ATTENTION: ALL GRADUATE STUDENTS

BE SURE TO DOWNLOAD THE MASTER'S, CAGS OR DOCTORAL ADVISING GUIDELINES FROM THE SCHOOL OF EDUCATION WEBSITE:

http://www.umass.edu/education/academics/main_advising.htm

These forms and guidelines are required by your graduate program.

GRADUATE EDUCATION AND CAREER DEVELOPMENT

It's that time of year again! The Graduate Education and Career Development Initiative presents "A Ph.D. Is Not Enough!: Mutual Mentoring" (APINE).

When: September 24, 2007; 9:30am - 6:00pm
Where: Campus Center
Why: Discover and discuss how to get the most out of your graduate career while meeting other graduate students and faculty.
How: Register at www.umass.edu/gecdi. FREE event, but registration is REQUIRED.

This year, APINE will have a greater focus on mentoring education and networking, including NEW topics of discussion and interactive panels.

Registration is FREE, but REQUIRED. To register and for additional information, please visit www.umass.edu/gecdi.

(Continued on page 2)
## NCATE

### TIME LINE TO VISIT

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>TASK</th>
<th>DATE DUE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SPA Writers Meeting</td>
<td>Mid to late January</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SPA Section I</td>
<td>February 28, 2007</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Section II and III</td>
<td>March 30, 2007</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Framework for Section</td>
<td>March 30, 2007</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Section IV</td>
<td>May 31, 2007</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Section V</td>
<td>June 22, 2007</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Complete SPA Report</td>
<td>June 30, 2007</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SPA Reports submitted to NCATE</td>
<td>September 15, 2007 (goal date September 1, 2007)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NCATE sends name/address of BOE</td>
<td>September, 2007</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Publish a “Call for Comment” inviting 3rd party</td>
<td>October, 2007</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SPA reviewers report back</td>
<td>December, 2007</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Write and submit SPA report Rejoinder as neces-</td>
<td>December, 2007</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NCATE notifies SOE of national recognition re-</td>
<td>February 1, 2008</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Institutional Report (due 60 days prior to visit)</td>
<td>February 1, 2008</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NCATE Visit</td>
<td>May, 2008</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(Continued on page 6)

---

On schedule and moving forward to the visit.

---

## INDIVIDUALIZED STUDY AND INDIVIDUALIZED PRACTICUM FORMS

The Individualized Study and Individualized Practicum forms are not available online! To access the forms, go to: [http://www.umass.edu/education/academics/main_courses.htm](http://www.umass.edu/education/academics/main_courses.htm)

---

## GRADUATE FAQ’S

FAQ’s and other information that is good to know:

### General Information

**What are important first things to do?**

1. Make sure you have a SPIRE number and password.
2. Activate your UMail account.
3. Get your UCard.
4. Meet with your advisor!
5. Register for classes.
6. Observe the add/drop period.
7. Get familiar with the School of Education, the UMass campus, the library! Walk around, ask questions, check the School of Education and Umass Amherst web pages..... If you feel overwhelmed, talk to your peers, instructor, advisor.... and allow yourself some time to get used to everything!

You can find a checklist for new students at: [http://www.umass.edu/gradschool/files/New%20Student%20Checklist.pdf](http://www.umass.edu/gradschool/files/New%20Student%20Checklist.pdf) which lists the online addresses of everything that might be important for you as a new student! Check it out!

**I am a new graduate student. I am on campus, but I do not know how to access SPIRE.**

When you were accepted into the Graduate School, you should have received a communication giving you a SPIRE number and a temporary password to access it. If you did not receive that communication or, if you forgot your password, contact OIT at: [http://www.oit.umass.edu/spire/for_students/index.html](http://www.oit.umass.edu/spire/for_students/index.html)

**What is the difference between Spire/SPIRE ID and UMail/NetID?**

Your **SPIRE ID** is a separate 8-digit number, sent to you via snail mail before you start your first semester at Umass. With your SPIRE ID you access your SPIRE account which
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.

TEACHER EDUCATION & CURRICULUM STUDIES

RESEARCH ASSISTANT IN CHILDREN’S LITERATURE

Research Assistant 10 hours per week Fall semester

Responsibilities include: Library research, manuscript preparation, compilation of bibliographies.

Qualifications include: Must be eligible for work study, and have considerable experience with Refworks and/or End-notes. Must be a good organizer. Familiarity with Children's Literature an advantage.

Contact: Masha Rudman 545-1116 or email: rudman@educ.umass.edu

No positions available this week in the following:

- Academic Affairs/Graduate Program Office;
- Dean’s Office;
- Educator Licensure Office;
- Educational Policy, Research & Administration;
- School of Education Business Office;
- Student Development & Pupil Personnel Services.

"It is no longer enough to be smart – all the technological tools in the world add meaning and value only if they enhance our core values, the deepest part of our heart..."

- Doc Childre and Deborah Rozman

Doc Childre is the founder of HeartMath a research and education organization. Deborah Rozman is the president and CEO of Quantum Intech which provides the only clinically-validated and market-validated system that quantifiably and dramatically reduces stress, while increasing the health and performance of individuals and organizations.

FORMATION OF DISSERTATION COMMITTEE

QINGLIANG CHEN  Proposed Dissertation Title: "Language Ideologies in Chinese Instructional Materials: A Critical Examination." Statement of the Problem: Language ideologies that attempt to naturalize and erase questions of difference, inequality, and contestation mostly remain unidentified and unexamined. The value of Chinese language, the sources and the substance of legitimate knowledge of Chinese language, and reasons for learning Chinese language and culture are rarely studied and challenged.

Chairperson: Dr. Theresa Y. Austin.

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.

12TH ANNUAL NEW ENGLAND CONFERENCE ON MULTICULTURAL EDUCATION

This year the 12th Annual New England Conference on Multicultural Education moves to the beautiful new Connecticut Convention Center, Hartford, CT on Oct. 11, 2007 where the conference will easily house 42 great workshops and two outstanding keynote speakers. This conference is ideal for Pk-12 teachers, higher education faculty and others interested in educational equity.


HOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS: MARRIOTT HARTFORD DOWNTOWN 200 Columbus Blvd, Hartford, Connecticut 06103-2807 Make reservations by calling Marriott’s toll free reservation line (866) 373-9806 and requesting the "Multicultural Conference October 10 or 11, 2007"

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 Lan-

(Continued on page 5)
language teachers world-wide 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

---

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

"Appreciation can make a day, even change a life. Your willingness to put it into words is all that is necessary."

- Margaret Cousins

Margaret Cousins, born in Texas, was a writer and editor who is most noted for her work with women’s magazines: Good Housekeeping, Ladies Home Journal, Cosmopolitan, McCall’s and Redbook. Her awareness of the influence media has on society caused her to "live in a manner worthy of emulation."

Resource: http://www.hrc.utexas.edu/research/fa/cousins.bio.html

---

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!
is your student information system. As a student, you’ll use SPIRE to register for classes, access billing information, view course descriptions and schedules and sign-up for on-campus housing. Your SPIRE ID also appears on your UCard.

Your **NetID** is your OIT Account user name. You should have received your NetID, email address, and initial password in two separate mailings. If you did not receive one or both of the above mailings by the time you get to campus, please stop by Lederle Graduate Research Center (LGRC) A113 Monday – Friday, 8:30am – 4:45pm with a photo ID to activate your OIT Account in person.

**When can I start using my OIT account?**

Activate your account as soon as possible. Go the OIT webpage for further information [http://www.oit.umass.edu/index.html](http://www.oit.umass.edu/index.html). Once your account is activated, you can use it immediately. You will need your account during your New Students Program orientation and to receive informational emails before the semester begins. Once the semester starts, you’ll be required to activate your account to receive official university email.

**I did not receive official emails. What went wrong?**

Make sure that you activated your UMail account. Official UMass communications (e.g., excess check notices, emails from instructors, etc.) will only be sent to your official email address. It is your responsibility to check your email frequently to ensure that you are staying current with important information.

**I have changed my email, home address, telephone number. Who should I let know?**

You need to change your personal information on SPIRE. Go to Personal Portfolio and make the appropriate changes. The Graduate School and the School of Education access a student’s information from SPIRE, so unless your information is updated there, they will not have your current contact information.

**Why is it important to keep my demographics up to date on SPIRE?**

The Graduate School, School of Education and the University utilize the information in your Personal Portfolio to contact you with important information about your academic career. Often this information requires a timely response from the student. If your address or email are not current, this could cause serious delays for the student.

**What is the difference between “current address” and “permanent address”?**

Your current address is the mailing address of the home you are presently occupying everyday. Your permanent address would be the home you live in when you are not attending school. For out-of-state or international students, this would be the mailing address of their home in their hometown or native country.

If you list your “permanent address” on forms, then return mail will go to that address. This could cause unnecessary delays.

**What is a UCard?**

The UCard is the University’s multipurpose student ID. It serves as your student identification as it is a secure and convenient way for students to manage their money. A full dinner in the dining halls, pizza or a snack, or a candy bar and soda - the UCard is the cashless way to buy. Textbooks, clothing, supplies, telephone calls, laundry services, concert tickets, prescriptions, bus tickets, memberships in the Body Shop or Craft Center - all can be purchased on campus with the UCard.

I was told I need to have a Campus ID in order to get my campus email account. How do I get my UCard?

Complete a simple application form available from the UCard Office or the UCard Web Site, [www.umass.edu/ucard](http://www.umass.edu/ucard). Accounts can be opened via the mail or in person at the UCard office in the Franklin Dining Hall. A deposit can be made when opening the account or at a later time. Any funds deposited before the semester begins will be ready for purchases as soon as the student arrives on Campus.

The UCard Office is located in the Franklin Dining Hall (413-545-0197).

**What is The Beacon?**

The Beacon is our weekly newsletter for the School of Education. Make sure to pick up your copy or access The Beacon on-line at [http://www.umass.edu/education/publications](http://www.umass.edu/education/publications)!

In The Beacon you will a lot of useful information about anything that is going on at the School of Education: updates on faculty and staff, honors and awards, postings of graduate teaching and research assistantships, deadlines, announcements and information on upcoming examinations, conferences and workshops, general education related information.

**Stay Tuned!**

More Graduate FAQ’s to come!