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 7/26 in W09 Furcolo
- 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 7/28 in W09 Furcolo
- 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.
UMass Amherst’s major solar energy initiative receives media attention

There is national coverage of the announcement that UMass Amherst has embarked on a major solar energy initiative that will cut its electric bills by $6.2 million over 20 years and reduce greenhouse gas emissions by the equivalent of 31,000 non-metric tons of carbon dioxide. At no upfront cost to itself, the university is installing 15,576 photovoltaic panels across campus to provide 5.5 megawatts (MW DC) of clean renewable electrical power at heavily discounted rates. The total annual generation from the new installations is estimated to equal the annual electrical energy use of 900 Massachusetts homes.

The eight solar panel installations – six on rooftops and two above existing asphalt parking lots – will be engineered and constructed by Brightergy, a national energy company with offices in Charlestown, Mass. Brightergy, through its partnership with Sol Systems, arranged for project finance, ownership and ongoing maintenance of the solar installations with ConEdison Solutions for up to 20 years. The university will buy all of the electricity from the $16 million project for direct use on campus through a power purchasing agreement. The installations will be completed by the end of 2016. (Gazette, 7/21/16; Houston Chronicle, Seattle Post-Intelligencer, WPRI-TV 12 [Providence], Herald, Western Mass News, WWLP-TV 22 [from wire services], Solar Industry magazine, 7/20/16; News Office release)

FORMATION OF DISSERTATION COMMITTEE

AMANDA KERN    Proposed Dissertation Title: Maximizing Test Efficiency: The Effects of Test Format on Nonsense Word Reading

Statement of Problem: Assessment administration takes time away from instruction but is necessary to inform instructional decisions. When instructional practices are based on reliable and valid data it increases the accuracy of instructional decisions. Accurate decisions are likely to result in improved student outcomes. Through effective testing practices students can be accurately and efficiently matched to instructional practices that will meet their learning needs. It is therefore prudent to examine possible ways to improve testing efficiency without limiting testing accuracy or validity.

Chair: Dr. Michelle Hosp
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

ANNOUNCEMENT OF FINAL ORAL EXAMINATION

CHERYL BROOKS, August 11, 2016, 10:00 a.m. room S125 Furcolo. “Understanding STEM Learning Outcomes Using A Phenomenographic Approach.”
Chair: Dr. Benita Barnes

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

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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
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, 9 to 3, on Furcolo’s back field
The College’s graduate student orientation

Tentative 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

The American Red Cross is conducting a blood drive.
August 4, 2016
10 a.m.—3 p.m.
Student Union, Cape Cod Lounge.
Position Title: **Group Facilitator**

Are you interested in helping to create a safer, healthier, and more just campus community? Are you interested in supporting the development of healthy masculinities? Are you looking to improve your facilitation skills?

**Office Description:** The mission of the Men and Masculinities Center is to support the development of healthy masculinities at UMass and beyond, using a pro-feminist, male positive and multicultural perspective. The center offers a wide range of services and programs, such as support groups, leadership development programs, and advocacy for underrepresented groups of men.

**Program Description:** This internship is in the educational sanction programs arena. Our intention is to expand this program to make it accessible to more students. Male undergraduate students are referred to this program for various violations of the Code of Student Conduct and/or Community Standards, such as fighting, threatening behavior, disrespect of women in authority positions and other sexist behaviors. This three session program asks participants to reflect upon how their behavior and the ways adherence to masculine norms influenced their choices. In addition, participants explored concepts of responsibility and or self-care. This program is an invitation back into the UMass community.

**Intended Learning Outcomes:** Interns will learn how to facilitate this program as well as exploring issues related to male development with predominately mainstream, cisgender males.

**Ideal Candidates:** We are looking for individuals who most or all of have the following qualifications: a bachelor’s degree, excellent communication skills, a good sense of humor, an ability to relate well to people from all walks of life, an ability to simultaneously be caring and confronting, strong facilitation skills, presentation / teaching experience, supports the Men and Masculinities Center mission, strong professional boundaries, an ability to think on their feet.

Preferred qualifications include: at least some knowledge of college male identity development and student development; a master’s degree.

**Requirements/Responsibilities:** A one academic year commitment; Roughly 40 hours over the course of each semester; Participation in an orientation session (2-3 hours); Participation in weekly staff meetings (1-1.5 hour / week); Documentation via post group notes (up to one hour per group); Shadowing of one full group program and / or co-facilitation with a senior facilitator for one full group program (4.5-9 hours); Planning and debriefing with co-facilitator (1-2 hours per week)

**Internship Details:** Starts in late September or early October 2016. All dates and times to be determined in accordance with facilitators’ schedules and demand for the program.

**Academic credit may be available.**

**Contact Details:** Please address any questions via email, tschiff@umass.edu

If you are a UMass employee, we will be happy to work with you to gain approval from your supervisor for participation in this internship. Send a resume and cover letter to: Tom Schiff, Ed.D., Director, Men and Masculinities Center, 120 Thoreau, UMass Amherst, Amherst, MA 01003
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

Send announcements, news, photos for the Beacon to Denise dms@educ.umass.edu

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.
Here are the 7 most popular Education Week stories and opinions you and your colleagues have been reading. Take a look.

1. Compare the Candidates: Where Do Clinton and Trump Stand on Education?
2. GOP Platform Knocks Common Core and Data Collection, Praises School Choice
3. Teacher Recruitment Outlook Is Bleak
4. No, Pokémon Go Isn't the Death of Society: Why Joy is Essential
5. Renowned Educator Rafe Esquith, Fired for Misconduct, Returns to a Classroom
6. Digital Device Choices Could Impact Common-Core Test Results, Studies Finding
7. A Growth Mindset May Counteract Effects of Poverty on Achievement, Study Says

Phased Closing of Campus Parking Garage Levels Begins

A major upgrade to life safety systems and infrastructure at the Campus Parking Garage will require closing garage levels in a phased schedule beginning Thursday, July 14 and continuing through mid-November.

Currently, the phased closing schedule is:
- Level 1 – Closed July 14-Sept. 1
- Levels 2 and 3 – Closed July 18-Sept. 1
- Level 4 – Closed Sept. 2-Oct. 2
- Levels 5 and 6 – Closed Sept. 2-Nov. 15

Garage entry and exit points will also change depending on the schedule of work. Watch for signs on Campus Center Way indicating any temporary entrance detour; watch for signs inside the garage indicating any temporary exit route. Pedestrians should also use caution and be aware of any temporarily closed stairwells and detour routes inside the garage.

Questions about parking and requests for parking assistance should be directed to Parking Services, 413/577-PARK (7275).

Questions about the Campus Parking Garage construction project should be directed to project manager Kim Jaworski-Bruschi, 413/545-9666 or ckjbruschi@facil.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 work; 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.

You'll see Mario, Peter, Jeff, Grace and Courtney at our Graduate Student Orientation. They'll be on the cover of the Information Binder students will receive that day.

Orientation starts at 8:30 with light breakfast, program starts at 9:30, activities, including BBQ from 12:30-1:30, go until 3.

College of Ed students, faculty and staff... join us under the tent behind Furcolo and help us build our strong college community!

Wednesday, August 31