The Beacon Deadline is FRI DAY

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 issue. All assistantship notices will run for two issues; notices of examinations and dissertation proposals will run for one.
Research Assistantship

Department of Educational Policy, Research, and Administration
Research assistantships, 10 or 20 hrs/week , with The Center for Educational Assessment in spring semester 2010. These assistantships are associated with projects sponsored by Educational Testing Service and the MA Department of Education.

Qualifications: All applicants must have experience working in educational assessment and working knowledge of classical test theory and item response theory.

Responsibilities include: Conducting multivariate statistical analyses; equating analyses; simulating data; editing technical reports; attending project meetings; writing computer code for psychometric activities such as item calibration, score scale linking, and population invariance studies; performing literature reviews on equating, scaling, standard setting, and score reporting; and co-authoring research reports. All candidates should have extensive knowledge of multidimensional scaling, plausible values methodology, test construction, and test validation research.

To apply, please contact Dr. Stephen G. Sireci, (413)545-0564 (sireci@acad.umass.edu).

ANNOUNCEMENT OF DISSERTATION COMMITTEE

SUSAN D. ALLEN

Proposed Dissertation Title: "Voices From Home: Parents' Perspectives of Issues Related to Black Students Participating in Programs Developed to Increase Their Academic Success."

Statement of the Problem: Much of the research efforts regarding Black students and academic achievement has focused on the problem from the perspective of the students and the school (teachers, school environment, etc.), leaving out the important perspective and input of the student's family groups (parents, grandparents and or guardians) (Schotts Foundation 2006, Kunjufu 2002, Landsman & Lewis 2006,Howard & Nieto, 2006, Kohl 1995). This study will examine issues of academic success for Black students in the U.S. from the perspective of their family groups.

Chairperson: Dr. Bailey W. Jackson.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF FINAL ORAL EXAMINATION

ERIC J. CARPENTER

December 14, 2009, 1:00 p.m., Room 228, Furcolo Hall. "The Tactical Games Model Sport Experience: An Examination of Student Motivation and Game Performance in an Ultimate Frisbee Unit."

Chairperson: Dr. Linda L. Griffin.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE EXAMINATION

MARK ZITO

December 15, 2009, 11:00 a.m., Room 151, Hills South.

Chairperson: Dr. Rebecca Gajda.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE EXAMINATION

MARTHA CHRISTENSON LEES

December 14, 2009, 10:00 a.m., Room 100, Furcolo Hall.

Chairperson: Dr. Claire Hamilton.
BeaconLOG
School of Education faculty, students, staff & alumni share what they are doing.

Dr. Maria José Botelho's book chapter, "Respecting Children's Cultural and Linguistic Knowledge: The Pedagogical Possibilities and Challenges of Multiliteracies in Schools," co-written with her colleagues Dr. Sarah Cohen of Northern Illinois University, Lisa Leoni of the York Region District School Board and OISE/University of Toronto, and Patricia Chow and Padma Sastri, both from the Peel School Board in Ontario, will be published by Routledge in early 2010. It will be featured as the last chapter in Maria Luiza Dantas and Patrick Manyak's edited book, Home-School Connections in a Multicultural Society: Learning from and with Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Families. This collaborative chapter is the only one in this text that draws on Canadian data.

You can read more about our faculty, students, staff and alumni on the School of Education's website.
www.umass.edu/education

Send items to dms@educ.umass.edu

Teaching Assistantships

Department of Teacher Education and Curriculum studies
EDUC 378: Survey of Children's Literature

Two 10 hr./ week teaching assistantships are available for spring semester 2010 with Dr. Denise Ives. Class meets on Mondays from 9:30 a.m. - Noon.

Responsibilities include: Collaborating with course instructor and other teaching assistants to plan course activities, readings, and requirements; teaching one section of 378; maintaining attendance records and grading student assignments for one section; and holding weekly office hours for students enrolled in the course.

Qualifications include: Interest in and knowledge of children's literature and willingness to function as a team member.

To apply please send a letter of interest and current CV to Dr. Denise Ives, dives@educ.umass.edu.
FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

Rosalynn Carter Fellowships for Mental Health Journalism  
The Carter Center  
http://www.cartercenter.org/health/mental_health/fellowships/apply.html#timeline  
Deadline: April 19, 2010

Fellowships in Egypt  
The American Research Center in Egypt  
http://www.arce.org/grants/fellowships  
Deadline: January 15, 2010

2010 John Templeton Award for Theological Promise  
John Templeton Foundation  
http://www.templeton.org/prizes/john_templeton_award_for_theological_promise/  
Deadline: May 31, 2010

There were 10,481 visits to and 49,995 pageviews of the SOE website in November, 2009.

The average time spent on our site was 3.57 minutes.