COLLEGE OUTSTANDING TEACHER AWARD

Nominate your favorite College of Education instructors!

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 Deborah Becerra (dbec@umass.edu) in the form of an email highlighting why your nominee should be considered for this award.

Deadline for receiving nominations is Wednesday, February 25, 2015.
RESEARCH ASSISTANTSHIP
Department of Teacher Education and Curriculum Studies
NSF Noyce Project Research Assistant—Mathematics Education

10 hr/week research assistant position for spring 2015.

The NSF Noyce project is looking to hire an exceptionally qualified research assistant with expertise in secondary mathematics education and experience working in secondary schools.

Responsibilities include working closely with the research team on multiple aspects of the project, including designing, implementing, and researching learning environments for in-service and pre-service teaching. Additional responsibilities may include but are not limited to, conducting lesson observations using a research protocol, facilitating professional learning community sessions with mathematics teachers, interviewing project participants, collecting and analyzing qualitative and quantitative data and general logistical operations associated with this large scale project.

Qualifications: Graduate status in the MSLT concentration (doctoral or uniquely qualified master's students). Background in mathematics teaching at the middle/high school level.

To apply: Send cover letter and resume and 2 letters of recommendation to Dr. Sandy Madden at smadden@educ.umass.edu

SPRING 2015 REGISTRATION REMINDER

The last day to register for the spring 2015 semester is Monday, February 2, 2015 by 10 pm. The Graduate School will routinely withdraw anyone who does not enroll by that time. If you are registering for Continuous Enrollment, you must register yourself (GRADSCH 999, class # 17767) before the end of add/drop, 2/2/15.

If you are registered for fewer than 5 credits or Continuous Enrollment, health insurance is not automatic and you need to contact University Health Services for coverage information (413-577-5192).

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 Ad) of our web site.
- 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 to dms@educ.umass.edu.
2015-16 Graduate Diversity Fellowship Program

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 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 2015-16 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 2015-16. 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:
For each incoming student nominated, five 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.

For each dissertation student nominated, five 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 1:00PM on Friday, February 27, 2015. Please contact me at jmccarthy@grad.umass.edu if you have questions.

The Graduate Program Director or Department Head/Chair must sign the nomination form.

RESEARCH ASSISTANTSHIP
Department of Educational Policy, Research, and Administration
One 20-25 hour/week (dependent on start date) research assistantship is available for May and June 2015

Responsibilities include: This student's primary responsibility will be supporting work on grant proposals focused on: access to postsecondary education, the social media use of college students, and/or disability in higher education. To do so, review of literature and technical writing will be required. In this capacity, the student may also be responsible for qualitative data collection and analysis.

Qualifications include: The ideal candidate will have developed skills in grant writing and qualitative research methods. Strong writing, organizational, and time management skills are required, as is the ability to work both collaboratively and independently. Prior experience with Scott Long's workflow system, Zotero, and NVivo are preferred.

To apply, please send a brief cover letter and CV to Ezekiel Kimball at ekimball@admin.umass.edu. //
Don't miss the opportunity to be recognized and supported for your scholarship and service – Apply now!
The College of Education offers a scholarship program for current and new students with financial need. Scholarships are offered to undergraduate, master's and doctoral students who are preparing to work in the education profession (i.e., P12 schools or higher education.)

**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.

**Anne Farmer Momot Scholarship**
Provides support to a graduate student majoring in Special Education. Particular consideration will be given to candidates who demonstrate warmth, patience, and dedicated support for students.

**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](http://www.umass.edu/education).

Return the completed application and required documents to Deborah Becerra, 123 Furcolo Hall, College of Education, UMass, Amherst, 01003, or e-mail them to dbec@umass.edu.
May 2015 Degree Deadlines – Doctoral Degree Candidates, please see the REVISED first bulleted item in the Doctoral Degree information below.

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

- March 31, 2015 is the deadline to submit TYPED forms to Kristin Tyler, room 123 Furcolo Hall to file for the May 2015 degree.
  - Master’s Degree (M.Ed.) submit:
    - Typed Master’s Degree Eligibility Form
    - Typed College of Education’s Form M-2 Completed Program of Study
  - Education Specialist Degree (Ed.S.) submit:
    - Typed Education Specialist Degree Eligibility Form
    - Typed College of Education’s Form ES-2 Completed Program of Study

- 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 Section 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)

REVISED Doctoral Degree (Ed.D. and Ph.D.) Candidates Filing for the May 2015 degree

- My apology – there was a mistake in the 1/22/15 Beacon announcement bulleted item immediately below, now correct to submit your TYPED Doctoral Form D-8 to Kristin Tyler to schedule your final oral defense 4 weeks plus 2 additional days in advance of the defense date in order to meet the Graduate School’s 4 week deadline.
- REVISED: Submit your TYPED Doctoral Form D-8 to Kristin Tyler to schedule your final oral defense 4 weeks plus 2 additional 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 24, 2015 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](mailto:rheath@umass.edu)
- March 31, 2015 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 in Room 123 Furcolo.
- 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](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 8, 2015 (by 4:30pm) is the deadline to submit the dissertation electronically and other required materials to the Graduate School (Room 534 Goodell). THIS IS A FIRM DEADLINE!
NOMINATE A FACULTY MEMBER
2015 DISTINGUISHED GRADUATE MENTOR AWARD
DUE MONDAY, MARCH 2, 2015 TO THE OFFICE OF ACADEMIC AFFAIRS,
123 FURCOLO HALL

The Dean of the Graduate School and Members of the Graduate Council are pleased to announce that nominations are now open for the annual Distinguished Graduate Mentor Awards.

The focus of this award will be on graduate teaching and advising work that the faculty do outside the classroom. Nominate a faculty member if they have...
been an important player in your graduate school success.

gone above and beyond by extending their support to students outside their own department.

positively transformed your experience at UMass Amherst.

If you are a current or former graduate student who would like to speak on a faculty member’s behalf please send a supporting letter, not exceeding two pages to Deborah Becerra at dbec@umass.edu
2015 Distinguished Graduate Mentor Awards

Nominations due Monday, March 9, 2015

The Dean of the Graduate School and the members of the Graduate Council are pleased to announce that nominations are now open for the 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.

Three awards are made 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). (These groupings include approximately equal numbers of faculty.)

Because the University and the colleges already have a number of teaching awards, the focus of this new award is on the graduate teaching and advising work that faculty do outside the classroom. How well do they support their graduate students' development as scientists, scholars, teachers, artists, or practitioners of the professions? In what ways do they help their students to succeed in graduate school and beyond? Does their influence extend beyond their advisees to include other students in the department? Have they transformed graduate education in ways that significantly benefit students?

Each academic department, plus each of the four interdepartmental life science programs, can make one nomination. The Graduate Program Director should solicit suggestions from graduate students and, in consultation with students and colleagues, select a nominee. (If the GPD is the nominee, the GPD’s role in this process can be assumed by the Associate GPD or chair of the DPC). The nomination materials should consist of:

(i) A memo, not exceeding two pages, explaining why the nominee is deserving of this award.
(ii) 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. The Graduate School will not be soliciting these letters; they must be included in the nomination packet.

Nomination materials should be received in the Graduate Dean's Office, 514 Goodell, by close of business on Monday, March 9, 2015. Re-nominations of last year's nominees and re-use of last year's nomination materials are permitted. Previous recipients of this award are ineligible for five years. The Award recipients will be chosen by a subcommittee of the Graduate Council.

Please note that nominations for this award must come from a faculty member (GPD, Associate GPD, or DPC Chair). Nominations for this award coming directly from graduate students are not eligible. (Graduate students make nominations for the Distinguished Graduate Staff award, however.)

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ANNOUNCEMENT OF FINAL ORAL EXAMINATION

ELIZABETH BARKER  February 26, 2015, 2:30pm, room 161 Hills South. “Promoting Positive Teacher-Child Interactions Through Implementation of a Social Emotional Learning Curriculum with Performance Feedback.”  Co-Chairs: Dr. Amanda Marcotte and Dr. Sara Whitcomb
ANNOUNCEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE EXAMINATION
MING-HUI TAI  February 13, 2015 in CS 343 Computer Science.  Chairperson: Dr. Beverly Woolf

The Graduate School
Office of Professional Development workshops

Monday, Feb. 9,  5-7 p.m. 803 Campus Center
Pizza & Proposals
Ideal for students with an application in process for the Graduate School’s Dissertation Research Grant, although all graduate students with a funding application in process are welcome to attend. Participants must bring a draft of a funding proposal; specific instructions will be provided upon registration. Go to web site to register.
https://www.umass.edu/gradschool/office-of-professional-development

Thursday, Feb. 26,  3-4 p.m. 538 Goodell
Intro to Grant Searching
This session discusses the basic tools available to UMass graduate students looking for grants and presents some tips on applying for external funding. Pre-registration is requested. Go to web site to register.
https://www.umass.edu/gradschool/office-of-professional-development

Please Share The Beacon
If you receive the Beacon weekly, please send it to your listservs so that all students, staff, faculty and friends of the College have an opportunity to read it.

Are you writing an assistantship ad for the Beacon?
Here’s how to do it:
Go to the Faculty and Staff menu on our web site, then Faculty Resources for a easy instructions.
www.umass.edu/education
Critical Methodologies Seminar Series

Eve Tuck
State University of New York, New Paltz
February 3, 2015
Youth Resistance, Refusal, and Desire in Research

Ed Brockenbrough
University of Rochester
February 24, 2015
Social Media, Sexual Health, & Queer Youth of Color

Lisa (Leigh) Patel
Boston College
March 10, 2015
Relational Research with/for Undocumented Youth

David O. Stovall
University Illinois, Chicago
March 31, 2015
Youth Organizing & Critical Partnerships

Tuesdays @ 6:00-7:00pm
UMass Amherst Campus Center 165

This seminar series features critical methodologies in youth-centered and community-based research. Each lecture followed by Q&A. FREE AND OPEN TO ALL.

SAVE THE DATES

Sponsored by UMass Amherst College of Education with support from the Department of Student Development, Center for Youth Engagement, and Urban Education Initiative; Hampshire College Critical Studies of Childhood, Youth, and Learning Program and Hampshire Youth Connect.
See the plans

Furcolo renovation: on the web site, on Facebook. Frequent updates.
www.umass.edu/education