MSLT PRESENTS

LEARNING THROUGH MATHEMATICAL PLAY

Abstract: This three-tiered talk will focus on how video games and other digital media can support mathematical play, learning, and teaching. During the first tier, Dr. Williams-Pierce will introduce her game, _Rolly’s Adventure_, and detail the five stages of mathematical play that emerge during gameplay. During the second, she will detail how players talked, learned, and experienced multiplication of fractions in a novel fashion through engagement with the game. Finally, she will discuss ways to identify quality mathematical games for teaching, and how to bridge from those often unusual games to classroom learning objectives.

BIO

Dr. Caro Williams-Pierce is an assistant professor at the University at Albany, SUNY, in the Department of Educational Theory & Practice. She earned her Ph.D. in Mathematics Education and joint MA in Mathematics and Mathematics Education from the University of Wisconsin-Madison, and has been obsessed with how video games can change the way that people see and experience mathematics for over a decade. Her research focuses on designing video games for mathematical play and learning from the embodied constructivist perspective, with a particular emphasis on the role of failure and intellectual need in such environments.

DATE

- Tuesday November 7th
- Furcolo 101
- Dinner at 6:15 pm
- Talk at 6:45 - 8:15 pm

RVSP

- asoken@umass.edu
Tuesday, NOVEMBER 7, 2017
Please welcome
UMass Amherst
Chancellor Subbaswamy
to the college
1-1:30 p.m. Furcolo 10 All are invited

Ask Steve the education librarian
Steve McGinty, education librarian,
holds office hours in The Hub,
Tuesday afternoons from 3:00 to 4:00.
You can ask him anything
about the libraries and education!

Drop by– no appointment needed.
BE A TEACHER!
Become a teacher licensed to teach
Pre-K through 2nd grade

Early Childhood Teacher Education Program
Information Session
Thursday, November 9th
Furcolo Hall room 102,
3:00pm-4:00pm
This session is especially for sophomores and freshman who are interested in applying to the program for fall 2018 or 2019
Funding Opportunities

UMass Amherst has once again been invited to submit applications to the Marion & Jasper Whiting Foundation for travel grants of approximately $5,000 - $7,000. Please reach out to the ORE for budget development and routing support.

Overview: The Marion & Jasper Whiting Foundation awards fellowships to present and prospective teachers, with an emphasis on present teachers at the college or university level, to enable them to study abroad or at some other location(s) other than that which they are most closely associated. The aim is to stimulate and broaden the minds of teachers to improve and enhance the quality of their instruction.

Eligibility: Applicants must be employed as a teacher at a New England-based college or university.
Grants are for travel and related expenses and not as salary substitutes, scholarships, or grants in aid.

Publications


Presentations, Workshops, and Seminars


Please send your information for the next issue of Spotlight on Research to educore@educ.umass.edu by Friday November 3rd
College of Education had a great showing at the Northeastern Educational Research Association (NERA) Annual Conference, October 18-20 in Trumbull, Connecticut.

A few conference highlights:

There were many excellent symposia, papers, and poster presentations from UMass faculty, students, and alumni!

Our very own Craig Wells, Research, Educational Measurement, and Psychometrics (REMP), was organizational president this year. His keynote on the power pose was an excellent reminder to be vigilant for Type I error as we share our research with the world.

April Zenisky, REMP, won the Leo D. Doherty Memorial Award for Outstanding Leadership and Service to NERA!

Katie McDermott, Educational Policy and Leadership, provided valuable perspective and insight as one of three Keynote Panelists on "Making Sense of the School Choice Debate: A Nuanced Approach through Varied Perspectives"

Kudos to Reilly Kopp and Meghan Henningson, undergraduate students, for presenting an undergraduate research project they worked on with the Center for Student Success Research and representing the next generation of educational researchers!

Interested in NERA 2018? The conference is a great opportunity for College of Education students with its friendly atmosphere, sizeable UMass representation, high program acceptance rate, affordable costs, and close proximity. If you’re interested in more information, visit the NERA website (http://www.nera-education.org/) or talk to Duy Pham at dpham@umass.edu. Program submissions are usually due in early May.

The College of Education group at NERA this year!
FORMATION OF DISSERTATION COMMITTEE

AMADEE MEYER  Proposed Dissertation Title:  Examining the Properties, Uses and Interpretations of First Grade Reading Screening Tools in One School District
Statement of Problem: Literacy is essential to success in modern society, and it is critical to later academic success that reading develops during the first few years of public education. Early identification of children who are likely to struggle to achieve reading proficiency is important to providing them access to timely effective interventions and ultimately changing the trajectory of reading development. Educators have limited instructional resources (i.e., time, teachers and materials) to devote to remediating the needs of large numbers of struggling students. Therefore, access to screening measures that can be used to accurately identify which students need supplemental supports and then allocate additional resources is critical to effective preventative school practices. There are numerous early reading assessments available to support schools as they make these decisions, yet it is the responsibility of school professionals to consider whether the tools available to them support the inferences they wish to make. The proposed study will explore the validity evidence for two types of assessments commonly used by first grade educators to identify students at risk for reading failure. In addition, this study will consider the appropriateness and usability of each assessment when used as a screening tool in one school district. Chair: Dr. Amanda Marcotte

FORMATION OF DISSERTATION COMMITTEE

YETUNDE AJAO  Proposed Dissertation Title: Toward Gender Equality in Entrepreneurship Development: A Case of Unemployed Female and Male University Graduates In Nigeria.
Statement of Problem: Efforts to increase girls’ educational opportunities in Africa have succeeded in increasing the number of female university graduates in the last decade. However, attempts to bridge gender participation disparities in educational opportunities do not guarantee gender equality in labor force participation. As at 2015, the labor force participation for women was 65.1 percent compared 71.4 percent for men in Nigeria (NBS, 2015). While there are no accurate data detailing the unemployment gap between female and male university graduates in Nigeria, the National Bureau of Statistics showed that the unemployment rate among all university graduates from 2006 to 2016 has ranged between 9.3 percent and 16.5 percent (SBS 2006; 2016). In 1986, to address this high level of unemployment in Nigeria, the Federal Government established the National Directorate of Employment (NDE) scheme under which an Entrepreneurship Development Program (EDP) was established as an employment strategy in partnership with the National Youth Service Corps (NYSC) to train graduates to be self-employed in the absence of wage employment. The EDP exposes graduates to business opportunities, and equips them with interest free loans that can enable them establish small scale enterprises. This qualitative case study research will examine the participation and program outcomes for unemployed female and male university graduates who are in or have recently completed the EDP in Ilorin, Kwara State, Nigeria. Chair: Dr. Bjorn Nordtveit

ANNOUNCEMENT OF FINAL ORAL EXAMINATION

Between November 13 – 17, 2017, please join the school psychology program and their student organization, the University of Massachusetts Amherst School Psychology Association, in celebrating the nationally recognized School Psychology Awareness Week (SPAW)! This year’s awareness week theme is “Power Up! Be a Positive Charge” which encourages us all to take small action steps that will lead to positive change.

-- JOIN US! --

Starting on Monday, November 13th you’ll find “Positive Charge” lightbulbs posted in the central Hub area of Furcolo. We encourage all students, faculty & staff to stop at these light bulbs and post a note highlighting how you and/or other members of our community are taking small steps that result in positive change. In honor of SPAW, let’s light up Furcolo with positivity!
The UMass Amherst Writing Center is open

We Work with Writers
Writing Center tutors work with undergraduate, graduate, post-doc, staff, and faculty writers on any academic genre at any point in the writing process. Our highly-trained tutors (from a variety of disciplines) help writers develop a draft, clarify an argument, gain control over sentence structure and word choice, reorganize a text, and learn to reflect on and build productive writing practices. Writers often bring just an idea or an assignment to the Center and work with a tutor on how to begin writing. We meet individually with writers in 45-minute consultations both face-to-face and online. Writers can schedule up to two appointments per week.

We Work with Instructors
We are also happy to collaborate with you on teaching a writing-related concept in your class. If you're interested a collaboration, please write to us at writingcenter@acad.umass.edu.

Inform Your Students
Text for syllabi or Moodle. The Writing Center is located in W. E. B. Du Bois Library and provides free support on any writing you do while at UMass, whether for a course or not. Trained tutors are available to work with you (in person or online) as you plan, draft, and revise your writing. Please visit www.umass.edu/writingcenter for hours and information about making appointments. If you have questions about the UMass Writing Center, please email writingcenter@acad.umass.edu or call 413-577-1293.

Class visits by tutors. Our tutors are available to visit your classes to explain what we do and answer any questions your students might have. Students have told us that it's helpful to learn about the Writing Center from a fellow student writer. Presentations take about ten minutes. If you are interested in a class visit, please fill out this request form.

The College’s calendar of events and meetings is at http://www.umass.edu/education/news/calendar

Send your information for the calendar to dms@educ.umass.edu
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<tr>
<th>MONDAY</th>
<th>TUESDAY</th>
<th>WEDNESDAY</th>
<th>THURSDAY</th>
<th>FRIDAY</th>
<th>NOTES</th>
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<td>FREE to ALL!</td>
<td>11/9 Intro to R: Basics of the Platform &amp; Language 9:30-11:00 am in Furcolo 110 (Mac Lab)</td>
<td>11/9 Mplus: Basics &amp; codes for SEM, Mixture and Multilevel Models 1:00-3:30 pm in Furcolo N113</td>
<td>11/10 Basic Plots in R: Learn how to use R functions and packages to make elegant plots 9:30-11:00 am in Furcolo 110 (Mac Lab)</td>
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COLLEGE of EDUCATION
University of Massachusetts Amherst

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REJECT HATRED. STAND UNITED.

hate HAS NO HOME AT UMASS
**U.S. “Media Literacy Week” - November 6-10, 2017**
[https://medialiteracyweek.us/](https://medialiteracyweek.us/)

The National Association for Media Literacy Education (NAMLE) announces that U.S. Media Literacy Week (#MediaLitWk) will be held November 6 - 10, 2017. The mission of Media Literacy Week is to raise awareness about the need for media literacy education and its essential role in education today.

Organizations, schools, educators and Media Literacy Week partners from all over the country will work with NAMLE to participate in events including #MediaLitWk classroom lessons, virtual events, online chats, screenings, PSA’s, panel discussions and more. Sponsored by Trend Micro, Nickelodeon, Twitter, and Facebook and hosted by NAMLE, U.S. Media Literacy Week has the support of numerous partnering organizations, media literacy experts and educators across the nation.

The third annual U.S. Media Literacy Week will kick off with a launch event hosted by Reuters in NYC on November 6. The event will bring together journalists, pre-K to grade 12 educators, higher education professors and researchers to create dialogue around teaching media literacy and providing the tools students need to develop critical thinking skills around news and the media. A wrap up event will be held at Twitter Headquarters in San Francisco on November 10. Media Literacy Week is designed to bring attention and visibility to media literacy education in the U.S. NAMLE hosts Media Literacy Week to showcase the work of amazing media literacy educators and organizations nationwide and drives conversation that creates positive social change and increased civic engagement.

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**SEND NEWS and MORE**

Please send information that you think will be of interest to our faculty, staff and students to dms@educ.umass.edu. Items about meetings, awards, workshops, changes, processes, and news and links to interesting articles about education and other subjects are welcome.

If your item is about an event or activity, send it well in advance...two weeks in advance is standard.

**SEND PHOTOS** (Identify who is in the photo if you can and indicate if you have permission to use it!)

NOTE: Spotlight on Research is compiled by the Office of Research and Engagement (ORE). For Spotlight send your news to educore@educ.umass.edu.

Thanks.
Support community charities with UMACC!

The UMass Amherst Community Campaign is an employee benefit that allows faculty and staff to donate to any charitable organization through payroll deduction, check/cash, or credit card.

Giving through UMACC instead of directly to the charities helps streamline the donation processing with one lump sum instead of multiple individual donations, which helps the charities save on labor and allows more time to focus on their mission.

Everyone who donates through UMACC will receive tickets to a performance from the Department of Music and Dance in the spring semester of 2018 and will be entered to win a $300 Amazon gift card, round-trip airfare for two, UMass hockey tickets, and more.

The Community Campaign is running now until December. Any employee can sign-up to donate $1 per payroll deduction for a $26 yearly donation. See how easy it is to donate by visiting http://www.umass.edu/umacc/

THANK YOU! Jenn Masztal, coordinator of UMACC in the College of Education

ANNOUNCEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE EXAMINATION

ELHAM ZANDVAKILI, November 7, 2017, 12:00 p.m. room N125 Furcolo.
Chair: Dr. Ernest Washington
Let’s Talk Pie!
With author Robert S. Cox
Thursday, November 16th
Noon – 1pm
Campus Center, Hadley Room on 10th floor

What better time to think pie?
Rob Cox is Head of Special Collections and University Archives for the University Libraries. He is also an author who has written on a wide variety of historical topics including a trilogy on New England foods. For his book, *New England Pie: History Under a Crust*, Rob interviewed local bakers, and he provides both classic and modern recipes as he tells his pie story. Following Rob’s presentation, some of his books will be raffled off and there will be a book signing. Come join us for an entertaining and educational talk by this delightful author!

To purchase his books, go to: [https://www.arcadiapublishing.com/Products/9781626197725](https://www.arcadiapublishing.com/Products/9781626197725)

MENU
Butternut Squash Bisque * Parmesan Twist and Sourdough Boule * Caesar Salad
* Chicken Marsala * Green Beans with Lemon drizzle * Pie (TBD) * Coffee/Tea
(If you have diet restrictions, please contact Van at vkeh@admin.umass.edu before Nov 9 and she will do her best to accommodate.)

Please send a quick RSVP to Eugenie Micelotta, UWN Membership Coordinator, etharvey@geo.umass.edu by Thursday, November 9 at 5pm.

How to Pay
For online credit card registration, go to: [https://quikpayasp.com/umass/commerce_manager/payer.do?orderType=UWN](https://quikpayasp.com/umass/commerce_manager/payer.do?orderType=UWN)
Choose either UWN Dues, Member Lunch, or Non-Member Lunch.

For cash or check registration (make checks payable to UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS), send this portion of the form along with your payment to: Glenda Pons, Environmental Health and Safety, 117 Draper Hall gpons@ehs.umass.edu.
You will receive an email confirmation when your payment has been received.

Please check your option(s): □ Member Lunch ($12.00) □ Non-Member Lunch ($15.00)
□ Membership Dues ($25.00)

Name: ___________________________________________ Email: ________________________________

Dept. / Campus Address: __________________________________ Phone #: ________________________