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)
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 trouble shoot 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.

FORMATION OF DISSERTATION COMMITTEE

MARTHA VON MERING Proposed Dissertation Title: Using Social Network Analysis to Investigate the Diffusion of Special Education Knowledge within a School District

Statement of Problem: In any school system, special education is a means of enlarging the capacity of the system to serve the educational needs of all children. As such, special education is fundamental to the total educational system, not a separate order (CEC Policy Manual). Therefore special education administrators must collaborate with their general education counterparts to ensure students with disabilities have access to rigorous curriculum and appropriately modified assessments regardless of their degree of learning differences (DiPaola & Walther Thomas, 2003). Because a shortage of literature on leaders in special education exists, it is important to add to the current research by furthering the knowledge of how special education leaders approach leadership in their work with their general education counterparts (Crockett, Becker, & Quinn, 2009).

Chair: Dr. Mary Lynn Boscardin
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](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

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The Hub
Coffee, lattes, expresso, chai, organic teas, breakfast and other sandwiches, bagels, muffins, salads, yogurt, fruit, and more. Here in Furcolo.

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](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!**
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 website.
  [www.umass.edu/education](http://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](http://www.umass.edu/education/faculty-staff/faculty-resources)

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.

Students - About Your UMass Email Address

The official email for UMass Amherst correspondence on any matter is your UMass email account. If you are using another personal email address, please link your UMASS email address to your personal email address.