Graduate Assistantship
Department of Student Development

One 20 hour/week graduate assistantship for fall 2015-spring 2015 in the Department of Student Development in special education administration for the Pathways, U.S. DOE, Office of Special Education Programs, Leadership Preparation.

Qualifications: Must hold a special education teacher’s license, have special education teaching or related services experience, and have been accepted as an administrator of special education licensure student. Background in special education supervision/administration is preferred.

Responsibilities: As part of a federal training grant, duties include gathering and organizing reading list materials; research for publications; participating in state/federal level internships; assist with local, state, and federal data collection and analysis; assist in grant preparation. Must complete all course work for licensure as an administrator of special education and a 500 practicum experience.

If interested, contact: Dr. Mary Lynn Boscardin, Project Director, mlbosco@educ.umass.edu
ANNOUNCEMENT OF FINAL ORAL EXAMINATION

NINI HAYES   August 6, 2015, 10:00 a.m. / p.m. room 163 Hills South. “Social Justice Teacher Educators of Color: Their Work, Perspectives, and Insights.”
Chair: Dr. Kysa Nygreen

ANNOUNCEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE EXAMINATION

CAROLINE SHACKETT   September 3 and 4, 2015, Hills South.
Chair: Dr. Amanda Marcotte

Project Assistant - Mathematics, Science and Learning Technologies concentration
Department of Teacher Education and Curriculum Studies

10 hour/week project assistantship, dependent on funding, available for fall 2015 to work with the MSLT faculty.

Responsibilities: Support the research and administrative work of the MSLT faculty. Tasks may include, but are not limited to: assisting in grant proposal preparation; assisting in literature review including library search and document editing; information gathering; data-entry; helping with the creation of record-keeping systems; copying/scanning; website support, and other duties as assigned.

Qualifications: Ability to work independently, follow through on commitments, and meet deadlines; ability to communicate effectively through email and in person; highly organized, punctual, and detail-oriented; excellent writing and editing skills; ability to use library and online database research tools; knowledge and familiarity in using various software programs, e.g., Word, Excel, Power Point; and ability to manage multiple projects simultaneously. Doctoral students preferred.

To apply, please send brief cover letter and CV to professor Sandra Madden at smadden@educ.umass.edu with a copy to Florence Sullivan at fsullivan@educ.umass.edu

The Beacon’s deadline is FRI DAY

- 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.
  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 to dms@educ.umass.edu.
**Project Assistantship**  
*Instructional Rounds for Educational Improvement - Public Service Engagement Grant*  
Department of Educational Policy, Research, and Administration

10 hr/week project assistantship for fall semester 2015. Position dependent on funding.

**Responsibilities include:** Assist in the coordination and delivery of the Project to take place in a local public school district. S/he will assist in writing a literature review; facilitating professional on-site professional development; and collecting and analyzing pre-post evaluation data. Must be able to attend periodic meetings of district leadership team.

**Qualifications include:** Extensive public school teaching and/or leadership experience. Outstanding oral and written communication skills. Students with experience in basic qualitative, quantitative, and social network analysis research preferred.

If interested, please apply by August 14, 2015 at: https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/PSEG2015. You will be asked to provide a short letter of application, resume, and contact information for three references.

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**Project Assistantship**  
*Center for Education Policy - MASCA Strategic Planning Leadership Project*  
Department of Educational Policy, Research, and Administration

10/hr week project assistantship for 6 weeks in the summer of 2015, and 10 hr/week project assistantship for fall semester 2015. Position dependent on funding.

**Responsibilities include:** S/he will assist in planning and delivering a strategic planning process for the MASCA Governing Board. S/he must be able to attend and help facilitate portions of the summer and bi-monthly working sessions of the MASCA Governing Board. The ideal candidate will be able to assist the faculty sponsor with responsibilities related to the development of the Center for Education Policy.

**Qualifications include:** Outstanding oral and written communication skills. Preference given to those who have experience and/or a strong desire to engage in school leadership, and to those with experience in and/or understanding of the purposes and practices of school counseling.

If interested, please apply by August 14, 2015 at: https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/MASCA. You will be asked to provide a short letter of application, resume, and contact information for three references.

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SEPTEMBER 2015 Degree Deadlines

**Doctoral Degree** (Ed.D. and Ph.D.) Candidates Filing for the September 2015 degree

- 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 August 14, 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

- **August 21, 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, Office of Academic Affairs, 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.

- **August 31, 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!**

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The Beacon is posted to the college’s web site.

SEPTEMBER 2015 Degree Deadlines

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

- August 21, 2015 is the deadline to submit **TYPED** forms to Kristin Tyler, Office of Academic Affairs, Furcolo Hall to file for the September 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
    - 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 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)
**Graduate Assistantship**  
Center for Youth Engagement  
Department of Student Development

Two 10/week project assistantships.

**Responsibilities include:** Supporting the evaluation research activities of a gang and youth violence prevention program in Holyoke MA through: literature reviews, conducting surveys of staff and youth, conducting focus group interviews, writing reports, collecting data, analyzing data, and supporting youth directed action research.

**Qualifications include:** Prior experience with the high and proven risk youth, a strong interest in juvenile justice, gang prevention, and youth violence prevention, a background in special education or a related field, strong writing skills.

To apply, send a cover letter and resume/CV to Michael Krezmien at krezmienumass@gmail.com.

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**Research Assistantship — 3D Printing, Teaching, & Learning**  
Department of Teacher Education & Curriculum Studies

One 10 hour/week research assistantship is available for fall 2015.

**Responsibilities include:** This student will support two faculty members on a research project about K-12 teachers’ use of 3D printers to facilitate design-based learning. The student will be responsible for supporting the faculty members in recruiting participants for the study, organizing trainings, and building a face-to-face and online community of practice. Additionally, the student will assist with protocol development, data collection, transcriptions, and data analysis.

**Qualifications include:** The ideal candidate will have strong writing, organization, communication, and time management skills. The ability to work in collaboration as well as independently is required for this position. Good interpersonal skills, interviewing skills, and qualitative data management skills are required. The candidate will also be comfortable using 3D modeling programs (e.g., TinkerCad, Cura) and working with 3D printers. Applicant must complete CITI Training. Priority will be given to doctoral students.

To apply, please send a cover letter and CV/résumé by **August 10, 2015** to Dr. Torrey Trust at ttrust@educ.umass.edu and Dr. Robert Maloy at rwm@educ.umass.edu with a copy to Florence Sullivan at fsullivan@educ.umass.edu and Meg Gebhard at gebhard@educ.umass.edu. Please use the subject line: “3D Printing Research Assistantship Application.”
Summer workshops

Thursday, July 30th - 12:00-1:00pm
163C Campus Center

**Networking at Conferences and Everywhere**
This session will discuss different networking strategies for small and large conferences, and how to network during different portions of the conference, such as poster sessions, oral presentations, social events and business meetings. Attendees will also learn about the process of networking follow-up, and actions to take before, during, and after the conference. This session is part of a lunchtime mini-series - attend one or attend them all! A pizza lunch will be provided, and pre-registration is required.

Friday, July 31st - 12:00-1:00pm
163C Campus Center

**Mastering the Job Talk**
Think the job talk is just for the academic track? Think again! Many non-academic job interviews include job talks that can range from 15 minutes to over an hour. How are you supposed to condense five years of intense research to 15 minutes? This session will discuss strategies for compressing your research into presentations of varying lengths, identifying and emphasizing the most important selling points for different audiences, designing effective slides and visual aids, and giving an effective oral presentation. It will also provide tips for managing nerves and dealing with difficult questions and/or audience members. This session is part of a lunchtime mini-series - attend one or attend them all! A pizza lunch will be provided, and pre-registration is required.
International Teaching Assistants
Screening Test of Spoken English - fall 2015

The SPEAK test is a screening test for spoken English communication skills. The SPEAK test for first-time international teaching assistants (ITAs) for fall semester 2015 will be administered during the week of September 13. Students who took the test previously and scored 45 but did not participate in Communication Instruction classes should also take the test. We also recommend this test for students who are not currently in a TA/TO position but may be in the future. RAs and other international graduate students may also take the test and participate in small group Communication Instruction classes on a space-available basis. Priority for participation in the classes will be given to currently funded TAs and to those with the greatest need.

Students are exempt from taking the SPEAK test if they satisfy one of the following criteria:

- TOEFL exemption at admission. This appears as “TOEFL Exempt” in the student’s SPIRE record. (The list of reasons for exemption appears under the FAQ “Can the TOEFL requirement be waived?” at http://www.umass.edu/gradschool/admissions/faq.)

- A score of 26 or higher on the Speaking section of the TOEFL iBT at the time of admission. The SPIRE record shows the Speaking section score.

- A score of 8.0 or higher on the Speaking section of the IELTS. IELTS scores are not currently broken down in SPIRE, but the Speaking section score is available from Graduate Admissions. (Very few applicants report IELTS scores.)

The purpose of the SPEAK test is to identify any potential difficulties ITAs may have in understanding spoken English or in being understood in the undergraduate classroom. A score of 50 or above is required to pass the test.

Students who do not pass the test are encouraged to attend the English Communication Instruction classes offered by the Graduate School through the Center for Language, Speech and Hearing. The classes are offered throughout the year. At the end of each semester, students are reevaluated and those who do not meet the criteria are allowed to continue in the Communication Instruction classes for additional semesters.

Progress reports for students currently enrolled in English Communication Instruction classes will be sent to Graduate Program Directors at the end of the fall semester. The report will indicate each student’s current functional level and the SPEAK Test equivalent score.

If you have any questions, or need any additional information, please contact Lori Baronas at 545-5278 or Lori Laughren at lviglian@comdis.umass.edu.