (Room 534 Goodell) by 4:30p.m., April 9, 2014. THIS IS A FIRM DEADLINE!
GRADUATE ASSISTANTSHIP - Curricular Planning for Second Language Learner Project
Department of Teacher Education and Curriculum Studies

Short term assistantship for 17.5 hours Spring 2014. This assistantship does not include a tuition waiver.

Responsibilities: Development of a Moodle course; Bibliographic research and report writing; Participation in project meetings.

Qualifications: Applicants should be highly-skilled creative bilingual/biliterate in at least one language other than English, e.g. Spanish/English, Chinese/English, etc.; highly skilled in Web 2 learning applications, such as Moodle and video editing (Transana); skill with computer graphics applications such as Publisher, etc.; speed and accuracy in interpreting bilingual/ second language research; strong communication skills orally and in writing using computer applications; strong ability to collaborate productively with a team of instructors; strong ability to work independently on assigned duties and submit reports on a timely basis.

Please send letter of interest, vita, with 2 references (name and contact information) to Theresa Austin (taustin@educ.umass.edu). Please use the term “Graduate Assistantship” in the subject line of the email. Interviews will be scheduled via SKYPE. Priority Deadline is Feb 27, 2014. Applications accepted until position is filled.

RESCHEDULED — Penny Noyce, Trustee of the Noyce Foundation
This PVSTEMNet event at UMass Amherst has been rescheduled.

New date: APRIL 8

Penny Noyce, Trustee of the Noyce Foundation
Integrating STEM With Literacy

Literacy for the 21st century includes literacy in STEM as well as cross-disciplinary skills in examining evidence and making arguments. There is significant overlap among the Common Core Standards for English Language Arts, those for Mathematics, and the Next Generation Science Standards. However, as K-12 educators face growing demands and limited time, most teaching still occurs in instructional silos.

This presentation will discuss opportunities for integrating literacy with STEM from K-12. From using science journals and scientific texts in reading lessons to leveraging poetry, nonfiction, fiction, and even a musical to illustrate STEM concepts, we will explore a range of curricular and informal learning resources and ideas.

Seminars are held at 4PM on the first and third Tuesdays of each month during the academic year in Hasbrouck 138. Everyone is welcome; no reservations are needed, and there is no charge. Parking is available in the Campus Center Garage.
FORMATION OF DISSERTATION COMMITTEES

MINJEONG SHIN
Proposed Dissertation Title: An Investigation of Subtest Score Equating Methods Under Classical Test Theory and Item Response Theory Frameworks
Statement of the Problem: Interest in subtest score reporting has increased substantially because of the educational reform initiative in the US and the desire for diagnostic information. Often, subtest score reliability is a concern, and rarely are these subtest scores equated. Perhaps in the past, equating was not essential at the subtest level, but now teachers and curriculum specialists often monitor students’ subtest scores over time, and examinees make interpretations of their subtest scores to obtain more comprehensive diagnostic information as well as to measure their growth. Thus, equating from form to form (or year to year) has acquired increasing importance.
Chairperson: Dr. Ronald Hambleton

MARIA COSTA
Proposed Dissertation Title: Educational Implications: Homeless Children’s Perception of Resilience
Statement of the Problem: One of the fastest growing segments of the homeless population are families with children. According to the U.S Department of Education for the 2011-2012 school-year, over one million homeless children and youth were enrolled in public schools. Research has focused primarily on risk and protective factors as reasons why some children are able to cope with adversity, while others are not. Most studies have relied heavily on the perspective of parents or educators working with homeless children, rather than from the sole perspective of children. Information gathered directly from homeless children fills a void in the existing literature and will be more relevant to understanding the relationship between self-awareness of personal resilience and functioning in a school setting (e.g. achievement in school, peer relations and attendance).
Chairperson: Dr. Sally Galman

FINAL ORAL EXAMINATION FOR DOCTORAL STUDENTS
Attention: Doctoral students who plan on graduating in May 2014 need to submit their Doctoral form D-8 to Kristin Tyler to schedule their final oral defense at least 4 weeks in advance of the defense date. The doctoral forms are available at:

http://www.umass.edu/education/students/current/advising-guidelines/doctral-guidelines

Students should schedule their defense no later than March 25, 2014 to have time to make any necessary edits. The deadline for doctoral students to complete the final oral defense and file all paperwork with Kristin Tyler for a May 2014 graduation is April 1, 2014.
M.Ed. and C.A.G.S. Candidates May 2014 Degree Deadlines

The Degree Eligibility Form and College of Education Master's Form M-2 or CAGS Form C-2 must be completed (typed) and submitted to Kristin Tyler in the Graduate Program Office, 123 Furcolo, no later than APRIL 1, 2014. This is to allow time for processing and obtaining the necessary signatures of Linda Griffin, Associate Dean and Graduate Program Director, and Dean Christine McCormick (Department Head).

The Degree Eligibility Form (typed) must be submitted to Kristin Tyler with the Master's Form M-2 or CAGS Form C-2. Your advisor must sign the College of Education form, but NOT the Degree Eligibility Form.

Forms can be downloaded from the following URL. If you have any difficulty, please open the documents in Internet Explorer or Safari:

http://www.umass.edu/education/students/current/forms

Proposals accepted for Dissertation Research Grant program

The Graduate School is accepting Spring 2014 proposals for the Dissertation Research Grant program for doctoral students who have achieved candidacy. The program offers up to a maximum of $1,000 for dissertation research related expenses. Grants will be awarded once per semester through a competitive proposal process. The submission deadline for spring semester is Tuesday, 11th March 2014. A subcommittee of the Graduate Council will review proposals and determine awards. Detailed information on the program including allowed and prohibited expenses, submission and eligibility requirements and process can be found here:

http://www.umass.edu/gradschool/funding-support/dissertation-research-grants

For information or if you have questions, please contact David Lafond in the Graduate School at researchgrant@grad.umass.edu or by phone at 577-6286.

Scheduled Review of Dr. Gretchen Rossman, Chair of EPRA

As part of the process of reappointment, the Department of Educational Policy, Research, and Administration (EPRA) Personnel Committee is conducting a required review of Dr. Gretchen Rossman's performance as EPRA Department Chair. This is a regularly scheduled review intended to provide important and useful feedback to Dr. Rossman, Dean McCormick, and Provost Staros. Specifically, we seek your feedback with respect to the Chair's management, leadership and communication. All faculty, staff, and students are invited to submit their thoughts and perspectives either anonymously through the online survey administered by the Department Personnel Committee (DPC) or confidentially by letter/email addressed to the chair of the DPC, Cristine Smith (cristine@educ.umass.edu). Results of this review will remain confidential and be shared with Dr. Rossman, Dean McCormick, and Provost Staros, only.

All letters must be submitted by February 25, 2014. If you have any questions about the survey or the review process, please contact Dr. Cristine Smith, Chair of the EPRA DPC.
The College of Education’s

Statistical Consulting Service

2014 Spring
FREE Workshops
Hills House South, Computer lab

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<tr>
<th>Workshop</th>
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<td>Introduction to SPSS</td>
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<td>Excel</td>
<td>2:30-4 PM</td>
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<td>SPSS (ANOVA, Regression)</td>
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<td>R</td>
<td>3:30-5 PM</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Introduction to SPSS</td>
<td>2:30-4 PM</td>
<td>3/10</td>
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Please email minjeong@edu.umass.edu or jdickey@edu.umass.edu to sign up.

Walk-ins are welcome as well!

Psychometric Methods, Educational Statistics, and Research Methods
Promoting sound educational research and testing practices since 1968
The College of Education’s children, families, and schools concentration proudly presents

The Fortnightly Lunch Series

Please join us for

Jade Caines, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor of Education, UNH

Dr. Jade Caines specializes in educational assessment and evaluation. Prior to her arrival at UNH, she spent a year and a half as a postdoctoral fellow at the University of Pennsylvania and almost 10 years as a K-12 public school teacher. Also, she has worked as a researcher for several organizations, including the National Center for Research on Evaluation, Standards, & Student Testing at UCLA and the Board of Regents of the University System of Georgia.

Selected Publications


Tuesday, February 25
11a.m. – 12 p.m.
Furculo Hall, Room 22
The 2014 Symposium for Research and Innovation in Education, hosted by the newly formed TECS Graduate Student Organization (GSO) in collaboration with students and faculty from all four concentrations, will be held Friday, April 18, 2014 from 1:00–8:30p.m. at the UMass Campus Center.

This conference is designed to showcase research presentations from students in all concentrations (CFS, LLC, MSLT, and TESI), with breakout sessions appealing to students with a wide variety of interests. Special features include panel discussions from faculty across campus, a grant search workshop, a plenary presentation by professor emerita Dr. Sonia Nieto, and plenty of networking opportunities over lunch and dinner (provided). The theme for this event is *Learning Beyond Boundaries: (Re)visioning the Education of Diverse Learners,* and it will foreground research that in some way considers breaking traditional boundaries to consider the diverse needs and experiences of teachers and learners; however, submissions are welcome in other topic strands relevant to the interests of the TECS community.

**Abstracts**

Abstracts are invited for poster or paper sessions.

**POSTERS:** Posters are for on-on-one discussion of research and can be especially effective for presenting visual data. A block of time will be designated when presenters are available to discuss their posters.

**PAPERS:** These are formal, technology-assisted (e.g., PPT) presentations of 10–15 minutes followed by time for discussion. Paper presentations will be organized into sessions of 3–4 papers.

Submit your abstract online by March 10 at: 

https://tecsconference.wufoo.com/forms/q1x5x0hi0ln5yry/

Any additional questions may be sent to conference organizers at tecsconference@gmail.com.

College of Education scholarship applications are due March 14!

Find the link to the application form on our home page. www.umass.edu/education
2014 Summer Dissertation Writing Retreats

The Graduate School’s Office of Professional Development and the UMass Amherst Writing Center offer three week-long writing retreats for dissertation writers this summer. Open to graduate students from across campus, these retreats offer extensive structured time to write, receive feedback, and develop effective writing strategies.

Goals of the retreat:
Throughout the week-long retreat, graduate student writers will:
• Practice setting and achieving short- and medium-term goals for writing.
• Develop strategies for planning, getting started, drafting, and revising.
• Receive individual feedback and critical advice about their writing in progress from the retreat’s writing consultants.
• Have sustained writing time over the course of five days, free from other obligations and distractions, to develop effective rhythms for writing and make significant progress on a lengthy piece of writing.

Dates:
Session 1: June 2-6 (CNS, Engineering, SPHHS, Nursing)
Session 2: June 16-20 (open to all disciplines)
Session 3: August 4-8 (SBS, Education, HFA, ISOM)

Childcare scholarships for up to $150 will be available from the Graduate School for students who need them.

How to apply:
These writing retreats will be offered at NO COST through the support of the Graduate School and UMass Amherst Writing Center. Each retreat will be limited to 15 participants, who will be selected based on the strength of their application.

Please send the following application materials to the UMass Amherst Writing Center at writingcenter@acad.umass.edu:
1. a statement (no longer than one single-spaced page) describing how participation in this retreat will help you make progress on your dissertation. If you wish to request a particular session, please explain.
2. an abstract of your dissertation (no longer than two single-spaced pages). Priority will be given to writers whose prospectuses have been approved by their departments and who have completed necessary fieldwork or lab work.
3. a brief email from your advisor endorsing your participation in the retreat. This email should be sent directly from your advisor to writingcenter@acad.umass.edu.

Applications must be submitted no later than Friday, April 4, 2014, at 5:00 p.m.

Please contact the Writing Center at writingcenter@acad.umass.edu or 413-577-1293 with any questions.