The College of Education’s Annual Winter Potluck Celebration

Friday, December 9 at 11:30 a.m. in The Hub.

The potluck is open to all faculty and staff. Bring your favorite dish to share and celebrate the season. The College will supply beverages and tableware. More details to come soon. Any questions, please contact Jennifer Masztal in the Financial Services Office.
Professional Development for staff:

**Advanced Word. Classes begin in January**

Alexandra Martines of Workplace Learning and Development will offer 90 minute classes in Advanced Word beginning in January.

9:30 - 11 a.m.
Thursday, January 12, 19, 26 and February 2, 9.

W009 Furcolo.

Please put this on your calendars. All are encouraged to attend.
FORMATION OF DISSERTATION COMMITTEE
HELEN-ANN IRELAND Proposed Dissertation Title: Following the Trail from Policy to Implementation in the Classroom: The Long and Winding Road.

Statement of Problem: This case study will track one first grade common core math standard from the ideal of the policy makers at the top of the education hierarchy into a first grade classroom in a Massachusetts elementary school. This study looks at where there are the opportunities in the top-down education system for elementary teacher input and whether the education system is structured in a way that includes these teachers at critical moments in the adoption of a program. I examine how the teacher input, if sought, affected the implementation and finally how the standard looks in the classroom once a program has been adopted for implementing the standard.
Chair: Dr. Sharon Rallis

COLLECTING WINTER COATS and sweaters, hats and gloves
for refugee families in western Mass

One coat or many coats. Every donation helps our new neighbors.

Collecting new or gently-used winter coats for men, women and children, any size, to be distributed to Syrian and other refugee families who have relocated to our area.

Please help. Bring your donations of clean coats, sweaters, hats and gloves to the big box near the Welcome Desk in Furcolo Hall from now until Monday, December 19.

And, THANK YOU, for the many donations already received.
FILM SCREENING
NOVA
SCHOOL OF THE FUTURE
FRIDAY 12/16 @ 3PM
FURCOLO 101

In a new age of information, rapid innovation, and globalization, how can we prepare our children to compete? Once the envy of the world, American schools are now in trouble. How can the latest research help us fix education in America? Can the science of learning—including new insights from neuroscientists, psychologists, and educators—reveal how kids’ brains work and tell us which techniques are most likely to engage and inspire growing minds? What role should technology play in the classroom? Teachers, students, parents, and scientists take center stage as NOVA explores a new vision for the “School of the Future.”
NORTHAMPTON HOLIDAY STROLL PHOTO CHALLENGE
FRIDAY, DEC. 9 6PM-8PM THORNES, NORTHAMPTON
**Funding Opportunities**

The National Science Foundation (NSF) has released a request for proposals titled “Computer Science for All: Researcher Practitioner Partnerships.” This program aims to provide all U.S. students the opportunity to participate in computer science (CS) and computational thinking (CT) education in their schools at the K-12 levels. With this solicitation, the NSF focuses on researcher-practitioner partnerships (RPPs) that foster the research and development needed to bring CS/CT to all schools. Specifically, this solicitation aims to provide high school teachers with the preparation, professional development (PD) and ongoing support that they need to teach rigorous computer science courses, and K-8 teachers with the instructional materials and preparation they need to integrate CS/CT into their teaching. Proposals are due February 28, 2017.

**Conference Presentations**


Pearce, K. (January, 2017). An invitation to become an elementary science teacher: An ethnographic case study. Poster to be presented at the Ethnographic and Qualitative Research Conference. Las Vegas, NV.
Conference Presentations


Engagement

Professor Theresa Austin chairs paper sessions titled "Recruiting and Retaining Teachers From and For Underserved Schools" and "Literacy and Stories in Urban Settings" at the annual meeting of the American Educational Research Association. Professor Austin will also chair a roundtable session, "Efforts Toward Educational Equity for Bilingual and Emergent Bilingual Children," and serve as a discussant for sessions "Effective and Inclusive School Strategies for Children of Immigrants" and "Language Ideologies and Beliefs Regarding Bilingualism and Bilingual Learners."

Please send your information for the next issue
of Spotlight on Research to educore@educ.umass.edu
by Friday December 9, 2016.

Office of Research and Engagement
COLLEGE of EDUCATION
University of Massachusetts Amherst
EDUC 592A
TECH TOOLS
SHOWCASE
TUESDAY,
DECEMBER 13
5PM-7PM
FURCOLO 110

Ask Steve
the education librarian

Steve McGinty, education librarian, holds office hours in The Hub, Tuesday afternoons from 3:00 to 4:00
Leadership team meetings
minutes and agendas are posted here:
https://www.umass.edu/education/faculty-staff/faculty-resources/leadership-team

Use the College’s Calendar of Events and Activities
Find out about the college’s events, meetings
and activities on our college calendar.
http://www.umass.edu/education/news/calendar

Send information about your department’s or concentration’s events,
using the format you’ll see on the calendar,
to: dms@educ.umass.edu

Emily Perlow, a doctoral student in the
higher education concentration, was named a recipient of a 2016 Order of Omega
Doctoral Fellowship at the annual meeting of the Association of Fraternity/Sorority
Advisors (AFA) on December 3. Fellowship recipients receive a $2000 student as a
part of the award. Perlow is currently Assistant Dean of Students at Worcester
Polytechnic Institute.

Letters of recommendation for faculty RTDY

This is an invitation to members of the College to write letters of recommendation for assistant professor Chrystal George Mwangi. Dr. George Mwangi is undergoing her third year review. You can send your letter of recommendation as a PDF document to Judy Pierce, judithpierce@educ.umass.edu by December 12th. Please write the name of the faculty member the letter is for in the subject of the message. Thank you.

Rebecca Woodland, Associate Professor of Educational Policy and Leadership, Interim Chair, Department of Educational Policy, Research & Administration
Letters of recommendation for faculty RTDY

This is an invitation to members of the College to write letters of recommendation for assistant professors Catherine Griffith and Antonio Martinez. Dr. Griffith and Dr. Martinez are undergoing their third year review. You can send your letter of recommendation as a PDF document to Judy Pierce, judithpierce@educ.umass.edu by December 12. Please write the name of the faculty member the letter is for in the subject of the message. Thank you.

John Hosp, Professor & Interim Chair, Department of Student Development

Send announcements, news, photos, flyers for the Beacon to Denise.
And, please be sure that your materials carry the college’s word mark.
dms@educ.umass.edu

ANNOUNCEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE EXAMINATION

STEPHANIE PIRRONI, December 14, 2016, 9:00 a.m., rm 120, Montague House.
Chair: Dr. Bjorn Nordtveit

From the UMass Amherst Graduate School

Tuesday, December 13th - 2:30-3:30pm  528 Goodell
Setting Writing Goals for the Winter Break
The Winter Break offers stretches of uninterrupted writing time, but too often our writing goals remain unmet at the start of Spring Semester. Prevent procrastination by making a plan. This workshop explores strategies (suitable all year round!) for setting and prioritizing goals in order to make time for writing. Co-sponsored with the Writing Center. Light refreshments will be provided. Pre-registration is required.

Tuesday, December 13th - 11:30am-1:30pm  528 Goodell
Crafting a Syllabus for Spring 2017
Your syllabus can be a powerful tool for communicating your passions and intentions, and encouraging an active, meaningful learning experience for students. This session will provide tools to help you develop course goals, learning outcomes, assignments, statements of responsibilities and other course policies. Throughout the session, you will work on constructing your own syllabus for a class that you are independently teaching. Pizza lunch will be served. Pre-registration is required.
Montague House
Ribbon-cutting ceremony
Tuesday November 29, 2016  10 a.m.

It was rainy and grey outside but inside the tent, all was celebratory as the College’s Center for International Education officially made a beautifully-restored Montague House its home... again.
Staff Notes - A range of things about and from us  December, 2016

Chanti Chanthavong, academic advisor, 1st Year Experience is offering 7-minute movement meditation every Wednesday starting on December 7th at noon in W163 Furcolo. Chanti explains: “As we head into the holidays, I think it is important for us to take the time to reflect on 2016 whether be it professionally or personally. For me, professionally, it has been the most productive and unbelievable year. It was the year I felt a part of the College of Education community, got a permanent office, received the office key within a day of my request, had a Peer Advisor to assist me with the Summer NSO 2016, and last and the most important to me, I am so appreciative of my co-workers who provided me with nothing but support. Also, I notice many of us are having strong reactions to the outcomes of the election process. I encourage you to take care of yourself and others as we are a community that, I believe, has the capacity for care and compassion. With that said, I would like to invite you to take a 7-minute kinesthetic meditation. Kinesthetic meditations are activity based and involve moment of muscle groups in the body. To prepare for session, do not eat 2 hours before the meditation session. If you are interested in learning how to harmonize your mind and body, please join me.”

Sibyl Jayne, accountant in the Center for International Education, is a Girl Scout Troop leader for her daughter’s third grade Brownie troop and a parent volunteer for older daughter’s equestrian team. She also loves to cook and craft.

Sovann-Malis Loeung, administrative assistant, TECS, is featured in New England Public Radio’s ”Words in Transit,” an oral history project that collected the personal stories of nearly thirty people who have made this area their new home. The stories are now in a beautifully-designed book distributed by University of Massachusetts Press. Storytellers are from Ireland, a Fulbright scholar Palestine, Taiwan, Spain, Romania, Haiti, Jamaica, El Salvador, Côte d’Ivoire, the Dominican Republic, Bhutan, Laos, Syria, Cambodia, Sri Lanka, Nepal, Congo, Slovenia, Iraq, and Ukraine. Malis is one of them. http://nepr.net/wordsintransit/ UMASS Press http://www.umass.edu/umpress/title/words-transit

Michele Cunningham, project manager for the S2TLC NSF Noyce Project grant with Sandy Madden, has been working at the College since May, 2015. She also loves the work she does for The Center for Responsive Schools in nearby Turner’s Falls. As a Teacher Trainer and Consultant for CRS, Michele presents a variety of Responsive Classroom courses and workshops to teachers in the US and around the world. Teachers appreciate these workshops that integrate effective management and developmentally responsive social and emotional learning all within the context of a vibrant engaging academic community.

STAFF: Send items to dms@educ.umass.edu
UMass Amherst College of Education WORKSHOP
Offered by Benita Barnes, Director of Diversity Advancement, and the Office of Academic Affairs & Graduate Programs

Advancing Diversity by Exploring and Understanding Our Own Implicit Bias: Implications for Graduate Admissions

Despite our conscious eagerness to increase diversity within our graduate programs, our unconscious beliefs and associations have the potential to seriously thwart those good intentions. This workshop is designed specifically for Faculty/Staff who will be participating in the admission review process within their concentrations for Fall 2017 decisions. However, other faculty and staff are more than welcome to attend as well.

Through this highly interactive and engaging workshop, participants will learn best practices and resources for addressing implicit bias in the context of graduate admissions, as well as working with graduate students more broadly.

Tuesday, December 20, 2016
10:30-12:00  Furcolo 101

Coffee, tea, and breakfast pastries will be provided.

3 ways to challenge our own bias:

- We must be willing to accept that we do, in fact, have biases, and to make ourselves aware of them.
- We must be determined not only to unearth our own stereotypes, but also to challenge them.
- We need to learn how to exchange those automatic biases for different, more inclusive, notions.

COLLEGE of EDUCATION
University of Massachusetts Amherst

Residence Education Graduate Assistant Positions Available for 2017-2018

Assistant Residence Director Position - 20 hours*
Assistant Residence Director Position - 30 hours*
Assistant Residence Director/Apartment Living (North) 20 hours*
Assistant Residence Director/Apartment Living (Lincoln) - 20 hours*
Community Standards Graduate Assistant - 30 hours
Leadership and Engagement Graduate Assistant - 30 hours
Learning Communities Graduate Assistant / ARD – 30 hours*
North Village Program Coordinator - 20 hours – (Currently under review for the 2017-2018 academic year)

*Live-in position - Furnished apartment provided as part of compensation package.

How to Apply  Applications received by the Priority Consideration Deadline of February 1, 2017 will be considered first. Applications will be accepted until all positions are filled. A complete application consists of the online application form, accessed below, and an e-mail to gradsearch@sacl.umass.edu that includes your cover letter and resume.

See more details about positions and the application process at: https://www.umass.edu/living/hr/graduate-assistant

Questions? Email gradsearch@sacl.umass.edu