There will be no Beacon next week.

The Hub
Coffees, organic teas, lattes, expresso, chai, breakfast and other sandwiches, bagels, muffins, salads, yogurt, fruit, and more.
GRADUATE STUDENT RESEARCH ASSISTANTSHIP, EDUCATIONAL TESTING SERVICE
Department of Educational Policy, Research and Administration
Center for Educational Assessment

10-20 hours/week, 2016 spring semester - Applicant must complete CITI training.

Responsibilities include:
- conducting multivariate statistical analyses;
- equating analyses;
- simulating data;
- editing technical reports;
- entering items into html database;
- attending project meetings;
- writing computer code for psychometric activities such as item calibration, score scale linking, and population invariance studies;
- performing literature reviews on equating, scaling, standard setting, and score reporting;
- co-authoring research reports.

Qualifications include:
- a background in psychometrics, statistics and mathematical modeling of educational assessment data;
- experience working in educational assessment;
- working knowledge of classical test theory and item response theory;
- extensive knowledge of multidimensional scaling, plausible values methodology, test construction, and test validation research. Priority will be given to doctoral students.

To apply, please contact Dr. Stephen G. Sireci, (413)545-0564 (Sireci@acad.umass.edu).

PRACTICUM SUPERVISOR/TEACHING ASSISTANTSHIP
Department of Teacher Education and Curriculum Studies

One teaching assistantship for 10 hours/week for SPRING 2016 to provide supervision for students in EDUC 698AP. This assistantship includes working with students who have placements in PreK-12 public schools in Western Massachusetts (e.g., Amherst, Springfield, Holyoke, Northampton, Hadley) and in after-schools, adult education and other community teaching/learning contexts.

Responsibilities include:
- Attending an orientation and meetings with UMass Amherst faculty regularly to problem solve and troubleshoot issues;
- establishing and maintaining professional relationships with students and the faculty;
- teaching and reviewing video and/or audio observations of candidates' teaching practices according to specified timetables and using appropriate forms;
- providing quality oral and written feedback to candidates to support them in designing and reflecting on curriculum, instruction, and assessment practices;
- writing bi-weekly written reports to the LLCAP/Licensure faculty advisor about the feedback that you provide candidates;
- regular meetings with students throughout the semester; and assisting in the evaluation of student projects.

Qualifications include:
- Classroom teaching/learning experience in Prek-12 US schools and/or in international contexts;
- working knowledge of the language/culture of diverse students (e.g., Spanish, Chinese, Korean, Portuguese);
- expertise in designing curriculum, instruction, and assessments for second or heritage language learners;
- commitment to social justice, equity and advocacy in education;
- excellent communication and problem-solving abilities;
- ability to negotiate differences and meet professional standards;
- research interest in ESL teacher education for PreK-12 and adult learners, as well as World Languages.

Applicants should submit letters of interest, resume, and contact information for two references to Marie-Christine Polizzi mpolizzi@educ.umass.edu and Laura Valdiviezo lav@educ.umass.edu
Application deadline: January 10, 2016. Applications will be reviewed until the positions are filled. Priority will be given to doctoral students. Hiring is contingent upon availability of funding.

GRADUATE STUDENT RESEARCH ASSISTANTSHIP, EDUCATIONAL TESTING SERVICE
Department of Educational Policy, Research and Administration
Center for Educational Assessment

10-20 hours/week, 2016 spring semester - Applicant must complete CITI training.

Responsibilities include:
- conducting multivariate statistical analyses;
- equating analyses;
- simulating data;
- editing technical reports;
- entering items into html database;
- attending project meetings;
- writing computer code for psychometric activities such as item calibration, score scale linking, and population invariance studies;
- performing literature reviews on equating, scaling, standard setting, and score reporting;
- co-authoring research reports.

Qualifications include:
- a background in psychometrics, statistics and mathematical modeling of educational assessment data;
- experience working in educational assessment;
- working knowledge of classical test theory and item response theory;
- extensive knowledge of multidimensional scaling, plausible values methodology, test construction, and test validation research. Priority will be given to doctoral students.

To apply, please contact Dr. Stephen G. Sireci, (413)545-0564 (Sireci@acad.umass.edu).
RESEARCH ASSISTANTSHIP, MA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
Department of Educational Policy, Research and Administration
Center for Educational Assessment

10-20 hours/week, 2016 spring semester - Applicant must complete CITI training.

Responsibilities include: conducting multivariate statistical analyses; equating analyses; simulating data; editing technical reports; entering items into html database; attending project meetings; writing computer code for psychometric activities such as item calibration, score scale linking, and population invariance studies; performing literature reviews on equating, scaling, standard setting, and score reporting; co-authoring research reports.

Qualifications include: a background in psychometrics, statistics and mathematical modeling of educational assessment data; experience working in educational assessment; working knowledge of classical test theory and item response theory; extensive knowledge of multidimensional scaling, plausible values methodology, test construction, and test validation research.

Priority will be given to doctoral students.

To apply, please contact Dr. Stephen G. Sireci, (413)545-0564  Sireci@acad.umass.edu

Editorial Assistant (Project Assistant)
Equity and Excellence in Education Journal

A 10 hour/week assistantship is available beginning the spring 2016 semester as editorial assistant for the College of Education's journal, “Equity & Excellence in Education.”

Minimum Qualifications: Doctoral student in the College of Education; Strong writer of English; Advanced research skills, including database search skills in a broad range of social justice/diversity/education topic area; Ability to critically analyze research and provide feedback on manuscripts; Knowledge of social justice and diversity as an academic field; Ability to work well both independently and collaboratively; Knowledge of Microsoft Word, Excel, and e-mail communication.

Desired Qualifications: Prior experience editing and writing for an academic audience; Knowledge of the writing process and ability to provide thoughtful, instructional feedback about writing; Prior experience in academic publishing or some other publishing field; Experience with Scholar One manuscript submission site.

Responsibilities: Consolidate reviews and write summaries of feedback; Attend weekly editorial team meetings and office hours; Search academic databases to identify the most recent research in areas related to submissions to identify potential peer reviewers; Solicit and maintain contact with manuscript reviewers; Copyediting; Complete Reference Checks.

Interested applicants should reply to: Jason G. Irizarry, Ed. D., Director of Urban Education, College of Education, jirizarry@educ.umass.edu.
May 2016 Degree Deadlines

**Master’s Degree (M.Ed.) and Education Specialist Degree (Ed.S.) Candidates**

- **March 23, 2016** is the deadline to submit **TYPED** forms to Kristin Tyler, Office of Academic Affairs, Furcolo Hall to file to graduate for the May 2016 degree period.

  **Master’s Degree (M.Ed.) submit:**
  - Typed Master’s Degree Eligibility Form
  - Typed College of Education’s **Form M-2** Completed Program of Study
  - List in chronological order from your transcript only graduate courses to be counted toward the Master’s degree
  - **Course numbers and course titles listed on the Form M-2 must match transcript and Degree Eligibility Form exactly**

  **Education Specialist Degree (Ed.S.) submit:**
  - Typed Education Specialist Degree Eligibility Form
  - Typed College of Education’s **Form ES-2** Completed Program of Study
  - List in chronological order from your transcript only graduate courses to be counted toward the Ed.S. degree
  - **Course numbers and course titles listed on the Form ES-2 must match transcript and Degree Eligibility Form exactly.**

- This deadline 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 B. McCormick who will sign Sections D and E on the Master’s Degree Eligibility Form or Part II of the Education Specialist Degree Eligibility Form.

- Your **advisor** must sign the College of Education’s Form M-2 or ES-2, but NOT the Degree Eligibility Form.

- **Please note that handwritten forms will not be accepted.**

- Forms are fillable and are found at the following URL. If you have any difficulty, please open the forms in Internet Explorer or Safari: [http://www.umass.edu/education/students/current/forms](http://www.umass.edu/education/students/current/forms)

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**Check out UMass Amherst’s Office of Emergency Management**

to sign up for UMass alerts, learn emergency procedures, download a copy of the UMass Emergency Response Handbook and more.

[http://www.umass.edu/emergency/](http://www.umass.edu/emergency/)
May 2016 Degree Deadlines

**Doctoral Degree (Ed.D. and Ph.D.) Candidates**

Filing to Graduate for the May 2016 degree period

- Submit your **TYPED Doctoral Form D-8** to Kristin Tyler to schedule your final oral defense 4 weeks plus 2 additional business days in advance of the defense date in order to meet the Graduate School’s 4 week deadline.

- Schedule your defense no later than March 16, 2016 to have time to make any necessary edits.

- Rooms are reserved by contacting Robert Heath, College of Education Curriculum Coordinator, by email at:  rheath@umass.edu

- **March 23, 2016** is the deadline to submit your **TYPED** Doctoral Degree Eligibility Form, **TYPED** Form D-9 (Result of Final Oral Examination) and one original signature page to Kristin Tyler, Office of Academic Affairs, Furcolo Hall.

- The Doctoral forms are fillable and are found at the following URL. If you have any difficulty, please open the documents in Internet Explorer or Safari:  
  http://www.umass.edu/education/students/current/advising-guidelines/doctoral-guidelines

- Please note that handwritten forms will not be accepted.

- 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 B. McCormick who will sign section C of the Doctoral Degree Eligibility Form as Department Head/Chair.

- **April 1, 2016** (by 4:30pm) is the **deadline for you to electronically submit** your dissertation and the Survey of Earned Doctorates to the Graduate School.  **THIS IS A FIRM DEADLINE!**
FORMATION OF DISSERTATION COMMITTEE

YEDALIS RUIZ

Proposed Dissertation Title: Mapping the Development of College Going Identities among Aspirantes Puertorriqueñas

Statement of Problem: Despite constituting the largest group of minoritized students, Latin@ students continue to have the lowest educational attainment compared to all other groups in the U.S. (U.S. Census Bureau, 2013). While Latin@ enrollment in college has increased, the majority of Latin@ high school graduates enroll in community college as opposed to 4-year Bachelor’s degree granting higher education institutions, and only a small percentage of these students will ever transfer into a 4-year college or university (Excelencia in Education, 2015; Kurlaender, 2006; Perez & Ceja, 2015). Increasing participation in higher education among Latin@s requires a better understanding of college choice process for this group. To date, college choice models have largely addressed the experiences and trajectories of White middle class students (Chapman, 1981; 1984; Hanson & Litten, 1982; So, 1987; St. John, 1990), with very little if any attention given to Latin@ students. My dissertation research aims to fill this gap in the literature.

Chair: Dr. Jason Irizarry

Spring 2016 Tuition Waiver for Externships - Deadline 1/25/16

The deadline to submit complete spring 2016 externship forms and documents to Kristin Tyler in the Office of Academic Affairs (Furcolo 130) is 1/25/2016. In all requests for approval of externship waivers, please see the Graduate School Externship Policy and Procedures link below for the Appendix A and Appendix B forms (forms must be typed and original ink signatures are required).

Submit the following to Kristin Tyler (Appendix A, Appendix B, and agency letter on official employer / external agency letterhead):

Appendix A:
Top section with date, student name and student ID number must be typed and all signatures must be signed originals in ink (not digital/electronic)
Employment Verification Form signed by the student, student’s supervisor, and Human Resource Contact

Appendix B:
All information on this form must be typed, handwritten forms will not be accepted, and all signatures must be signed originals in ink (not digital/electronic)
Request for Tuition Waiver for Externships signed by student’s advisor and Department Chair (this form must be typed this form; a handwritten Appendix B will not be accepted)

Agency letter on official employer / external agency letterhead, signed by the student and student’s supervisor, detailing student’s job description and a description of the supervision student receives

Graduate School link: http://www.umass.edu/gradschool/funding-support/graduate-assistantship-office/externship-policy-procedures

Questions about externships should be directed to Kristin Tyler at ktyler@educ.umass.edu
FORMATION OF DISSERTATION COMMITTEE

BRADFORD WHEELER Proposed Dissertation Title: Adopting Team-Based Learning (TLB) Classroom Technology and Overcoming Barriers: A Faculty Development Intervention Model for Technology-Enhanced Learning Spaces

Statement of Problem: A recent study conducted in Team-Based Learning (TBL) classrooms confirmed that technology barriers exist in these technology-enhanced learning spaces just as they do in traditional classrooms (Ertmer, 1999; Wheeler, 2015). Notably, only a subset of classroom technology tools was found to be adopted by instructors. This research study aims to ameliorate the TBL classroom technology adoption factors and barriers found in previous literature through action research and qualitative methods by examining the following research question; how does a semester-long faculty development intervention model impact instructors’ adoption of classroom technologies and influence their ability to negotiate technology barriers?

Chair: Dr. Torrey Trust

Job opening: Adult Learning Instructor, Off Campus

Massachusetts Training, Evaluation and Research Initiative- MassTERI- is the collaboration between the University of Massachusetts Labor Management Workplace Education Program- LMWEP and the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education's Office of Nutrition, Health and Safety. The purpose of MassTERI is to contribute to the mastery of skills and workplace competencies of school nutrition personnel by providing evidence-based training, evaluation and research.

POSITION: MassTERI project is seeking an Instructor to be part of an innovative Training of Trainers Program, (MassTERI TOTs) which will be held off-campus at several locations in 2016, such as Lawrence, Peabody, and Ludlow, MA. This instructor will also conduct a basic computer literacy class for adult learners which are designed as a pre-requisite to MassTERI TOTs.

POSITION DETAILS: The position is a 20 hour a week position for one year only. Candidates must be available 1) all day Thursdays for teaching (which includes paid travel time); 2) Available for weekly planning meetings (Tuesday and Wednesdays) at the MassTERI office on campus; 3) Available to attend appropriate Grant required meetings.

This is a paid Geo Assistantship/ project assistant position.

POSITION REQUIREMENTS: The minimum requirements for this position are: Teaching experience in adult education settings; Experience teaching computer classes highly referred; Research experience in the area of adult education or education in general; Understanding of program evaluation for adult education; Bilingual skills preferably in Spanish or Portuguese; Availability on Thursdays during course time and Tuesdays/Wednesdays for team meetings. Candidate must possess a valid drivers' license. Sample Duties Include: Course design and materials preparation; Attend and contribute at the team evaluation meetings; Weekly course reports; End of course evaluation and report writing; Other duties as required for the position.

DEADLINE AND CONTACT INFORMATION: Deadline for applications is January 12, 2016, If interested please send letter of interest and resume to Gloria Santa Anna, Project Director at email gasantaanna@admin.umass.edu. No phone inquiries please.
College of Education’s
graduate student research gallery walk

Save the date    Thursday, March 24, 2016

The College of Education will hold a college-wide Graduate Student Research Gallery Walk, a poster session, on Thursday, March 24, 2016 in Furcolo Hall. This session is intended as an opportunity for graduate students to share their research with peers, faculty, and staff of the College of Education.

Refreshments will be provided.

Poster presentations (5:15- 6pm and 6:15 to 7 pm)

The Beacon.  Deadline is FRIDAY.

- Deadline for submissions is 5:00 P.M. Friday for inclusion in the following week's issue.

- All assistantship notices will run in two issues. For information about preparing assistantship notices refer to the Faculty Resources pages (How to Write a Beacon Announcement) of our web site. www.umass.edu/education

- 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.

- Please submit announcements about departmental or concentration-related conferences, workshops, events and activities of interest to students to dms@educ.umass.edu.

For information about Beacon announcements
www.umass.edu/education/faculty-staff/faculty-resources