Scholarship applications are due March **14**!
Find the link to the application form on our home page. [www.umass.edu/education](http://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. on 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.

**University of Massachusetts Amherst  Graduate School 2014 Distinguished Graduate Mentor Award**

The Dean of the Graduate School and the members of the Graduate Council announce a new program of annual Distinguished Graduate Mentor Awards. Recipients will be recognized at Graduate Commencement and will receive $2,000 (payable as honorarium or research funds, at the recipient’s option) and a plaque. There will be three awards each year: one for a Graduate Faculty member in CNS; one for a Graduate Faculty member in HFA or SBS; and one for a Graduate Faculty member in any of the other schools and colleges (Education, Engineering, ISOM, Nursing, and SPHHS).

Each academic department, plus each of the four interdepartmental life science programs, can make one nomination. The Graduate Program Director should solicit nominations from graduate students and, in consultation with students and colleagues, select a nominee.

The nomination materials should consist of:
- A memo, not exceeding two pages, explaining why the nominee is deserving of this award.
- Three supporting letters, not exceeding two pages each, from current or former graduate students who can speak to the nominee’s strengths as a mentor. At least one of the letters should come from someone who is not the nominee’s primary advisee.

Nominations should be submitted to Jane Clukay (jclukay@educ.umass.edu) and Linda Griffin (lgriffin@educ.umass.edu) by Wednesday, February 12, 2014.
RESEARCH ASSISTANTSHIP
Department of Educational Policy, Research, and Administration

10 hr/week research assistantship is available for Spring 2014

Responsibilities include: data collection using participant-observation and qualitative interviewing techniques; travel to one or more field sites; data analysis using NVivo; and preparation of documents for publication.

Qualifications include: experience / familiarity with qualitative interviewing and data analysis; strong writing, organizational and time management skills; ability to work both collaboratively and independently; familiarity with literature related to college access and choice (preferred); and prior experience with NVivo (preferred).

To apply, please send a CV to Ezekiel Kimball at ekimball@edu.umass.edu.

GRADUATE ASSISTANTSHIP
Department of Student Development

10 hr/week assistantship beginning January 2014 through May 2014.

Qualifications: Understanding of applied behavior analysis, positive behavior supports, and special education.

Responsibilities: Delivering behavior interventions supports in an elementary school under the supervision of Jason Travers and school personnel including: intervention delivery, data collection, participating in team meetings, communicating with project team members, and other related duties as necessary.

To apply, please email Jason Travers at travers@educ.umass.edu.

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/doctoral-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.
RESEARCH ASSISTANTSHIP – Small Group Learning
Department of Teacher Education and Curriculum Studies
NSF-funded research project

One 10 hour/week research assistantship position available for Spring 2014

Responsibilities include: The student will primarily work in a research project on small group learning in high school science. S/he will assist with review and modifying of quantitative and qualitative instruments in assessing affective, social, and cognitive aspects of learning science; literature review on collaborative small groups in STEM disciplines; data collection in high school science classes; and writing for conference presentations and publications.

Qualifications include: The ideal candidate will have a background in Educational Psychology or an equivalent discipline, and strong writing, organizational, and time management skills. The ability to work collaboratively as well as independently is required. Knowledge of quantitative and qualitative research methods is strongly preferred.

The online training program called Collaborative Institutional Training Initiative (CITI) for human subject investigators will need to be completed prior to hiring. For information see: http://www.umass.edu/research/training-and-education

To apply, please send a letter of application, your resume or C.V., and contact information for two references to Dr. Martina Nieswandt, mnieswan@educ.umass.edu. Review of applications will begin immediately and continue until the position is filled.

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.

Read about the College’s FREE Statistical Consulting Service on page 10.
Scholarships for Students in Teacher Preparation Programs Leading to Licensure

Grace Norton Carney Scholarship
This endowed scholarship is a scholarship for *any student* in a P-12 teacher preparation program in the College of Education at the University of Massachusetts Amherst. Applicants must be a native or legal resident of Massachusetts within the last 10 years. Preference is given to students who hold an undergraduate degree from UMass Amherst, Framingham, or Bridgewater State University and have a GPA of 3.3 or better. Must complete FAFSA.

Richard J. Clark Memorial Scholarship for Teacher Education
Provides financial support to *any student* in the Teacher Education and Curriculum Studies Department. They must have a GPA of 3.3 or better and have experience with community service, internships, employment that demonstrates a commitment to excellence and equity.

Marylin C. Haley Scholarship
Provides funding for any eligible *graduate* student based on financial need. Preference will be given to students in a reading and writing, secondary, early childhood and elementary, or special education teacher preparation program.

Meline Kasparian Scholarship
Provides support to *any student* in a teacher preparation program and who has exhibited a desire to become public school teacher.

Janice Camby Endowed Scholarship
Provides scholarship support to *any student* accepted or enrolled in a teacher preparation program in the College of Education. Students must be from economically disadvantaged areas and in good academic standing. Must complete FAFSA.

Winifred Green Scholarship
This scholarship is funded and awarded by the Kappa Delta Pi Honor Society of the College of Education and sponsored by a professional organization of retired teachers in Massachusetts. It provides support for *any student* enrolled in a teacher preparation program who is committed to making a significant difference in the lives of young people in the Commonwealth. The recipient must be in good academic standing, a permanent resident of Massachusetts and have need for financial assistance.

Doctoral Student Scholarships

Nieto/Rudman Endowed Scholarship
Provides financial support to any student in the Teacher Education and Curriculum Studies Department. Preference will be given to doctoral students in the Language, Literacy and Culture concentration. Applicants must be in good standing and have a GPA of 3.3 or better.

Joseph W. Keilty Memorial Scholarship
This endowed scholarship provides scholarship support to full-time graduate students. Preference given to doctoral students. Students with a demonstrated financial need, high academic performance, and exceptional promise are encouraged to apply. Must complete FAFSA.

C. Lynn Vendien Professional Prize Award
This prize will be awarded to a doctoral student. Preference will be given to students in the Physical Education Teacher Education in the Department of Teacher Education and Curriculum Studies.

International Student Scholarship

C. Lynn Vendien Endowed Scholarship
Provides scholarship support to graduate students who are citizens of foreign countries. Preference will be given to students who are affiliated with Physical Education Teacher Education in the Department of Teacher Education and Curriculum Studies.

General Scholarships

Early Childhood Education Graduate Student Scholarship
Provides funding for *graduate* students studying young children and their families with preference given to the study of the needs of the gifted and talented. To provide opportunities for graduate students to enhance their academic experience and become involved in outreach.

Helen Eaton Timson Scholarship
Provides scholarship support to *any deserving student* in a College of Education program.

The link to details about scholarships and the application form is posted on the College’s homepage. www.umass.edu/education. DEADLINE for applications is MARCH 14, 2014.

Return the completed application and required documents to Jane Clukay, 123 Furcolo Hall, College of Education, UMass, Amherst, 01003, or e-mail them to jclukay@educ.umass.edu
TEACHING ASSISTANTSHIPS
Department of Student Development
Two 10 hr/week and one 20 hr/week teaching assistantships for Spring 2014 for EDUC 202, a multi-section undergraduate course, in the Social Justice Education concentration.

Responsibilities: Supports delivery of a multi-section undergraduate intergroup dialogue general education course; Assists with the development of course materials and course manual: syllabi, policies, curricular guides for multiple sections, communication and coaching protocols, grading rubrics; Maintains Moodle course websites; Maintains weekly office hours; Answers students emails; Conducts orientation, training and coaching sessions for student facilitators. Compiles feedback and course evaluations; Grades final papers and assist with grade submission; and other course related tasks specified by course instructor.

Qualifications: The ideal candidate would have successfully completed 691E social issues graduate seminar (e.g. racism, sexism, classism, heterosexism, transgender oppression, religious oppression), EDUC 627, 691G, 795e and/or 692b. The candidate must have excellent communication skills and organizational skills; experience with intergroup dialogue and social justice education planning, facilitation and evaluation and significant experience with course maintenance; ability to work with a variety of constituents and small groups including undergraduate and graduate students, faculty and staff is also necessary.

To apply, please send a brief letter of application and your resume to Albert Sheridan at amsherid@umass.edu. Please use the term “EDUC 202 TA” in the subject line of the email.


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RESEARCH ASSISTANTSHIP  Inclusive Classroom Practices
Department of Teacher Education and Curriculum Studies

One 10-hr/week research assistantship is available for Spring 2014.

The RA will assist on a research project examining the quality of teacher-student interactions in inclusive kindergarten classrooms.

**Responsibilities include:** data collection (e.g., classroom observations, questionnaires) in kindergarten classrooms; enter and analyze data using SPSS and Excel; conduct library research; and assist in report preparation.

**Qualifications include:** strong organizational skills, good communication skills, excellent research writing skills, and knowledge in analyzing data using SPSS programs.

Previous teaching experience in pre-k classrooms and/or professional background in early childhood education preferred.

To apply, send a cover letter, resume/CV, two names of references, and a writing sample to SeonYeong Yu at seonyeon@educ.umass.edu.

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RESEARCH ASSISTANTSHIP – Small Group Learning
Department of Teacher Education and Curriculum Studies
NSF-funded research project

One 10 hr/week research assistantship position available for Spring 2014

**Responsibilities include:** The student will primarily work in a research project on small group learning in high school science. S/he will assist with development of science inquiry and engineering design tasks focusing on science talk and argumentation, literature review on collaborative small groups in STEM disciplines, data collection in high school science classes, and writing for conference presentations and publications.

**Qualifications include:** The ideal candidate will have a background in a science discipline, and strong writing, organizational, and time management skills. The ability to work collaboratively as well as independently is required. Knowledge of science education literature is necessary and teaching experiences in K-12 science are preferable. Knowledge of quantitative and qualitative research methods is desirable.

The online training program called Collaborative Institutional Training Initiative (CITI) for human subject investigators will need to be completed prior to hiring. For information see: http://www.umass.edu/research/training-and-education

To apply, please send a letter of application, your resume or C.V., and contact information for two references to Dr. Martina Nieswandt, mnieswan@educ.umass.edu.

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

ASSISTANTSHIP - International Education
Department of Educational Policy, Research and Administration

A 10-hr/week assistantship to support the International Education concentration and coordinator, open for spring 2014 only.

Responsibilities: The student will assist the International Education coordinator in conducting a curriculum review of the IE courses; analyzing trends in graduate student admissions for the Master’s and doctoral programs; analyzing course enrollments over time; and scheduling admissions interviews and meetings. The PA will also assist the program coordinator with initiatives and activities related to the International Education concentration.

Qualifications: A qualified candidate will be a masters or doctoral student in the EPRA department with familiarity with the International Education concentration. She or he should possesses excellent programmatic, organizational and management skills and be able to work independently.

To apply: Send by e-mail a cover letter and resume to Cristine Smith, International Education concentration coordinator, at cristine@educ.umass.edu (note: no “h” in cristine).

Updates from the College Academic Matters Committee and the Office of Academic Affairs

- Preliminary proposal for the PHD approved by the University of Massachusetts’s Presidents Office
- Educational Specialist Degree waiting approval from the Board of Higher Education
- Recent College Academic Matters and Faculty Senate actions
  - 680-change to 700 number (763)
  - 682-change to 700 number (764)
  - 641-removal of reference to research office that no longer exists
  - 689-removal of obsolete prerequisite
  - 870-change description
  - EDUC 691C "Adult Learning Theory and Practice" was sent to the Graduate Council on January 17.
  - EDUC 7XX Apprenticing to research in Language, Literacy & Culture sent to Senate, but not reviewed yet
  - 693I, awaiting approval, change from 600 level to 500 level
  - Psychometric Methods name change, awaiting approval
  - 892S Professional Seminar in Special Education II approved, listed in Catalog
  - 698LB: ESL/ELL Pre-Practicum 2: Analyzing Teaching and Learning forwarded to Registrar’s office, listed in catalog
  - 698LA Prac-Prepracticum I, ACCELA, listed in catalog
  - 790C Historical & Social Foundations of Education-approved by CAMC after minor revisions, and in process at Faculty Senate
2014-15 Graduate Diversity Fellowship Program  
Deadline Feb 28, 2014

The purpose of the Graduate Diversity Fellowship Program is to provide support via a competitive process to graduate students who have demonstrated academic excellence and are members of social groups that have been historically underrepresented in the University of Massachusetts Amherst graduate community. The Graduate Diversity Fellowship Program is for incoming graduate students and students at the dissertation stage who expect to complete their degrees during the upcoming academic year. Priority will be given to incoming students. The purpose of this program is not only to reward excellence, but to also serve as an incentive for recruitment and retention purposes.

Diversity Fellowships in 2014-15 will include a stipend of $18,500 (which departments can supplement) and waiver of tuition and curriculum fee. The Graduate School will arrange for payment of fees for the mandatory health fee and the Student Health Benefit Plan (SHBP) for individual or family, depending on the Fellowship recipient’s needs for plan year 2014-15. All other fees are the recipient’s responsibility.

Nomination Procedure

The Student is formally nominated by the Graduate Program Director. A subcommittee of the Graduate Council will review all nominations and make recommendations to me. Nomination forms are attached. Departments may submit more than one nomination, but multiple nominations must be ranked.

The Graduate Program should submit one copy of the following:

1. For each incoming student nominated, five (5) copies of the Graduate Student Diversity Fellowship nomination form, together with a copy of the complete Graduate School application (with personal statement, all letters of recommendation, and transcripts), and/or portfolio.

2. For each dissertation student nominated, five (5) copies of the Graduate Student Diversity Fellowship nomination form, including a personal statement by the student, curriculum vitae, and a letter of recommendation from the student’s advisor.

Nominations must be received by Lori Baronas, in the Graduate Dean’s Office, 518 Goodell, by 1:00 PM on Friday, February 28, 2014. Please contact jmccarthy@grad.umass.edu if you have questions.

Note that the Graduate Program Director or Department Head/Chair must sign the nomination form.
Graduate School Professional Development Activities

Upcoming activities sponsored by the Graduate School Office of Professional Development (OPD) and our network of partners. Some require pre-registration.

Monday, February 3rd (5:00 PM – 6:30 PM in Campus Center 804-08)
GWI Workshop: From Planning to Publication – Developing an Effective Writing Process
The Graduate Writing Initiative (GWI) supports graduate student writing, regardless of discipline. From seminar papers to exams, from research proposals to dissertations, our hands-on workshops are designed to promote effective, efficient writing habits. Topics include: developing an effective writing process, healthy writing habits, research project management, and more. A light dinner will be served, but registration is required. For detailed descriptions of 2014 workshops and to register, visit the GWI subject research guide.

Wednesday, February 5th (12:00 PM – 1:15 PM in LGRT 1634)
A Glimpse into Neuroscience Drug Discovery
Doug Johnson, Associate Research Fellow, Neuroscience Medicinal Chemistry, Pfizer Inc.
Dr. Johnson earned his Ph.D. in chemistry from the Scripps Research Institute and has spent nearly 15 years working as a medicinal chemist at Pfizer, where he has helped to advance 3 compounds into the clinic to treat breast cancer, schizophrenia, and other CNS disorders.
A pizza lunch will be served!

Wednesday, February 5th (11:30 AM – 1:00 PM in Marcus Hall, Gunness Student Center)
Situation Room Workshop: Teaching Strategies for Every Classroom
In this workshop, co-hosted by GWIS and WTS, Prof. Michael Knodler will share his experiences as a STEM professor. Participants can prepare a short lesson in advance of the workshop, get personal feedback on their lesson plan from Dr. Knodler, teach the lesson to an audience, and receive direct feedback on the lesson. Find more details on the Graduate Women in STEM (GWIS) blog. Pizza will be served and space is limited, so Register now

Thursday, February 6th (11:30 AM – 1:00 PM in Campus Center 163C)
Exploring Alternative Academic (Alt-Ac) Careers
A panel of academic scholars will discuss non-faculty career opportunities in higher education. Panelists hold doctoral degrees in American Studies, History, Psychology, and Sociology and have worked in a variety of departments and campus administrative offices, including Academic Planning and Assessment, Faculty Governance, Institutional Research, the Department of History, DEFA Film Library and the Registrar – View Bios. This panel event is co-sponsored by the Graduate School Office of Professional Development and the Department of History. Bring your lunch - Coffee and dessert will be provided, so please pre-register for `catering purposes.

Shana Passonno, Director, Office of Professional Development
Graduate School, University of Massachusetts Amherst
The College of Education’s

Statistical Consulting Service

2014 Spring

FREE Workshops

Hills House South, Computer lab

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<th>Workshop</th>
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<td>SPSS (ANOVA, Regression)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Introduction to SPSS</td>
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Please email minjeong@educ.umass.edu or jdickey@educ.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