SEEKING NOMINATIONS FOR THE SCHOOL OF EDUCATION COLLEGE/SCHOOL OUTSTANDING TEACHER AWARD

The College Outstanding Teacher Award program was instituted as a complement to the Distinguished Teaching Awards given by the Graduate School. The purpose of the award is to honor individual faculty members for their teaching and mentoring accomplishments within their own colleges.

While classroom teaching is the fundamental criterion, this award also actively values supervision of field/clinical experiences, supervision of research, and mentoring professional publications and presentations.

The Office of Academic Affairs is seeking nominations by colleagues and/or students.

Please submit your nomination to Jane Clukay (jclukay@educ.umass.edu) in the form of a letter highlighting why your nominee should be considered for this award. Deadline for receiving nominations is Friday, February 10, 2012.

See scholarship listings on page 4.
Research Assistantship  
Department of Teacher Education and Curriculum Studies

A 10 hr/week research assistantship is available for Spring 2012 to assist a pre-tenured faculty member with a research project.

**Responsibilities:** Conduct detailed literature review & annotated bibliography about undocumented and refugee immigrant students and family-school relations; conduct library research about census data and demographics in local cities; schedule and conduct preliminary pilot and informational interviews with teachers, administrators, and nonprofit staff; assist with researching and using qualitative data analysis software programs; provide additional research, administrative, technical, and grant-writing assistance in support of the professor's research agenda.

**Qualifications:** Knowledge of scholarly literature on immigration and education particularly pertaining to undocumented and refugee immigrant youth; highly organized, detail-oriented and self-disciplined; able to work independently with little supervision; excellent written and verbal communication skills; library research skills.

To apply, please email a CV with brief cover letter (email is OK) to Kysa Nygreen, (knygreen@educ.umass.edu). The subject line of the email should read “RA Spring 2012”  

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Research Assistantship  
Department of Educational Policy, Research and Administration

The Center for Educational Assessment

One 10 hour/week graduate student research assistantship for the spring 2012 and fall 2012 semesters. The assistantship is associated with coordination of an international conference and forthcoming book honoring the career of Professor Ronald Hambleton.

**Qualifications:** All applicants must have a background in psychometrics, statistics and mathematical modeling of educational assessment data, experience working in educational assessment, and working knowledge of classical test theory and item response theory. All candidates should have extensive knowledge of test validation research.

**Responsibilities include:** Conducting literature reviews of Professor Hambleton's seminal work along five theme areas; coordinating conference schedules, keynote speakers, proposal receipt and reviews, developing conference program, serving as a liaison between conference center and conference organizers, presenters, and others, and assisting with various aspects of book preparation.

To apply, please contact Dr. Stephen G. Sireci, (413)545-0564 (Sireci@acad.umass.edu).
Faculty, students, staff & alumni share what they are doing


Please send items of interest to dms@educ.umass.edu

The Center for Research on Families announces its Annual Competition

GRADUATE & UNDERGRADUATE— STUDENT AWARDS IN FAMILY RESEARCH
  Application Deadline: Friday, February 17, 2012  Notification: March 9, 2012
  For More Information: www.umass.edu/family/students. Family research is broadly defined and encompasses all disciplines. Please contact wendy@sbs.umass.edu with questions.

GRADUATE STUDENTS— CRF FAMILY RESEARCH FELLOWSHIP
  $10,000 award to a graduate student with the potential to make an outstanding contribution to the field of family research.

CRF FAMILY RESEARCH METHODOLOGICAL STUDIES AWARD
  Funding for graduate student(s) who wish to attend CRF's Summer Methodology Workshops at UMass Amherst.

CRF FAMILY RESEARCH TRAVEL AWARD
  $300 to a graduate student(s) with an outstanding paper/poster on issues of family research who will be presenting at a national research conference.

UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS— CRF FAMILY RESEARCH ASSISTANTSHIP AWARD
  $3000 to an undergraduate student(s) with the potential to make an outstanding contribution to the field of family research. Student(s) will assist a faculty member with his/her research on families.

CRF FAMILY RESEARCH HONORS THESIS/CAPSTONE PROJECT AWARD
  $500 to recognize the honors thesis research of an outstanding UMass undergraduate student(s) focused on family issues.

FORMATION OF DISSERTATION COMMITTEE

MELINDA S. EICHHORN  Proposed Dissertation Title: “How will we close the gap? A discrepancy analysis comparing the learning profiles of secondary students with math learning disabilities in Mumbai, India, with an inventory of skills needed to enroll in post-secondary math courses.”

Statement of the Problem: Students that master basic algebraic concepts have a greater opportunity to pursue higher-level math courses, post-secondary education, and have a technology-based career (Witzel, Riccomini, & Schneider, 2008). Yet, students with math learning disabilities (MLD) are at a great disadvantage in pursuing post-secondary education and job options since they typically lag behind their peers in conceptual and procedural understanding of math knowledge, skills, and problem solving. This problem is compounded by special education policy which exempts them from taking algebra and geometry (Maharashtra Government School Education Department, 2000).

Chairperson: Dr. Cristine Smith
2012-2013 SCHOLARSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Application Deadline: Friday, February 24, 2012

The School of Education is pleased to provide the following opportunities for financial assistance. The deadline for all the 2012-2013 scholarships described on this page Friday, February 24, 2012. See the School of Education website, http://www.umass.edu/education/student/awards.shtml for application forms.

Scholarship recipients will be strongly encouraged to attend the School of Education’s Scholarship Donor and Recipient Reception held in the spring. Date of this year’s event to be announced.

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

Grace Norton Carney Scholarship
This endowed scholarship is a large scholarship for students pursuing graduate degrees in the School of Education at the University of Massachusetts Amherst. Applicants must be a native or resident of Massachusetts within the last 10 years. Preference is given to students who hold an undergraduate degree from UMass Amherst, Framingham, or Bridgewater State College. Must complete FAFSA.

Paul J. Carney Reasons to Give Scholarship
Provides scholarship support to a student in a School of Education program who is not eligible for a Pell grant, but still has significant need. Applicants must demonstrate high academic achievement and complete a FAFSA.

Richard J. Clark Memorial Scholarship for Teacher Education
Provides financial support to a student in the Teacher Education and Curriculum Studies department within the School of Education. A GPA of 3.3 or better is required, as well as experience with community service, internships, employment that demonstrates a commitment to excellence and equity.

Early Childhood Education Graduate Student Fund
Provides funding for 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 students to enhance their academic experience and become involved in outreach.

Marylin Haley Scholarship
Provides funding for eligible students based on financial need. Preference will be given to graduate students majoring in secondary teacher education, early childhood and elementary teacher education, reading and writing, or special education.

Meline Kasparian Scholarship
Provides support to students who are 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.

Joseph W. Keilty Memorial Scholarship
This endowed scholarship is a large scholarship to support full-time graduate students. Students with a demonstrated financial need, high academic performance, and exceptional promise are encouraged to apply. Preference is given to doctoral students. Must complete FAFSA.

Helen Eaton Timson Scholarship
Provides scholarship support to a deserving student in a School of Education program.

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.

Winifred Green Scholarship
Awarded by Kappa Delta Pi Honor Society and sponsored by a professional organization of retired teachers in Massachusetts, this scholarship provides support for an undergraduate or graduate student enrolled or planning to enroll in a Teacher Licensure Program, who is committed to make a significant difference in the lives of young people in the commonwealth. Awardee must be in good academic standing, a permanent resident of Massachusetts, and have need for financial assistance. Awarded separately.
Forces at Play: Bodies, Power, and Spaces

Cyber bullying, the male gaze in cinema, SlutWalk in Toronto, the canonization of slave narratives, border rhetoric in the classroom – issues such as these take up the ways bodies, power, and spaces converge in a re-seeing and re-interpreting of historical and contemporary social complexities. Investigating this nexus in our discursive and material realities gives us the language for articulating the machinations of power and space that construct and dismantle singular and collective (im)material bodies.

The English Graduate Organization of the University of Massachusetts Amherst invites submissions to our 2012 graduate interdisciplinary conference on March 31st 2012. This year’s conference will push against standardized and finite notions of body, power, and space to explore how these three variables act upon each other to produce layered, complex, and radical permutations. We urge submitters to investigate the systems of regulation and control that maintain power over singular and collective bodies within various spaces. We invite submissions from a diverse range of disciplines, critical perspectives, and time periods; all three terms need not explicitly be examined in the project, though the possibility of convergence is an encouraged angle. Projects may include papers and/or panel presentations, performance pieces, and multi-media approaches on the following topics:

- literary theoretical approaches
- social spaces and institutions
- composition and rhetorical studies
- canonical studies of bodies of literature
- national and communal boundaries (migrant communities, diasporas, refugee camps)
- (post)colonialism and global studies
- gender and sexuality studies
- animal studies
- childhood studies
- social thought and political economy studies
- media studies and digital spaces
- visual and performing arts
- pop culture/material culture
- emerging creative projects
- disability studies

SUBMISSIONS:
We accept three different types of submissions:
1. Individual papers/projects: please submit an abstract of no more than 300 words. Include your name, paper title, institution, and email address.
2. Panels: please submit a 1000 word proposal for an entire panel of presentations (3-4 presenters). Included in this proposal should be abstracts of 200-300 words for all presentations, title of the panel, and information for each presenter (name, paper title, institution, and email address). If you are forming your own panel, you have the option of providing your own chair.
3. Performances and creative presentations/panels: we welcome submission of creative works, including creative writing, visual art, and dramatic performance. Please include a brief description of your project, as well as your name, project title, institution, and email address.

Email submissions to umassengconf@gmail.com no later than January 25th, 2012.
Students: how to submit information for announcements

Students must submit proper forms for announcements about Formation of Dissertation Committees (D-6), Announcements of Final Oral Examinations (D-8) and Comprehensive Examinations (D-4) to Linda Guthrie in 123 Furcolo Hall, Office of Academic Affairs. Linda will submit the items to the Beacon for publication.

Call for Papers for the Fourth International Conference on Climate Change: Impacts and Responses and International Journal of Climate Change: Impacts and Responses.

http://www.Climate-Conference.com

The International Conference on Climate Change: Impacts and Responses will be held 12-13 July 2012 in partnership with the Climate Impacts Group at The University of Washington, Seattle, Washington.

This interdisciplinary conference is for scholars, teachers, and practitioners from any professional discipline who share an interest in-and concern for-the societal impacts of climate change. Within this broad context, this year’s conference theme emphasizes local and regional responses to global issues of climate change and impact. Proposals are invited that address this theme through one of the following categories:

a) Scientific Evidence: What are our sources of evidence for global, regional, and local climate impacts? What methods and resources do we use that can be shared with others to help them construct knowledge useful to their regions and communities?

b) Ecosystem Impacts: How are specific ecosystems being managed to reduce or divert the impact of global or regional climate change effects? What lessons can be learned from studies of successful and unsuccessful interventions?

c) Human Impacts: How do we conceptualize the dual roles of humans as agents of climate change and as victims of climate change impacts? What are the results of climate change in developed and developing worlds? In agricultural and urban communities? Across different types of geological, political, and social environments?

d) Framing Responses: What initiatives, resource management and educational strategies can we design to address the environmental, human, and societal impacts of climate change? What roles do politics and government policy play at the local, regional, international, and global levels? How can we predict and prepare for the social, political, and legal ramifications of new initiatives?

Proposals for paper presentations, workshops, posters/exhibits, or colloquia are invited. The deadline for the next round in the call for papers (a title and short abstract) is 07 February 2012. Future deadlines will be announced on the conference website after this date. Full details of the conference, including an online proposal submission form, may be found at the conference website - http://www.Climate-Conference.com

Presenters may choose to submit written papers for publication in the fully refereed International Journal of Climate Change: Impacts and Responses. If you are unable to attend the conference in person, virtual registrations are available which allow you to submit a paper for refereeing and possible publication, as well as access to the Journal.

Whether you are a virtual or in-person presenter at this conference, you are encouraged to present on the conference YouTube Channel. Please select the Online Sessions link on the conference website for further details. Also, you can to the monthly email newsletter, and subscribe to Facebook, RSS, or Twitter feeds at http://www.Climate-Conference.com.