RESEARCH ASSISTANTSHIP
Department of Educational Policy, Research and Administration

20 hours/week Research Assistant for Spring, 2011
Proposed GA – Holyoke 21st Century Project
Responsibilities may include: This GA will work as program director of a new afterschool educational initiative at the Holyoke Center for Excellence. The GRA will be responsible for: Planning educational activities, planning transition activities, implementing education and transition support groups, and planning and participating in day trips that promote education among alternative education programs. Finally, the GRA will be expected to collect data on student participation and outcomes, and to develop regular program reports.
Qualifications include: Excellent written and oral communications skills; excellent organizational skills; experience with personal computers, including knowledge of basic word processing and spreadsheet computer programs; strong library and internet research skills; ability to work with various campus constituencies including faculty members, administrators, and students

To apply, please send a resume to: Michael Krezmien, 162 Hills South – krezmien@educ.umass.edu
Research Fellowship Program Invitation 2011

The leadership of the School of Education is pleased to announce the 2011-2012 Research Fellowship Program.

All full-time faculty in the School of Education are invited to submit proposals to obtain funding to support a research project. The size of awards will range from $5,000- $10,000.

Goals of the Program  The Research Fellowship Program is designed to:

• Provide support to SOE faculty for their programs of research.
• Encourage SOE faculty to seek external funding for research projects by providing “seed money” for promising research initiatives.
• Expand the research capacity of the School of Education by funding research projects that may lead to increased research collaboration among faculty and students.
• Increase access to graduate assistantships providing research experiences.

Program Description

• The Research Fellowship program is sponsored by the School of Education using fund balances available in 2011-2012.
• All full-time faculty members in the School of Education are eligible.
• All funds awarded must be expended (funds encumbered) by May 1, 2012. Absolutely no extensions.

Research Fellows will be expected to:

• Submit a brief project report (to chair, copied to dean) by September 1, 2012.
• Share a brief report of the research project at an informal brown bag seminar.

Application deadline: Tuesday, May 31 at 5 p.m. Applications should be submitted in electronic form to Joyce Tutun, jtutun@educ.umass.edu. Decisions will be announced: by July 1 (est.) Decisions will be based on the quality of the proposal; the feasibility of the proposed project; and the potential to attract external funding. Please review the following application instructions. If you have questions about the Research Fellowship Program, please contact your department chair.

Research Fellowship Application Instructions – 2011-2012 Your proposal must include a two-page description of the research project, a one-page appendix, and a proposed budget and budget narrative.

Name:
Project Title:
Description of Research Project – Maximum length two pages, single-spaced, 12 pt

Successful proposals will clearly indicate the following:

• Purpose of the study
• Research questions
• Methods (data collection and analysis)
• Significance of the Study

Appendix - Maximum length one page, single space, 12 pt

• Key references cited in research project description
• Evidence of expertise and/or previous work relevant to the proposal
• Potential external sources for future funding

Budget and Budget Narrative

Funds can be used to support a graduate assistant, student hourly support, software, materials, equipment, research related travel…but not for additional faculty compensation.

Please note the following requirements and timelines for fund use: Student Payroll (Assistantships/Hourly) – the appointment must end by May 26, 2012. Cost: 1 (10hr/wk) RA for 1 semester at $21.03/hr = $4,977 (stipend and fringe). Material and equipment purchased with Research Fellowship Program funds must arrive on campus by May 1, 2012. The Commonwealth of Massachusetts will hold title to any materials or equipment purchased in whole or in part with Research Fellowship Program funds. Travel paid for with Research Fellowship Program funds must begin and end during the period September 1, 2011 through May 1, 2012.
David Vacchi, doctoral student, Educational Policy and Leadership concentration, is running in the Red Sox Foundation's 9K Run to Home Base on May 22, 2011 with team Home Base, sponsored by the Red Sox Foundation. Vacchi is a veteran of OEF and OIF and is studying veterans’ transitions to higher education. The Red Sox Foundation is raising money to help veterans and their families with transitions after the service member returns from combat. http://www.runtohomebase.org/runtohomebase/DavidVacchi.

Florence Sullivan, assistant professor, Department of Teacher Education and Curriculum Studies, is a member of the planning team for a program that will provide a six-week summer robotics program at Springfield’s Van Sickle Middle School that is expected to serve 145 local students. It is supported by a federally-funded, $123,900 grant to Springfield, one of just four school districts chosen statewide for the expanded-year, summer pilot program. The robotics program, which is for youth who participated during the school year in Springfield’s 21st Century Community Learning Centers Afterschool Program, was designed to “significantly expand innovative summer learning that addresses both the academic and developmental needs of students,” said Paula E. Thayer, the city's assistant director of recreation who submitted the city's proposal. The planning team in Springfield consists of University of Massachusetts-Amherst; Springfield College; Tufts University; the Hampden County Regional Employment Board; Hasbro Summer Learning Initiative; and Van Sickle's principal, Cheryl DeSpirt; a district science specialist; and two of Van Sickle's science teachers who were trained in LEGO robotics.

You can read more about our faculty, students, staff and alumni on our website.

www.umass.edu/education (And on our Facebook.)
Send items to dms@educ.umass.edu
OIT Offerings in April

OIT is pleased to announce several events this April that will provide instructors with opportunities to consider how they incorporate technology into their instruction. In addition to three sessions in our popular "Emerging Technology and Pie" series, we are also co-sponsoring with the UMass Amherst Libraries a Webinar on using social media to improve student learning. To view the full schedule and register online, please visit: https://etna.oit.umass.edu/public/workshops

About Emerging Technology and Pie
"Emerging Technology and Pie" is an interest group for faculty and instructors who would like to learn about the latest technologies for learning and teaching. These sessions are intended as quick overviews with discussions about the application of these tools. Faculty have priority for these sessions when seats are limited. And yes, we really do serve pie.

Note: If you are interested in hands-on training in these tools, we are happy to provide it through the Instructional Media Lab (instruct@oit.umass.edu or 545-2823).

Emerging Technology and Pie Events---

Twitter and Real Time Events
Friday, April 15th at 1:25 PM - 2:15 PM
Steve Fox from the Journalism program will join us for a discussion of the role of Twitter in current events in Egypt and the Middle East. Is Twitter changing the way people communicate and organize? How are journalists in the field using Twitter and what can our students learn from that?

Webinar: Using Social Media for Teaching & Learning---
Monday, April 25th at 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM
Social media tools, such as Twitter, Facebook, and YouTube, are changing the way students and faculty communicate, share ideas, and build networks. Join us in the Teaching Commons to attend an online presentation ('webinar') that will showcase uses of social media to improve student learning. The session will cover social media approaches that can help you with experiential learning activities, student interactivity and engagement, and developing community and professional networks.

Mobile Devices Show and Tell
Wednesday, April 27, 2011 at 1:25 PM - 2:15 PM
Are mobile devices like smart phones and tablets changing your day-to-day life? Has your smart phone, tablet, or ebook reader changed your personal productivity in your teaching or research? Are there any other mobile devices you now can't live or work without? Bring one of your devices and a story to share with other instructors to learn how people are using these new gadgets in innovative ways.

The Graduate School is seeking nominations for the Joseph L. Boscov Scholarship. This scholarship is available to both current and incoming female graduate students who are U.S. citizens. Preference is given to women who are 35 or older, based on financial need, and whose work will “equip them for increased service to the needs of people and/or the environment.” One scholarship will be awarded from the Boscov fund.

The Scholarship will provide a stipend for Fall, 2011 and Spring, 2012 as well as a tuition waiver, a curriculum fee waiver, and deferral of the basic and SHIP single health plan fee.

Important Note: Receipt of this Scholarship will affect any loan eligibility for the coming academic year for students who also receive a Federal Direct Loan.

Students must meet the above criteria and submit the following to their departmental office:

1) A personal statement, not to exceed two pages, that demonstrates how the graduate student's studies will equip them for increased service to the needs of people and/or the environment and also addresses the student’s financial need. Statement should be done in Times New Roman 12 point font, single or double spaced.

2) A recommendation from the student’s advisor or chairperson.

3) A Free Application for Federal Student Aid form (FAFSA) for 2010-11 must be on file with the Graduate Financial Aid Office (Room 243 Whitmore). (NOTE: Students should allow 4-6 weeks for the FAFSA to be processed). Students can access the FAFSA form on the internet (www.fafsa.ed.gov)

4) A resume or curriculum vitae.

Please note that we can only recommend one student from each of the School of Education’s departments. Linda Griffin, the Graduate Program Director, will write a recommendation for the strongest nominee from each department.

DEADLINE TO SUBMIT COMPLETED APPLICATIONS to your departmental office *

APRIL 19, 2011

* EPRA and SD students submit completed nominations to Robbie Calliham, Room 161, Hills South.

* TECS students submit completed nominations to Malis Loeung, Room 117, Furcolo.

It is not too soon to mark your calendars for the

SOE 2011 Graduation Celebration

Thursday, May 12

Bookmark our web site

www.umass.edu/education