Access The Beacon online: http://www.umass.edu/education/publications/beacon.shtml. You can also go to the School of Education home page and click on The Beacon in the menu under the News and Events button on the left.

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ANNOUNCEMENT OF FINAL ORAL EXAMINATIONS

DONG-SHIN SHIN

CYNTHIA A. McGURL
April 21, 2009, 9:30 a.m. Room 151, Hills South. "The Use of Item Response Theory in Developing a Phonics Diagnostic Inventory." Chairperson: Dr. John Hintze.

ROBIN HANDS

MICHAEL SHAF
Friday, April 17, 2009, 3:30 p.m., 357 Hills South. "A Program Evaluation of Response to Intervention Implementation in the Clark County School District." Chairperson: Dr. William Matthews.

The Beacon Deadline is FRIDAY
Please submit Beacon announcements to: Room 126 Furcolo Hall or to dms@educ.umass.edu by 5:00 P.M. on Friday for inclusion in the following week’s Beacon. All assistantships will run for two issues and examinations and dissertation proposals will run for one.

School of Education  ❖  813 N. Pleasant Street, Amherst, MA 01003
AWARD

Dr. Kevin Patton (2004 SOE Graduate), an Assistant Professor at Chico State, CA and Dr. Linda Griffin, Associate Dean and Professor, School of Education, will receive the Research on Learning and Teaching in Physical Education Special Interest Group 2009 Exemplar Paper Award. The paper is entitled “Experiences and patterns of change in a physical education teacher development project” and was published in the Journal for Teaching in Physical Education in 2008. This article is based on Dr. Patton’s dissertation.

CENTER FOR INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION PRESENTATIONS

A group of faculty and students from Center for International Education (CIE) presented their research at the 53rd Annual Conference of Comparative and International Education Society (CIES) held on March 22 – 26, 2009 in Charleston, South Carolina. They were:

- Lauren Clarke
  Challenging the myth of rate of return analysis: Venezuela’s “Higher Education for All” initiative
- Delawar Darmal
  Should English be the language of instruction in higher education in Afghanistan?
- David R Evans
  The challenge of reforming higher education in Afghanistan
- Alicia Fitzpatrick
  Multi-grade classrooms: Access and quality education standards
- Paul Frisoli
  Learning Initiatives for Rural Education (LIRE): Multi-Grade Education in Senegal and The Gambia
- Mohammad Tariq Habibyar
  The challenges and prospects for decentralization of higher education in Afghanistan
- Ms. Sarah W Kahando
  Materials development for rural schools in Senegal and Gambia

ANNOUNCEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE EXAMINATION

AYMAN KHALI FAH

April 9, 2009, 9:00 a.m., 275 Hills South.
Chairperson: Dr. David R. Evans.

Email ideas or accomplishments to: dms@educ.umass.edu
THANKS!
CURRENT STUDENT TUITION WAIVERS for FALL 2009

ELIGIBILITY
Must be accepted into a full-time degree program
2. Have a minimum 3.25 GPA.
3. Must have proof of sufficient funds to meet expenses except tuition (estimated at 28,200 for AY 09/10)
Must have non-immigrant visa status

CURRENT STUDENTS MUST SUBMIT:
1. Formal application form (student can pick up form at the International Programs Office, 467 Hills South) or download it from:
   http://www.ipo.umass.edu/_customtags/ct_FileRetrieve.cfm?
   File ID=0F077B4806700172700D0D061A0373060014730806081C020073710570027406060272017070
2. Financial documentation proving student has sufficient funds to cover all academic fees and living expenses other than tuition, estimated at $ 28,200 for Fall, 2009.
3. Recommendation letter from student’s advisor or chairperson.

APPLICATIONS MUST BE SUBMITTED AS FOLLOWS:
. Educational Policy, Research and Administration applications to Sue Overstreet, 161 Hills South.
. Student Development & Pupil Personnel applications to Robbie Calliham, 161 Hills South.
. Teacher Education & Curriculum Studies applications to Malis Loeung, 117 Furcolo.

The Department chairs will rank order all nominations before they are submitted to the Graduate Program Office.

Linda Griffin, the Graduate Program Director, will review and nominate those applications that she believes are the strongest.

DEADLINE FOR CURRENT STUDENTS TO SUBMIT APPLICATIONS TO THEIR DEPARTMENTAL OFFICE IS:

APRIL 13, 2009
SOE SCHOLARSHIPS AND AWARDS

The School of Education Scholarships and Awards Program is pleased to provide the following opportunities for financial assistance for the 2009-2010 academic year. Contact Jane Clukay (jclukay@educ.umass.edu) for info. The deadline for scholarship applications is April 10, 2009.

Joseph Burroughs Scholarship:
Provides scholarship support to a junior or senior in an Education minor program or a Master's Degree candidate enrolled in a service-oriented program or Teacher Certification Program. Students in good academic standing, with demonstrated financial need, and evidence of strong service experience with children or youth are encouraged to apply.

Helen Eaton Timson Scholarship:
Provides scholarship support to a graduate student in the School of Education.

Early Childhood Education Graduate Student Fund:
Provides funding for graduate students studying young children and their families with preference given to the study of the needs of the gifted and talented. To provide opportunities for graduate students to enhance their academic experience and become involved in outreach.

Grace Norton Carney Scholarship:
Provides scholarship support to graduate students pursuing graduate degrees in the School of Education at the University of Massachusetts Amherst with the intent to teach. Applicants must be a native or resident of Massachusetts within the last 10 years; hold an undergraduate degree from UMass Amherst, Framingham or Bridgewater State College; and be in good academic standing. There is a separate application and deadline for this scholarship.

Joseph W. Keilty Memorial Scholarship:
Provides scholarship support to graduate students formally admitted as degree candidates. Students with a demonstrated financial need, high academic performance, and exceptional promise are encouraged to apply. Must complete FAFSA.

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

C. Lynn Vendien Professional Prize Award:
This prize will be awarded to a doctoral student who is studying Physical Education Teacher Education in the Department of Teacher Education and Curriculum Studies.

Janice Camby Endowed Scholarship:
Provides scholarship support to a graduate student accepted or enrolled in a teacher preparation program in the School of Education. Students must be from an economically disadvantaged area and in good academic standing. Must complete FAFSA.

Camby Scholarship
Provides scholarship support for a graduate student accepted or enrolled in a teacher preparation program in the School of Education. Students must be from an economically disadvantaged area, in good academic standing. ALANA students are encouraged to apply. Must complete FAFSA.

Meline Kasparian Scholarship:
Provides support to graduate students attending or who would like to attend the University of Massachusetts Amherst and who have exhibited a desire to become public school teachers. Applicants must be accepted or currently enrolled in a teacher preparation program.

Patricia Silver Award:
Provides scholarship support to incoming or current graduate students in a teacher licensure program with demonstrated financial need. Preference for students with a learning disability or some other special need and/or who are committed to working with children with special needs. Must complete FAFSA.
The next degree-granting period will be May, 2009. Listed below are deadline dates to apply for graduation for M.Ed., C.A.G.S., Ed.D. and Ph.D. candidates who will have completed requirements for a May, 2009 degree.

**M.Ed. and C.A.G.S. Candidates**

The Degree Eligibility form must be completed and returned to Linda Guthrie in the Graduate Program Office, 123 Furcolo, no later than APRIL 23rd, 2009. This is to allow time for processing and obtaining the necessary signatures of Linda Griffin, the Graduate Program Director and Dean McCormick.

The Eligibility form must be accompanied by the School of Education Completed Program of Study form (Master's Form M-2 or CAGS Form C-2.) Your advisor must sign the School of Ed form, but NOT the Eligibility form.

Forms can be downloaded from the following URL: http://www.umass.edu/education/academics/advising_guidelines.shtml

**Ed.D. and Ph.D. Candidates:**

The Doctoral Degree Eligibility form must be submitted to Linda Guthrie in Room 123 Furcolo, along with the D-9 form (Result of Final Oral Examination) no later than APRIL 23rd, 2009. The Eligibility form can be downloaded from: http://www.umass.edu/gradschool/files/Doctoral%20Degree%20Eligibility%20Form.pdf

Please note that the Degree Eligibility form is 2 pages. Linda will submit this form to the Degree Requirements Office after it is signed.

Two copies of the dissertation signature page must be signed by Christine B. McCormick, Dean of the School of Education. Students should submit their signature pages to Linda by APRIL 23rd, 2009 and she will obtain the Dean’s signature. She will then return these pages to the student for inclusion with the dissertation. The dissertation must be submitted electronically, and fees and other materials must be submitted to the Office of Degree Requirements (Room 534 Goodell) by 5:00 p.m., APRIL 30th, 2009. **THIS IS A FIRM DEADLINE!**

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**TESI SEMINARS**

The next TESI seminars are scheduled for:

**April 1 - Therese Roberts,** TESI doctoral student: “Teachers’ Development of Global Awareness and Its Influence on Their Teaching Practice in the 21st Century Classroom”

**April 22 - Professor Kathy Gagne:** "Preparing Teachers for the Urban Experience: 180 Days in Springfield"

**April 29 - Professor Sara Young:** "Practitioner Research on Critical Multicultural Pedagogy: Challenging Heterosexism in a Public School"

228 Furcolo 7 p.m. Refreshments

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**Voices for Africa announces the 7th annual VIA conference**

**Creating Opportunities: The Role of Education for Development in Africa**

April 4, 2009 10:00 am – 3:30 pm

Gutman Conference Center at Harvard Graduate School of Education

**Keynote Speaker: Marie Da Silva**

2008 CNN Hero of the Year

Ms. Da Silva is the founder of the Jacaranda Foundation, a non-profit organization that built and supports a school for AIDS orphans in Malawi.

**Featured Panel Discussions: The Role of Social Entrepreneurship in Education & Girls Education in Africa**

Registration is free and lunch will be provided. For more information or to register, please visit our website: http://isites.harvard.edu/hgse_vfa
Call for Submissions for Special Theme Issue for

*Equity and Excellence in Education*

**Examining Doctoral Education Across Academic Disciplines Using A Social Justice Perspective**

**Guest Editors: Benita J. Barnes and Shuli Arieh Archer**

Doctoral education has long been considered the crown jewel of the American higher education system, and it is thought to attract the best and the brightest students the world has to offer. However, the notion of “the best and the brightest” can be problematic because historically this term has been narrowly defined. Therefore, the question becomes: How can doctoral education become inclusive so that it truly reflects the best and brightest regardless, and in light of, people’s social identities based upon race, class, gender, sexual orientation, religion, and ability?

This special theme issue aims to be the first collection of writings on doctoral education to explicitly use a social justice perspective, to focus on the impact in doctoral education of social inequality based on social identities, including residency status (i.e., US-born students, recent migrant students, or international students). The purpose of this issue is to explore the ways in which doctoral education may be failing in its mission to attract and retain the most talented students across academic disciplines. We wish to address the doctoral experiences of many students who have experienced structural inequities in their prior education, lack of access to cultural and social capital, and other limitations within the larger society.

We welcome scholarly research and theoretical perspectives that examine the many social justice concerns that shape doctoral students’ experiences at personal, interpersonal, or programmatic levels. Topics can include:

- Admission and Access — Retention — Time-to-Degree — Department Culture and Climate
- First Generation Doctoral Students — Academic Socialization Processes
- Research or Teaching Assistantships — Fellowships, grants, stipends
- Financial aid, family support — Peer community, housing, quality of life
- Advisor/Advisee Relationships — Mentoring — Course Curriculum — Comprehensive Exams
- Dissertation Writing — School/Life Balance — Program Policy — Other Relevant Topics

**Format:** See our website ([http://www.eee-journal.com](http://www.eee-journal.com)) for Instructions for Authors.

**Timeline:** Submission of 3 hard copies and an electronic disk with the file saved as a Rich Text Format document by **November 1, 2009** mailed to *Equity & Excellence in Education*, 370 Hills South, 111 Thatcher Road, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, MA 01003. Please address any questions to Guest Editor Benita J. Barnes ([barnesbj@educ.umass.edu](mailto:barnesbj@educ.umass.edu)). This special issue is scheduled to be published in February 2011.

Send your news to goodnews@educ.umass.edu