ATTENTION SEPTEMBER, 2007 DEGREE CANDIDATES

The next degree-granting period will be September, 2007. 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 September, 2007 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 August 24th, 2007. 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.

(Continued on page 4)

CALL FOR NEWS

If you know of a student, faculty or staff member, who has been honored with an award or is involved in an interesting activity, please email Linda Neas at llascell@educ.umass.edu. Thank you for your assistance!
NCATE

GLOSSARY OF NCATE TERMS

Rubrics. Written and shared criteria for judging performance that indicate the qualities by which levels of performance can be differentiated, and that anchor judgments about the degree of success on a candidate assessment.

SASB. Specialty Areas Studies Board

Scholarship. Systematic inquiry into the areas related to teaching, learning, and the education of teachers and other school personnel. Scholarship includes traditional research and publication as well as the rigorous and systematic study of pedagogy and the application of current research findings in new settings. Scholarship further presupposes submission of one's work for professional review and evaluation.

School Faculty. Licensed practitioners in P–12 schools who provide instruction, supervision, and direction for candidates during field-based assignments.

School Partners. P–12 schools that collaborate with the higher education institution in designing, developing, and implementing field experiences, clinical practice, delivery of instruction, and research.

Service. Faculty contributions to college or university activities, schools, communities, and professional associations in ways that are consistent with the institution and unit's mission.

Skills. The ability to use content, professional, and pedagogical knowledge effectively and readily in diverse teaching settings in a manner that ensures that all students are learning.

SPAs. Specialized Professional Associations. The national organizations that represent teachers, professionalism education faculty, and other school personnel who teach a specific subject matter (e.g., mathematics or social studies), teach students at a specific developmental level (i.e., early childhood, elementary, middle level, or secondary), teach students with specific needs (e.g., bilingual education or special education), administer schools (e.g., principals or superintendents), or provide services to students (e.g., school counselors or school psychologists). Many of these associations are constituent members of NCATE and have standards for both students in schools and candidates preparing to work in schools.

SPA Program Review. The process by which the specialized professional associations assess the quality of teacher preparation programs offered by an institution. (Institutions are required to submit their programs for review by SPAs as part of the NCATE preconditions process, unless the state's program standards have been approved by NCATE's Specialty Areas Studies Board for the review of institutions' teacher education programs.)

SPA Program Standards. Standards developed by national professional associations that describe what professionals in the field should know and be able to do.

SPA State Program Standards Review. The process by which the specialized professional associations evaluate the degree to which a state's program standards are aligned with the SPA standards. (In states where state program standards are judged to be substantially aligned with SPA standards, the state standards will be approved by NCATE's Specialty Area Studies Board, and NCATE will defer to the state's review of institutions' teacher education programs.)

SPA Report. The written findings (or a critique) by a specialized professional association of (1) an institution's
ATTENTION: GRADUATE ASSISTANTS

A copy of the School of Education Graduate Assistantship Appointment and Reappointment Policies and Procedures, revised as of February 2007, is attached to this week’s Beacon and is available at the Provost Office at http://www.umass.edu/provost/appoint/index.html.

FALL 07 ASSISTANTSHIPS AVAILABLE
(by department)

Please note: All available positions are contingent upon funding.

OFFICE OF ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

PROJECT ASSISTANTSHIP FOR AY 2007-2008

One part-time (10 hours per week) assistantship is available for Fall 07 – Spring 08 working in the Academic Affairs/Graduate Program Office.

Responsibilities include: Assist in coordination of various projects such as: aspects of upcoming NCATE Review, maintain database files for use with NCATE, and other projects of the Academic Affairs Office; computer research using Internet search engines; data collection and entry. Assist with coordination of various functions connected with the Academic Affairs Office.

Qualifications include: Computer knowledge including proficiency with MS Word, Excel, and database files, organizational and time-management skills, attention to detail.

To apply, please submit a cover letter and resume to Linda Griffin, Associate Dean, at 123 Furcolo or by email to lgriffin@educ.umass.edu.

OPEN LAB ASSISTANT FOR AY 2007-2008

A 10-hour per week assistantship to monitor the Student’s Open lab is currently available for AY2007/2008.

Responsibilities include: assisting students and faculty who use the Student’s Open lab during open lab hours; maintaining the computers through routinely cleaning files off of the desktop and in specified folders (such as the movie folder and the documents folder); and troubleshooting system problems as they occur.

Qualifications include: Preference given to students with a strong knowledge of O/S X Tiger, including working knowledge of all of the iLife applications.

Interested parties should submit a cover letter and resume to Prof. Sullivan by email fsullivan@educ.umass.edu. Application deadline: August 31, 2007.

EDUCATOR LICENSURE OFFICE

PROJECT ASSISTANTSHIPS - FALL 07

Half time (10 hours per week) Project Assistantships are available in the Educator Licensure Assessment Office for Fall semester 2007.

Responsibilities may include: Work as part of the Tk20 Team to assist the NCATE Data Coordinator, Assistant Dean for Educator Licensure, and Licensure Officer with data management, analysis and reporting. Under direction of the NCATE Data Coordinator, assist Educator Licensure Faculty in implementing NCATE assessment plans through Tk20. Learn to use the Tk20 data management system; assist faculty in putting assignments, assessments, and rubrics on the system; and train students, faculty and cooperating teachers to use Tk20 data management system. Work with Placement Office to get information for Field Experience Placements and Binders. Conduct online and face-to-face Tk20 support sessions as needed by Tk20 office. Other duties related to the work of the Educator Licensure Assessment Office.

Qualifications include: Preference given to candidates with the following qualifications: doctoral student; excellent technology and computer skills; ability to learn new technology quickly; high level of initiative; excellent communication skills; team spirit; ability to work assigned hours which will include some evening hours and flexible hours as assigned. All Project Assistantships are contingent on available funding.

To apply, please submit a current resume and letter of application which addresses your qualifications for any of the specific duties listed above to Dr. Marge Magouirk Colbert, Room 130, Furcolo Hall by September 7, 2007.

EDUCATIONAL POLICY, RESEARCH, AND ADMINISTRATION

FALL 2007 - RESEARCH ASSISTANTSHIP IN THE CENTER FOR EDUCATIONAL ASSESSMENT

The Center for Educational Assessment in the Department of Educational Policy, Research, and Administration has an open student research assistantship position during the Fall of 2007.

(Continued on page 6)
Forms can be downloaded from the School of Education home page: www.umass.edu/education
  . Academics
  . Advising Guidelines

* Please note that the Degree Eligibility form is 2 pages.

**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 August 24, 2007. The Eligibility form is sent to each student by the Degree Requirements Office (534 Goodell) after the defense date is scheduled (Form D-8). It can also be downloaded from: umass.edu/gradschool > students > forms. 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 August 24th, and she will obtain the Dean’s signature.** She will then return these pages to the student for inclusion with the dissertation. Dissertation copies, fees and materials must be submitted to the Office of Degree Requirements (Room 534 Goodell) by 5:00 p.m., August 31st, 2007. **THIS IS A FIRM DEADLINE!**

**IMPORTANT:** If you do not file for graduation by the degree deadline date, you must pay the Continuous Enrollment fee of $275.00 to maintain continuous enrollment until you graduate.

"We cannot live for ourselves alone. Our lives are connected by a thousand invisible threads, and along these sympathetic fibers, our actions run as causes and return to us as results."

- Herman Melville

Herman Melville was an American novelist, short story writer, essayist, and poet. His most recognized work is Moby Dick.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF FINAL ORAL EXAMINATION

ROBERT R. KELLER  August 30, 2007, 11:00 a.m.,
267 Hills South. "A Comparison item Response Theory
True Score Equating and Item Response Theory-Based
Local Equating."

Chairperson: Dr. Lisa Keller.

UPCOMING CONFERENCES/ WORKSHOPS

TEACHERS FOR A NEW ERA: ENGLISH LANGUAGE DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE

The 4th Annual TNE conference on English Language Development will be hosted by Boston College on September 24-25, 2007 and will focus on academic language. For English language learners across K-12 contexts, being able to access, navigate and produce academic language in content areas is a key area of learning. In preparing teachers to work with linguistically and culturally diverse populations, this conference will feature connected and integrated conversations pertinent to the following questions:

- What are the essential components that should be addressed within academic language?
- What are challenges within and across the content areas in supporting academic language development in English language learners?
- What classroom-based practices highlight approaches to working with ELLs and building academic language proficiency?
- What do teacher education faculty members need to know about integrating academic language support within their content area methods courses?

For more details on this conference, as well as how to register go to: http://tne.bc.edu.

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS/ PROPOSALS

MACTE/COMTEC/MAECTE CONFERENCE

Proposals are currently being sought for the MACTE/COMTEC/MAECTE conference on November 16, 2007 at the Sturbridge Host Hotel and Conference Center in Sturbridge.

The theme of the conference is Educators as Professionals. Presentations focusing especially on that topic as well as Induction/Mentoring Programs; Teachers as Leaders; School and College Assessment/Accountability; Meeting and Exceeding Standards; Administrators - Best Practices; Preservice Performance Assessment (PPA); Preparing Teachers to meet the needs of English Language Learners; and other current educational issues will (Continued on page 6)
be considered.

Please submit your proposal electronically to: Lorne Ranstrom (lorne.w.ranstrom@enc.edu).

Include session organizer, institutional affiliation, contact information, additional presenter(s), title of proposed session, a brief abstract of your presentation (approx. 300 words) and a 50 word summary of your presentation for the conference program.


TESOL ELECTRONIC VILLAGE ONLINE

The TESOL Electronic Village Online announces its Call for Proposals for the Electronic Village Online 2008.

The CALL Interest Section of Teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages, Inc. (TESOL) offers language teachers worldwide the opportunity to participate in the Electronic Village Online (EVO), a professional development project and virtual extension of the TESOL 2008 Convention in New York, NY, USA.

The free 6-week sessions allow participants to engage in online discussion and/or short hands-on workshops on topics of professional interest in the field of ESL/EFL. TESOL member groups, in particular, are invited to sponsor sessions related to convention presentations.

For further information on how to become a moderator of one of our sessions, please visit our Call for Proposals page at: http://dafnegonzalez.com/evo08/Cfproposals.htm

Deadline: September 20, 2007

2008 CONTEMPLATIVE PRACTICE FELLOWSHIP COMPETITION

Regular full-time faculty members at colleges and universities in the United States and Canada are eligible to apply for the 2008 Contemplative Practice Fellowships. These fellowships are intended to support scholars for the development of courses that employ contemplative practices to address issues of social conflict and injustice, the amelioration of suffering, and the promotion of peace. Individual scholars, partnerships, or groups of scholars may apply. Approximately ten fellowships will be awarded.

We invite proposals from the full range of disciplinary and inter-disciplinary perspectives in the arts, humanities, social sciences, and sciences. Methodologies that include practical and experiential approaches to the subject matter are especially welcome.

If you have questions, please contact Sunanda Markus, Academic Program Coordinator, at: fellowships@contemplativemind.org.

For further information, application and guidelines go to: http://www.contemplativemind.org/programs/academic/fellowships/index.html

(Announcements continued from page 5)

(RESEARCH ASSISTANTSHIPS—CENTER FOR EDUCATION POLICY - AY 2007-2008

Several graduate research assistantships are likely to be available in the Center for Education Policy for new education research and evaluation projects.

Responsibilities include: conducting literature searches, developing research protocols, conducting research interviews, transcribing interviews, administering surveys, analyzing survey data, writing draft sections of reports, and performing other related duties as part of a policy research and evaluation team.

Qualifications include: Excellent written and oral
communication skills required. Experience and/or familiarity with program evaluation, K-12 administrator development programs, and/or public policy analysis preferred.

To apply, please email a resume to Andy Churchill at achurchill@educ.umass.edu or mail to Center for Education Policy, 433 Hills North (545-0958).

Application review will begin immediately and continue until positions are filled.

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No positions available this week in the following:

Dean’s Office;
School of Education Business Office;
Student Development and Pupil Personnel Services;
Teacher Education & Curriculum Studies.

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IMPORTANT ATTENTION INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

The screening test of Spoken English Communication skills for fall semester 2007 will be conducted from September 5 to September 17, 2007. The purpose of the test is to identify any potential difficulties international teaching assistants may have in understanding spoken English or in being understood in the undergraduate classroom.

All incoming international teaching assistants/associates (ITAs and ITOs) and returning students who will be assuming TA responsibilities for the first time are required to demonstrate their oral English proficiency by passing a test of spoken English. A standardized test, (SPEAK test), designed by the Educational Testing Service, is used for assessing and measuring the spoken English ability of International Teaching Assistants. A score of 50 or above is required to pass the test. We recommend that students who are not currently funded but who may be funded for a TA or TO position in the future should also take the test.

Students who do not pass the test are encouraged to either participate in the English communication instruction classes, offered by the Graduate School, or enroll in another suitable program recommended by their Graduate Program Director (GPD).

The English communication classes are free, meet in small groups for one hour twice a week and are offered throughout the academic year and summer. When space is limited, priority is given to those with the greatest need. Therefore, students with a score of 45 are included in classes on a space available basis. At the end of each semester, students are reevaluated and progress report is sent to the graduate program directors. Students, who do not meet the criteria, may continue in the Communication Instruction classes for additional semesters. International Research Assistants and graduate students without funding may participate in the instructional classes offered during spring and summer on a space available basis.

A schedule for the screening test is enclosed for your information. It would be very helpful to us if you could pass this information on to ITAs in your department. We would also appreciate it greatly if you could let us know approximately how many students from your department would be participating in the screening test during fall 2007 semester. This information will be very helpful to us in planning both the screening and instruction sessions. You can inform us in one of the following three ways: 1. Send the information to Lori Baronas in the Graduate Dean's Office, 518 Goodell, 2. E-mail information to Lori Baronas at: baronas@grad.umass.edu 3. Call Lori Baronas at 545-5278.

Please respond by August 24, 2007.

International Teaching Assistant English Language Screening Test Schedule Fall 2007

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>September 5, 2007</td>
<td>8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 6, 2007</td>
<td>8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 7, 2007</td>
<td>1:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 10, 2007</td>
<td>8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 11, 2007</td>
<td>4:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 12, 2007</td>
<td>8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 17, 2007</td>
<td>8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Students will need to sign up for the test outside Room 518, Goodell Building. A sample test may be obtained at the time of sign-up or from Lori Baronas in Room 518, Goodell Building. The test will take approximately 1 hour.
programs for the preparation of teachers or other education professionals, or (2) a state's program standards.

**SPA Report Rejoinder.** (1) A unit's written response to a specialized professional association's review of the unit's teacher preparation programs. (2) A state's written response to a specialized professional association's review of the state's program review standards.

**SPB.** State Partnership Board

**Standards.** Written expectations for meeting a specified level of performance. Standards exist for the content that P–12 students should know at a certain age or grade level.

**State Consultant.** An individual from the state agency with teacher education authority who serves as a resource to the BOE team during on-site visits, along with an NEA/AFT state affiliate representative. The consultant provides clarification of state conditions and policies.

**State Director of Teacher Education.** State education agency official responsible for administering policies and programs related to teacher preparation and licensing.

**State Professional Standards Board.** State governing body with authority for teacher licensing, licensing of other school personnel, license renewal/revocation, and/or teacher education program approval within a state.

**State Program Approval.** Process by which a state governmental agency reviews a professional education program to determine if it meets the state's standards for the preparation of school personnel.

**State Program Review.** The state education agency assessment of the quality of programs offered by a professional education unit.

**State Program Standards Report.** Documentation submitted to a SPA by a state that demonstrates how state program standards are aligned with SPA program standards.

**State Protocol.** Rules, procedures, and expectations for NCATE, the state, the state higher education commission (when applicable), and the unit for conducting joint state-NCATE site visits in NCATE partnership states.

**State Standards.** The standards adopted by state agencies responsible for the approval of programs that prepare teachers and other school personnel. State standards may include candidate knowledge, skills, and dispositions.

**Student Teaching.** Preservice clinical practice for candidates preparing to teach.

**Students.** Children and youth attending P–12 schools as distinguished from teacher candidates.

"You can stand tall without standing on someone. You can be a victor without having victims."  
- Harriet Woods

Harriet Woods was an American politician and activist, a two-time Democratic nominee for the United States Senate from Missouri, and a former Lieutenant Governor of the state of Missouri.