**Spotlight on Research**
from the Office of Research & Engagement

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**Publications**


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**Presentations, Workshops, and Seminars**


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Spotlight on Research is a publication of the College of Education’s Office of Research and Engagement

COLLEGE of EDUCATION
University of Massachusetts Amherst
Presentations, Workshops, and Seminars Cont.


Engagement

Maria José Botelho presented the keynote address for Primary Source’s ”Global and Multicultural Literature for High School Classrooms,” a one-day professional learning experience for Boston-based English language arts, social studies, and ESL teachers, and school librarians on Wednesday, March 13, 2017. Primary Source is a non-profit organization that works to advance global education in K-12 classrooms. Maria José considered how these literatures have both the potential to affirm and expand students’ lived experiences as well as, through critical analysis, make visible how cultures are diverse, dynamic, complex, and permeable.

Please send your information for the next issue of Spotlight on Research to educore@educ.umass.edu by Friday March 17, 2017.
ANNOUNCEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE EXAMINATION

MARI SA FERRARO, March 27, 2017, 10:00 a.m., room W209 Furcolo. Chair: Dr. Laura Valdiviezo

ANNOUNCEMENT OF FINAL ORAL EXAMINATION

ANA KARANTONIS, April 7, 2017, 9:00 a.m. room N113 Furcolo Hall. “Using Exemplar Items to Define Performance Categories: A Comparison of Item Mapping Methods.” Chair: Dr. Lisa Keller

You are invited to attend the Self-Care Skill Share, presented by The Racial Justice Coalition!

Come to this event to generate a toolbox for self-care methods that center healing from racial trauma and creating sustainable activism. Community members will share their knowledge and practices for self and community care. The space will also have acupuncture, tea-making, lip-balm making, and community art throughout the event. Refreshments will be provided.

Date: Wednesday, March 22nd
Time: 4pm-8pm
Location: Student Union Ballroom
If you need a low-stimulus/quiet space, check out Room 163C for a movie showing (bring your own blankets!)

“Attend” Our Facebook page to stay up-to-date with the event schedule!
https://www.facebook.com/events/1180890552032460/

We are still looking for self-care skill-sharers!
If you would like to share a self-care skill with the community, please fill out the form below:
https://goo.gl/forms/t14gY3xSwLiTHwXU2

If you have any questions, please contact Ro Sigle at rsigle@sacl.umass.edu

Amherst College Department of Spanish Presents:

Poetry Reading
by Wendy Barker; Poet-in-Residence and the Pearl Lewinn Professor of Creative Writing at the University of Texas at San Antonio.

Wendy Barker is the author of One Blackbird at a Time (2015), From the Moon, Earth is Blue (2015), and Nothing Between Us (2009). As a scholar, her books include Lunacy of Light: Emily Dickinson and the Experience of Metaphor (1987) as well as coeditor (with Sandra M. Gilbert) of The House is Made of Poetry: The Art of Ruth Stone (1996). Barker is also the translator from Bengali (with Saranindranath Tagore) of India’s Nobel Prize-winning poet Rabindranath Tagore. Books will be on sale courtesy of Amherst Books

Sponsored by the Spanish Department, Creative Writing, The Eastman Fund and the Lamont Fund.

Wednesday, March 29, 2017 at 4pm Pruynke Auditorium, Fayerweather Hall. Free and open to the public.
ANNOUNCEMENT OF FINAL ORAL EXAMINATION

KERRY WEIR, April 6, 2017, 9:00 a.m. room W209 Furcolo. “The Leadership Experiences of Female Special Education Administrators.” Chair: Dr. Mary Lynn Boscardin

The university’s undergraduate and graduate commencement ceremonies take place on Friday, May 12

SAVE the DATES!

for TWO College of Education graduation events that are coming this spring.

Thursday, May 11

It’s our Graduation Celebration!
And it’s a party!
All College of Education graduating students are invited - family and guests welcome.
Campus Center Auditorium 5 p.m. Wear party clothes!

Saturday, May 13

Senior Recognition Ceremony
Goodell Building 8:30 a.m.
For our graduating undergraduates, their families and guests.
Caps and gowns. Reception following the ceremony
FORMATION OF DISSERTATION COMMITTEE

WENDY WHEATON          Proposed Dissertation Title:  How Does Social Cohesion, Education and Protection interrelate at Community Level in Conflict-affected Environments

Statement of Problem:  The African continent has been subject to a geo-political landscape historically punctured by civil war that is rife with gender based violence, denial of educational access, recruitment of children into soldiering, and resultant large scale internal and external (refugee) displacement.  There have been numerous formalized accords and peace building efforts designed to enhance its human security protections.  Alongside these accords, international interventions by the UN, NGOs and local communities themselves are providing ways for conflict-affected children’s improved access to schooling and strengthened systems of protection.  Unfortunately, several case examples exist to demonstrate how current institutional approaches have been inadequate to address perpetual patterns of violence, which has disproportionately affected the most vulnerable children living in adversity.  Social cohesion breaks down as a result of violence and social fabric within communities is torn asunder, leaving open the possibility of reoccurring conflict in many countries.  This dissertation proposal will examine how a wide range of community members define, experience and perceive social cohesion, with a specific focus on how these meanings and perceptions impact the protective environment and educational access for conflict-affected children living in situations of extreme adversity.  Chair:  Dr. Jacqueline Mosselson

More than $50,000 in Grants Available!
The Graduate School is pleased to announce the availability of more than $50,000 in grant funding to current UMass graduate students.

Predissertation Grants
Overview: Predissertation Grants provide recipients a maximum of $1,000 to evaluate the feasibility of planned dissertation research, generate pilot data, or establish the necessary networks to carry out planned dissertation research, among other activities.
Deadline: April 17th
Eligibility: UMass Amherst doctoral students who have completed at least one semester of graduate study at the time of application but have not yet filed their dissertation prospectus are eligible to apply. Click on link below for additional details.
More Information: www.umass.edu/gradschool/node/639

Dissertation Fieldwork Grants
Overview: Dissertation Fieldwork Grants provide recipients a maximum of $5,000 for expenses related to dissertation fieldwork, which is defined broadly and includes data collection taking place for an extended period outside the immediate Amherst geographical area.
Eligibility: UMass graduate students in good standing and currently enrolled in a doctoral program are eligible to apply. Click on link below for additional details.
Deadline: April 3rd
More Information: www.umass.edu/gradschool/node/641

Questions?
Questions about these awards should be directed to Heidi Bauer Clapp, Assistant Director of the Office of Professional Development, at hbauerclapp@grad.umass.edu.
The Center for Research on Families is currently accepting applications for its **Spring Student Awards Program**:

**CRF Graduate Research Awards Program**
- DISSERTATION FELLOWSHIPS - $10,000
- SUMMER METHODOLOGY FULL SCHOLARSHIPS
- SPRING TRAVEL AWARDS - $300

**CRF Undergraduate Research Awards Program**
- UNDERGRADUATE ASSISTANTSHIP AWARD - $3,000
- HONORS THESIS/CAPSTONE PROJECT AWARDS - $500

**Deadline Extended** to Friday, **March 17, 2017**

Notification: Late-March 2017

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Office of Research and Engagement (ORE)
130 Furcolo

**NEW Service: Call-for-Proposal Reading**

Meet with us when you plan to submit a grant proposal. We will go through the call for proposal with you to clarify:

- Required documents
- Budget requirements
- Letters of interest
- Collaboration expectations

Contact us at: educore@educ.umass.edu

Come by and say Hi
Title: The Longitudinal Impact of a Standardized Group Counseling Intervention on LGBTQ Adolescents’ Levels of Hope, Coping, and Suicidality

Location: N125 Furcolo Hall
Time: 12:30pm - 2:00pm
Master’s and Educational Specialist degree deadlines

May 2017 Degree Deadlines for Master’s Degree (M.Ed.) and Education Specialist Degree (Ed.S.) candidates filing to graduate for the May 2017 degree period

March 29, 2017 is the deadline to submit TYPED forms to Kristin Tyler, Office of Academic Affairs, Furcolo Hall to file to graduate for the May 2017 degree period. After spring 2017 add/drop, please submit your typed forms to Kristin. You do not have to wait until the March 29, 2017 deadline to submit your forms.

Master’s Degree (M.Ed.) submit:
- Typed Master’s Degree Eligibility Form (Non-thesis Students)
- 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
- Department, course numbers, course titles, semester and year, credits, and grades listed on the Form M-2 must match transcript and Degree Eligibility Form exactly
- Leave the grade column blank for courses in which a grade has not yet been posted on your transcript

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
- Department, course numbers, course titles, semester and year, credits, and grades listed on the Form ES-2 must match transcript and Degree Eligibility Form exactly Leave the grade column blank for courses in which a grade has not yet been posted on your transcript
- Leave the grade column blank for courses in which a grade has not yet been posted on your transcript

- 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, incomplete, and/or incorrect 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

COLLEGE ACADEMIC MATTERS (CAM)
The CAM minutes are online
http://www.umass.edu/education/faculty-staff/faculty-resources/college_academic_matters
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.**

- 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 notifications 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.**

- **Do you have questions about content, format and how to submit?** Email dms@educ.umass.edu

Thank you.
HYUNSOOK SHIN  Proposed Dissertation Title: A semiotic analysis of linguistic and conceptual development in mathematics for English language learners

Statement of Problem: Research regarding mathematics education for general-education students as well as linguistically, culturally diverse students has followed three different strands of inquiries. First, recent mathematics studies in education have addressed the importance of connecting multiple representations in the construction of mathematical concepts. Second, some studies in mathematics education have focused attention on interactions and language as mediator to construe and construct meaning. Research driven by a social semiotic perspective attends to how configurations of language function to construct mathematical meaning and how teacher-student or student-student interaction unfolds in teaching and learning concepts of mathematics. Third, mathematics education calls for the knowledge base to teach the curricular content to ensure the rigor of schooling for ELLs, attending to a widening achievement gap between ELLs and non-ELLs in national mathematics assessments. However, there is little known about how teachers integrate language and concepts of mathematics using multiple representations or multisemiotic resources (e.g., manipulatives, numerical symbolism, visual display, language) in the elementary mathematics classroom. Drawing on these three strands of research, this study aims to explore how teachers use multisemiotic resources including language to construct mathematical meanings with English language learners (ELLs) in elementary school.  Chair: Dr. Margaret Gebhard

PAUL KEVIN KEITH  Proposed Dissertation Title: Examining the Relationship of Emergent Roles to Collaboration in a Robotics Learning Environment

Statement of Problem: Co-construction of knowledge in groups is not an easy task and requires the coordination of numerous variables, such as the nature of the task, the size of the group, and the pre-existing subject knowledge of group members. Therefore, it makes sense that simply putting students in groups does not ensure collaboration since many students lack the skills necessary for collaborative work and without scaffolding or support, successful collaboration is unlikely to occur.

Because the costs the robotics kits requires a sizable investment, it seems to follow that many teachers are required to put their students into groups based on limited resources. However, with the exception of Sullivan and Wilson (2015), there is very little research regarding how members in a group can effectively collaborate when working with robotics. Missing from the literature in robotics education are two factors that are salient to Computer Supported Collaborative Learning (CSCL) researchers. One is understanding the conditions under which specific interactions occur, namely those associated with collaborative activities, and the other being the investigation of the interactions that are predictive of learning. This information is vital because if we can understand the interactions that are indicative of learning that emerge on their own, and those that are counterproductive to learning, we can then create scaffolding that will support productive collaboration.

Systematic reporting of the emergent interactions that occur, the conditions under which they occur, and the effects of the interactions with programmable physical devices is sparse. This may be partially due to the complexity of CSCL environments and capturing how groups take up the technological affordances in productive ways. Typically, these factors are evaluated at a single point in time, and information is limited about the evolving nature during the task and over time. Using sequential behavior analysis methods this analysis will look at the moment-to-moment interactions of each of the members of the team to provide a detailed understanding of the collaborative process in a robotics education environment. This research will be used to describe how the roles that are selected by the novice programmers using educational robotics are related to collaboration, computational thinking, and social construction of knowledge.  Chair: Dr. Florence Sullivan
2017-2018 Academic Year Scholarships
Deadline for application: March 15, 2017

Scholarship for Undergraduate Students

___ Betty Katz Memorial Scholarship in Early Childhood Education
Provides support to an undergraduate junior admitted to the Early Childhood Education major, with renewal of
the award* in the recipient's senior year if academic progress is maintained. Recipients will be chosen based on
academic merit, financial need and demonstrated passion for the field of early childhood education.

*Senior year award to be granted at half the amount of the initial junior year scholarship

Scholarships for Students in Teacher Preparation Programs Leading to Licensure

___ Grace Norton Carney Scholarship
This endowed scholarship is for any student in the P-12 teacher preparation program at the College of Education
at the University of Massachusetts Amherst. Applicants must be a native or legal resident of Massachusetts
within the last 10 years. Preference is given to students who hold an undergraduate degree from UMass Am-
herst, Framingham or Bridgewater State University and have a GPA of 3.3 or better. Must complete FAFSA.

___ Richard J. Clark Memorial Scholarship for Teacher Education
Provides financial support to any student in the Teacher Education and Curriculum Studies Department who has
a GPA of 3.3 or better. They must also have experience with community service, internships and employment
that demonstrates a commitment to excellence and equity.

___ Marylin C. Haley Scholarship
Provides funding for any eligible graduate student based on financial need. Preference will be given to students
in a reading and writing, secondary, early childhood and elementary or special education teacher preparation
program.

___ Anne Farmer Momot Scholarship
Provides support to a graduate student majoring in Special Education. Particular consideration will be given to
candidates who demonstrate warmth, patience and dedicated support for students.

___ Meline Kasparian Scholarship
Provides support to any student in a teacher preparation program who has exhibited a desire to become a public
school teacher.

___ Janice Camby Endowed Scholarship
Provides support to any student accepted or enrolled in a teacher preparation program who is from an economi-
cally disadvantaged area and is in good academic standing. Must complete FAFSA.

___ Winifred Green Scholarship
This scholarship is funded and awarded by the Kappa Delta Pi Honor Society of the College of Education and
sponsored by a professional organization of retired teachers in Massachusetts. It provides support for any stu-
dent enrolled in a teacher preparation program who is committed to making a significant difference in the lives of
young people in the Commonwealth. The recipient must be in good academic standing, a permanent resident of
Massachusetts and have need for financial assistance.

More scholarships on the next page.

go to www.umass.edu/education/students/prospective/scholarships for the scholarship application
2017-2018 Academic Year Scholarships
Deadline for application: March 15, 2017

Doctoral Student Scholarships

Jerome and Florence McCormick Doctoral Award
The Jerome and Florence McCormick Doctoral Award will provide support to doctoral students in their dissertation-writing year. Students from any doctoral program in the College of Education are eligible for the scholarship, with selection based on merit.

Items listed below are also required, in addition to those outlined in Part IV.
- A detailed abstract to include theoretical framework, significance of study, purpose, research questions, research design and methods (ie. context, subjects/participants, data collection and analysis) and potential implications (similar to an AERA abstract). Should be double spaced and not more than 2-3 pages (ie. 250-300 words per page).
- Evidence of successful completion of comprehensive exams.
- D7 and D7A on file or ready to file (ie. concurrent to application).
- Nomination letter from faculty advisor.
- Tuition waivers are not available for this scholarship.

Early Childhood Education Graduate Student Scholarship
Provides funding for graduate students in a doctoral program studying early childhood, children or families. Funds may be used to support research activities and other educational/professional expenses not covered by other support, or for emergent need of these students at the discretion of the Dean.

Nieto/Rudman Endowed Scholarship
Provides financial support to any student in the Teacher Education and Curriculum Studies Department. Preference will be given to doctoral students in the Language, Literacy and Culture concentration. Applicants must be in good academic standing and have a GPA of 3.3 or better.

Joseph W. Keilty Memorial Scholarship
This endowed scholarship provides support to full-time graduate students with preference given to doctoral students. Students with a demonstrated financial need, high academic performance and exceptional promise are encouraged to apply. Must complete FAFSA.

C. Lynn Vendien Professional Prize Award
This prize will be awarded to a doctoral student. Preference will be given to students in the Department of Teacher Education and Curriculum Studies.

International Student Scholarship

C. Lynn Vendien Endowed Scholarship
Provides support to graduate students who are citizens of foreign countries. Preference will be given to students in the Department of Teacher Education and Curriculum Studies.

General Scholarship

Helen Eaton Timson Scholarship
Provides scholarship support to any deserving student in a College of Education program.

Ambassador Cynthia Shepard Perry Award
The Ambassador Cynthia Shepard Perry Award Fund was established to provide support to College of Education graduate students in International Education or students affiliated with the Center for International Education, who wish to pursue field work internationally. Preference will be given to women applicants.
Note these Commencement dates and events

Thursday, May 11 College of Education’s Graduation Celebration
Friday, May 12 UMass Amherst undergraduate and graduate Commencement
Saturday, May 13, College of Education’s Senior Recognition Ceremony

Send your news to dms@educ.umass.edu
We’ll post to the college’s Facebook.
www.facebook.com/UMassCollegeofEd
and other places.

Ask Steve
the education librarian

Steve McGinty, education librarian, holds office hours in The Hub,
Tuesday afternoons from 3:00 to 4:00
Drop by- no appointment needed.

Previous issues of the Beacon are on the college’s web site.
http://www.umass.edu/education/news/beacon-archives

Please refer to the UMass BRAND GUIDE when you write and design.
http://www.umass.edu/brand/
DROP-IN hour with Joe Berger

Thursdays, 11 a.m.-12 noon
in The Hub

This is a good time to run your ideas, concerns, thoughts and questions by our Interim Senior Associate Dean of the College and Director, Center for International Education.

Office of Research and Engagement (ORE)

Daily Office Hours: 8:30 am - 5:00 pm
Drop-in Hours

Monday: 10:00 am -11:00 am
Tuesday: 2:00 pm - 3:00 pm
Wednesday: 1:00 pm -2:00 pm
Thursday: 3:00 pm - 4:00 pm
Friday: 9:00 am - 10:00 am

COLLEGE of EDUCATION
University of Massachusetts Amherst
Leadership team meetings minutes and agendas are posted here: https://www.umass.edu/education/faculty-staff/faculty-resources/leadership-team

Three Minute Thesis (3MT) competition

We invite you to attend the Final Round of the Graduate School’s inaugural Three Minute Thesis (3MT) competition, to be held Friday, March 24th from 4-6pm in the Student Union Ballroom.

We are excited that UMass has joined a growing global network of institutions sponsoring 3MT competitions. These popular events challenge graduate students to communicate the significance of their research to a general audience, all in three minutes or less. **We plan to host the 3MT annually, so if you are interested in participating in the future, attending the Final is a great first step.** It also gives you the chance to hear more about research being conducted by other graduate students.

More than 70 students from 7 colleges and 35 departments registered for the inaugural competition, 40 advanced to the preliminary round, and 10 were selected as Finalists. On March 24th, Finalists will compete for a $1,000 first place prize, with the runner up receiving $500. Additionally, a People’s Choice award ($500) will be selected by audience members. More information is available on our [event flyer](#).

We hope to see you on Friday, March 24th, from 4-6pm in the Student Union Ballroom.

Poem from inside Furcolo looking out - March

The vicissitude of the seasons,
the capriciousness of the winds,
everything comes in triptychs these days

L.S.
Intermediate SPSS Workshop

Session on 3/2 rescheduled to:
Thursday, March 23
2:30 to 3:30pm
Furcolo W09 (PC Lab)

Sign up at www.sites.google.com/site/UMassStatConsulting
or email frick@umass.edu. Walk-ins are welcome!

Offered by Statistical Consulting Services / REMP

All staff meeting
Tuesday, March 28
2:30 pm
Location to be determined.

The long-awaited College of Education tee shirts will be available during UMass Gives, Thursday, April 27 and Friday, April 28.

If you make a $15 or more gift to the college’s Pay-it-forward fund during the 36-hours of #UMassGives you will receive a tee shirt in appreciation of your generosity. Details soon!

Tee shirts don’t really look like this. This is a sample!
The Five College Schools Partnership presents

Education Dialogue:
HEAD * HEART * GUTS
A method for listening and talking across difference

Join us in a conversation circle and working groups to advance institutional change for social and racial justice. Together, we will:

* Explore how to center students’ voices as we work across difference in educational settings
* Try out a model for conversations
* Connect with each other for on-going support to our work

Register by March 17 at: https://www.fivecolleges.edu/partnership/education-dialogue

Featuring
Kerrita K. Mayfield, PhD
Biology Teacher, Holyoke High School
Guest Presenters: Holyoke High School Grade 9 Academy students

Who should attend?
K-12 teachers & pre-service teachers
Teacher educators
College students interested in teaching
Current high school students

When & Where?
March 30, 2017 * 4:30-7:30 pm
The Massachusetts Green High Performance Computing Center
100 Bigelow St * Holyoke, MA 01040