A reminder about our summer computer support classes

OPEN TO ALL!

Tuesday morning sessions on Advanced Excel (which was asked for most by staff who completed the Survey.) It’s a good idea to plan to stay for the complete Excel class from 10:00 – 11:30 a.m. but if you have to leave during the class, that’s fine.

Thursday afternoons are Drop-in sessions for anyone who is interested in learning other programs (You name it! For example, Drupal, InDesign, or Excel for those who might miss a Tuesday morning session due to vacation or time conflict.)  **Stop in anytime, but remember that the Drop-in sessions end at 3:00.**

You do not have to register for any of the classes. Just come in!

The instructor for all classes is Cate Burlington, a computer instructor at UMass who has recently completed her Master’s in Education with an emphasis on Information Technology. She has experience in IT roles from tech support at a small non-profit to training users on one of the largest online learning platforms in the world at City University of New York to IT technician for a traveling circus (really!).

**Schedule for Summer Sessions**

**Advanced Excel:**
- 10:00 am to 11:30 am, Tuesday 8/2 in W09 Furcolo
- 10:00 am to 11:30 am, Tuesday 8/9 in W09 Furcolo
- 10:00 am to 11:30 am, Tuesday 8/16 in W09 Furcolo
- 10:00 am to 11:30 am, Tuesday 8/23 in W09 Furcolo

**Drop-in sessions for Word, Excel, InDesign, Drupal, Outlook etc:**
- 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm, Thursday 8/4 in W09 Furcolo
- 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm, Thursday 8/11 in W09 Furcolo
- 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm, Thursday 8/18 in W09 Furcolo
- 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm, Thursday 8/25 in W09 Furcolo

We hope you take advantage of these offerings to brush up on skills or learn some new ones. We will continue assess staff needs for future computer support and follow up with additional offerings in the fall.
GRADUATE STUDENT ORIENTATION, August 31

- Orientation starts at 8:30 with light breakfast
- Program starts at 9:30 am
- BBQ from 12:30-1:30 pm
- Concentration-specific info sessions 1:30-3 pm

Faculty and staff from our social justice education concentration offer a group activity for graduate students, staff, and faculty to promote community-building in an inclusive environment.

Have you ever heard the delicate and noble sounds of the Guzheng (traditional Chinese musical instrument)? You will have a chance to expand your musical horizons during the performance of one of our graduate students in Learning, Media & Technology, Weiyang Liu, a Guzheng instructor and experienced performer. The lunchtime musical performance will also showcase the musical talents of professor Stephen G. Sireci, Department of Educational Policy, Research and Administration, and associate professor Florence Sullivan, Department of Teacher Education & Curriculum Studies.

Parking is free in Lot 44 behind Furcolo. Parking passes will be distributed as you enter the parking lot on August 31.

College of Ed students, faculty and staff...

join us under the tent behind Furcolo and help us build our strong college community!

Attend for part or all of the day.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 31
Leadership team summer meeting
August 15 @ 1-3 PM
Meeting minutes and agendas are posted here:
https://www.umass.edu/education/faculty-staff/faculty-resources/leadership-team

The Beacon will not be published August 18-25. Please plan accordingly and send items by AUGUST 5 for inclusion in the AUGUST 11 issue.

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

September 2016 Degree Deadlines
for Master’s Degree (M.Ed.) and Education Specialist Degree (Ed.S.) candidates filing to graduate for the September 2016 degree period

August 22, 2016 is the deadline to submit TYPED forms to Kristin Tyler, Office of Academic Affairs, Furcolo Hall to file to graduate for the September 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 by semester from your transcript only graduate courses to be counted toward the master’s degree
Course numbers, course titles, semester and year, credits, and grades 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 by semester from your transcript only graduate courses to be counted toward the Ed.S. degree
Course numbers, course titles, semester and year, credits, and grades 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.
- 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

Leadership team summer meeting
August 15 @ 1-3 PM
Meeting minutes and agendas are posted here:
https://www.umass.edu/education/faculty-staff/faculty-resources/leadership-team
September 2016 Doctoral Degree Deadlines
for Ed.D. and Ph.D. candidates filing to graduate for the September 2016 degree period

August 22, 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.

- Submit your **TYPED Doctoral Form D-8 and final draft of your dissertation** 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 August 15, 2016 to have time to make any necessary edits.

- Rooms are reserved by emailing the College of Education’s room request at: educ-roomrequest@educ.umass.edu

- **August 22, 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.

- **August 31, 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!**
Wednesday, August 31 on Furcolo’s back field

The College’s graduate student orientation

Program of events!
8:30 am    Light breakfast in The Hub, sign-in at Welcome Desk
9:30 am    Program begins: Dean’s welcome, Ray’s info session, meet the faculty and staff, fun interactive session
10:30 am   Community-building activity for all
11:30 am   Learning centers
12:30 pm   Barbecue, entertainment by our college musicians
1:30 pm    Concentration-specific sessions

Did you RSVP?
Graduate Student RSVP
http://evite.me/QC19EGnawP
Staff/Faculty RSVP
http://evite.me/VFSrer4bgq

Blood Drive

The American Red Cross is conducting a blood drive.

August 4, 2016
10 a.m.—3 p.m.
Student Union, Cape Cod Lounge.
IMPORTANT Notice Regarding Health Insurance Coverage for Graduate Students

University Health Services has asked us to send you this reminder about your student health insurance coverage (SHBP). **Your insurance enrollment for Plan Year 2016-2017 which begins August 1, 2016 cannot be processed until you register for fall semester.** If you wait to register until after August 1, your health insurance coverage will be retroactive to August 1, but you will be uninsured and may encounter difficulties in obtaining prescription drugs or receiving medical treatment for the period of time that you are not registered. It is therefore very important that you register for fall semester as soon as possible, but in no case later than the end of add/drop, September 19, 2016.

**Important Points**
- If you are already registered for five or more credits for fall semester, you will be automatically enrolled in individual SHBP effective August 1, 2016.
- If you wait until after August 1 to register for five or more credits, your health insurance coverage will be retroactive to August 1, but you will have a lapse of coverage for the period of time from August 1 until you register. During this time period, you may encounter difficulties obtaining prescription drugs, etc.
- If you are already registered for at least one credit but less than five credits or Continuous Enrollment (CE) for Fall semester, or on or before September 19, 2016 you drop below five credits or register for Continuous Enrollment, you will not be automatically enrolled in SHBP. You must enroll directly with UHS on or before September 19, 2016 for individual SHBP coverage when registering for less than five credits or Continuous Enrollment (see link below).
- If you want the family plan, regardless of the number of credits for which you are registered, or if you enroll in Continuous Enrollment, you must enroll in SHBP directly with UHS on or before September 19, 2016 (see link below).
- Your insurance enrollment cannot be processed until you register for fall semester.

**Link to Health Plan Enrollment Form**

If you have any questions about your insurance enrollment, contact Patient Services at 1-413-577-5491 or patientservices@uhs.umass.edu. If have questions about registration procedures, please contact the Graduate Student Service Center at 1-413-545-0722 or gradrec@grad.umass.edu. Be sure to include your name and contact information in any emails.

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**FORMATION OF DISSERTATION COMMITTEE**

**ELEANOR CRUZ Proposed Dissertation Title:** Talking About Teaching: The Connections Between Job-Embedded Professional Development, Instructional Practices and Teacher Self-Efficacy

**Statement of Problem:** The purpose of this study is to explore the relationship between high-quality job-embedded professional development, instructional practices and teacher self-efficacy. However, there is a paucity of rigorous research available that confirms these relationships exist. A conceptual framework that describes the essential elements of high quality job-embedded professional development will be presented drawing upon leading theorists’ work that promotes and supports communities of practice (CoPs) as an empirically sound construct for advancing school reform and providing job-embedded professional development to teachers. The framework explicates contemporary theories attributed to 1) social cognitive theory where belief in our own abilities serves as a powerful motivator 2) social capital theory which attests the structural, cognitive and the relational aspects of social capital is an important predictor of how a group performs 3) communities of practice an aspect of job-embedded professional development which addresses structures, standards, teacher practices and student work; and 4) teacher self-efficacy defined by Tschannen-Moran and Hoy (2001) as a teacher’s “judgment of his or her capabilities to bring about desired outcomes of student engagement and learning, even among those students who may be difficult or unmotivated.” This study will reify the construct of communities of practice as a strategy for improving teacher practice, self-efficacy, and ultimately result in better outcomes for students.

**Chair:** Dr. Rebecca Woodland
ANNOUNCEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE EXAMINATIONS

AYSE YAKUT, August 5, 2016. Chair: Dr. Alexandra Lauterbach

CHRISTINE SHARRY, August 18, 2016, 10:00 a.m. room N113 Furcolo. Chair: Dr. Ryan Wells

BETHANY LISI, September 12, 2016, 10:00 a.m. room N173 Furcolo. Chair: Dr. Ezekiel Kimball

ANNOUNCEMENT OF FINAL ORAL EXAMINATION

BRIDGETTE MORIARITY, August 15, 2016, 12:00 p.m. room N173 Furcolo. “Urban Heritage Speakers As Multilingual Learners: Contexts In The 21st Century.” Chair: Dr. Theresa Austin

FRIDAY is the deadline for submissions to The Beacon

- 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. And speak to the appropriate department chair about the submission process for assistantship announcements.

- 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 news and announcements about departmental or concentration-related conferences, workshops, events and activities of interest to the college community to Denise Schwartz dms@educ.umass.edu. Have questions about content, format and how to submit? Email me.

For information about Beacon announcements visit the college’s web site
www.umass.edu/education/faculty-staff/faculty-resources

Read information about tuition and fees changes on the Bursar’s page of the UMass web site.
http://www.umass.edu/bursar/ tuition-retention

Send announcements, news, photos for the Beacon to Denise

dms@educ.umass.edu
TEACHING ASSISTANTSHIP
Department of Educational Policy, Research and Administration

One 10 hour/week teaching assistantship available for fall 2016 for EDUC 229, Introduction to International Education. This is a team-based learning course.

Team-based learning (TBL) is an instructional strategy that actively engages students in active learning and critical thinking and has four essential elements: (1) permanent work groups; (2) a Readiness Assurance Process; (3) peer evaluations; and (4) in class application exercises.

Responsibilities include: assist with class preparation; prepare and deliver mini-lectures on topics; prepare and facilitate student team learning activities during class; attend weekly meetings; provide feedback on students’ written read all assigned course materials; create and implement class activities using TBL principles; maintain student records (attendance, grades, etc.,) on Moodle; grade iRAT/tRAT exams, iQuizzes, activities, individual and team projects; facilitate tests for individuals who required accommodations; hold regular office hours; and respond to students’ emails and other inquiries.

Qualifications include: have knowledge about or willingness to learn the principles of Team-Based Learning as a teaching strategy; excellent written and oral communication skills; organizational skills; ability to work with diverse students; experience teaching; basic knowledge of international education and development issues.

Priority will be given to doctoral students.

To apply, please send a brief statement of qualifications and resume to Sangeeta Kamat at skamat@educ.umass.edu.

From the Graduate School

Thursday, August 11, 12:00–1:00pm  Goodell 5th Floor Lounge

Brown Bag: Crafting a Project Summary for NSF Dissertation Research Grants (Thursday NSF DDRIG Series)
Your NSF Dissertation Research Grant Project Summary must clearly and concisely communicate the scope of your project and its Intellectual Merit and Broader Impacts, all in one page. At this session we'll review samples and learn how review panel members use this portion of the application. Pre-registration is required.

Friday August 12, 11:00am–12:00pm  115 Engineering Lab 2

From Microbiology PhD to a Career in the CDC
Have you heard of the term “informational interview” but don’t really know what it is? Are you interested in a career in the government? Do you want to know how a PhD alumna got a job working in the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention? If these questions intrigue you, we have the session for you! Come watch Alysia Birkholz from the Office of Professional Development conduct an informational interview with a government professional. You will learn what an informational interview is, what type of questions it entails and what a job at a government agency could look like. Feel free to bring questions about informational interviewing or the CDC and interact as much or as little as you would like! Pre-registration is required.
Tools you can use on our web site

Faculty Resources

For information about preparing assistantship announcements for the Beacon visit the college’s web site

www.umass.edu/education/faculty-staff/faculty-resources

PROJECT ASSISTANTSHIP

Educator Licensure Office

One 15 hour/week project assistantship is available for fall 2016 in the Educator Licensure Office.

Responsibilities: assisting the Assistant Dean for P12 Educator Preparation, and the Licensure Officer on various projects (web maintenance, newsletter production, data collection, analysis, etc.). Other duties as assigned.

Qualifications include: knowledge of teacher education; experience working with undergraduate students; good organizational skills; excellent writing and editing abilities; some knowledge of web maintenance. Previous teaching experience is desirable.

To apply, please submit a letter of application as an email attachment addressing the above responsibilities (which will be used as a writing sample) and resume to: Kim Drake, Educator Licensure Officer and Chief Undergraduate Advisor, College of Education, University of Massachusetts Amherst – at kdrake@educ.umass.edu

All project assistantships are contingent on available funding. This assistantship is contingent on acceptance of a 15-hour per week Educator Licensure Office project assistantship for fall 2016.