Teaching Assistantship
Department of Teacher Education and Curriculum Studies

One 10 hr/week graduate teaching assistantship is available for the Fall 2013 to support the teaching of EDUC 615S and EDUC 734 for the Language, Literacy and Culture concentration.

**Responsibilities include:** managing technology such as Moodle, videotape recording equipment; developing, supporting, and coordinating instructional materials; meeting for planning and supporting instruction; providing written feedback; maintaining instructional materials, and other duties as assigned.

**Qualifications include:** The ideal candidate will be an advanced doctoral student (2 years+), knowledgeable about research on language, literacy and culture from sociocultural perspectives. The candidate must have 1) cross-cultural interpersonal skills and ability to work with diverse faculty members, and graduate students in the BEM, reading & Writing and Language, Literacy and Culture program 2) excellent skills in written and oral communication in editing and composing in multiple languages (e.g., Spanish/English, Chinese/English, Japanese/English or other) 3) experience understanding /conducting primary and secondary research skills for social justice in educational contexts 4) expertise with Web-based instructional platforms and skills in Word, Excel, and other software applications 5) excellent organizational skills to accomplish work within established timelines.

To apply, please send a brief letter of application and your resume, with names and contact information for at least two references, to Theresa Austin at taustin@educ.umass.edu. Please use the term “Graduate TA” in the subject line of the email. Application deadline is ongoing until filled. Priority deadline is July 22, 2013.
The Beacon will not be published during the summer.
This will be the last issue until August 22.

Project Assistantship
Department of Student Development
Fredrickson Center for School Counseling Outcome Research & Evaluation

One 10-hr/week project assistantship for Fall 2013 – Spring 2014

**Responsibilities include:** Conducting extensive library and internet research; searching for grants in the field of school counseling and related areas of education; writing literature reviews, grants, and research briefs; providing support for special projects.

**Qualifications include:** Ability to conduct library and internet research and to synthesize large amounts of information into a brief and understandable format; excellent written skills; strong technology skills; knowledge of school counseling theory and research-based interventions; ability to work in collaboration as well as independently.

To apply, send a cover letter, resume/CV, and writing sample to Karen Harrington at karenh@educ.umass.edu. Please write “CSCORE Assistantship” in the subject line.

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**AERA Dissertation and Research Grants**

The American Educational Research Associate (AERA) Grants Program is accepting proposals for Dissertation and Research Grants, with a deadline of Thursday, September 5, 2013. This program, with support from the National Science Foundation, provides small grants for conducting studies of education policy and practice using federally-funded, large-scale data sets. Please help us in disseminating information widely to colleagues who may be interested.

**AERA Dissertation Grants:** AERA provides dissertation support for advanced doctoral students to undertake doctoral dissertations using data from the large-scale national or international data sets supported by the NCES, NSF, and/or other federal agencies. Applications are encouraged from a variety of disciplines, such as but not limited to, education, sociology, economics, psychology, demography, statistics, and psychometrics. The selection process is competitive. AERA Dissertation Grants are awarded for one year for an amount of up to $20,000. The next application deadline is Thursday, September 5, 2013.

**AERA Research Grants:** AERA provides small grants for faculty members, postdoctoral researchers, and other doctoral-level scholars to undertake quantitative research using data from the large-scale national or international data sets supported by the NCES, NSF, and/or other federal agencies. Applications are encouraged from a variety of disciplines, such as but not limited to, education, sociology, economics, psychology, demography, statistics, and psychometrics. The selection process is competitive. AERA Research Grants are awarded for one or two years, for an amount of up to $35,000. The next application deadline is Thursday, September 5, 2013.

For further information about AERA and the Grants Program, visit the AERA Grants Program website at http://www.aera.net/grantsprogram/. You may also contact Kevin Dieterle, AERA Grants Program Manager, at grantsprogram@aera.net or (202) 238-3227.
RESEARCH ASSISTANTSHIP – Interest and Motivation

Department of Teacher Education and Curriculum Studies
Mathematics, Science, and Learning Technology concentration

A 10 hr/week research assistantship is available for the 2013/14 academic year starting in the fall 2013.

The RA will assist in research on student interest and motivation in high school science classes focusing on alternative energies (e.g., solar energy) and engineering design tasks.

**Responsibilities:** Assisting in collecting data in high school science classes, transcribing and coding of video and audio transcripts, date entry in SPSS, basic statistical analysis; opportunities to assist in writing of conference proposals and manuscripts for publication.

**Qualifications:** A qualified candidate will possess research and organizational skills and be able to work independently. S/he has a background in science education research, teaching experiences in K-12 or equivalent, and excellent research writing skills. The RA will receive training in applying the theories to the data collection methods, and if necessary, an introduction to SPSS. Motivation in learning more about qualitative and quantitative data analysis is expected.

To apply: Send a cover letter, resume, and two to three names of references to:
Dr. Martina Nieswandt, mnieswan@educ.umass.edu

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RESEARCH ASSISTANTSHIP

Department of Teacher Education and Curriculum Studies

QUANTITATIVE ANALYSIS IN STEM PEDAGOGY

10 hr/week research assistantship available for Fall, 2013.

**Responsibilities include:** Conduct literature review in STEM pedagogies; clean, manage and analyze international databases using SPSS and HLM software; draft reports.

**Qualifications include:** Excellent written and oral communications skills; ability to take initiative and work independently; outstanding statistical skills; knowledge of science and math education literature in international/comparative perspective.

Previous quantitative data analysis experience on a research project strongly preferred. To apply, please send a cover letter describing qualifications and resume to Dr. Betsy McEneaney: emcenean@educ.umass.edu.

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ANNOUNCEMENT OF FINAL ORAL EXAMINATION

GAIL YOUNG HILYARD       July 29, 2013,  10:00 a.m. - 12:00 noon,  Room 228, Furcolo Hall.
"Importance of Trust for Developmental Mathematics Instructors in Massachusetts Community Colleges: A Study of its Connections to Math Anxiety and Motivation."
Chairperson:  Dr. Howard A. Peelle.
Graduate Student Research Assistantship, Educational Testing Service
Department of Educational Policy, Research and Administration
Center for Educational Assessment
10-20 hr/week assistantship beginning 9/1/2013
**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 multidimensional scaling, plausible values methodology, test construction, and test validation research.

**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.

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

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Graduate Student Research Assistantship, Pearson
Department of Educational Policy, Research and Administration
Center for Educational Assessment
10-20 hr/week assistantship beginning 9/1/2013

**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 multidimensional scaling, plausible values methodology, test construction, and test validation research.

**Responsibilities include:** Performing literature reviews on equating, scaling, standard setting, and score reporting; 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; and co-authoring research reports.

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

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Graduate Student Research Assistantship, Measured Progress
Department of Educational Policy, Research and Administration
Center for Educational Assessment
10-20 hr/week assistantship beginning 9/1/2013

**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 multidimensional scaling, plausible values methodology, test construction, and test validation research.

**Responsibilities include:** Conducting equating analyses; conducting multivariate statistical analyses simulating data; editing technical reports; entering items into html database, 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.

To apply, please contact Dr. Ronald K. Hambleton, (413)545-0262 (RKH@educ.umass.edu).
Graduate Student Research Assistantship, MA Department of Education
Department of Educational Policy, Research and Administration
Center for Educational Assessment
10-20 hr/week assistantship beginning 9/1/2013

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 multidimensional scaling, plausible values methodology, test construction, and test validation research.

Responsibilities include: Conducting multivariate statistical analyses; equating analyses; simulating data; editing technical reports; entering items into html database, 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.

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

Graduate Student Research Assistantship, The College Board
Department of Educational Policy, Research and Administration
Center for Educational Assessment
10-20 hr/week assistantship beginning 9/1/2013

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 multidimensional scaling, plausible values methodology, test construction, and test validation research.

Responsibilities include: Survey development, 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.

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

Graduate Student Research Assistantship, International Rescue Committee
Department of Educational Policy, Research and Administration
Center for Educational Assessment
10-20 hr/week assistantship beginning 9/1/2013

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 multidimensional scaling, plausible values methodology, test construction, and test validation research.

Responsibilities include: Conducting multivariate statistical analyses; equating analyses; simulating data; editing technical reports; entering items into html database, 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.

To apply, please contact Dr. Jennifer Randall, (413)545-0227 (jrandall@educ.umass.edu).
Graduate Student Research Assistantship, edCount
Department of Educational Policy, Research and Administration
Center for Educational Assessment
10-20 hr/week assistantship beginning 9/1/2013

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 multidimensional scaling, plausible values methodology, test construction, and test validation research.

Responsibilities include: Conducting multivariate statistical analyses; equating analyses; simulating data; editing technical reports; entering items into html database, 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.
To apply, please contact Dr. Stephen G. Sireci, (413)545-0564 (Sireci@acad.umass.edu).

Graduate Student Research Assistantship, NY State/Regents Research Fellowship Fund
Department of Educational Policy, Research and Administration
Center for Educational Assessment
10-20 hr/week assistantship beginning 9/1/2013

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 multidimensional scaling, plausible values methodology, test construction, and test validation research.

Responsibilities include: Conducting multivariate statistical analyses; equating analyses; simulating data; editing technical reports; entering items into html database, 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.
To apply, please contact Dr. Lisa Keller, (413)545-1528 (lkeller@educ.umass.edu).

Please Share The Beacon
If you receive the Beacon weekly through ft-fac, please send it to your list serves so that all students, staff, faculty and friends of the College have an opportunity to read its good news and important information. Thank you.
**Project Assistantship,** Editorial Assistant-Equity & Excellence in Education

15 hr/week assistantship for 2013-14.

**Minimum Qualifications:** Current Master’s or Doctoral student, preferably in Education or allied field; strong writer of English; skilled in giving useful feedback to authors at the conceptual and sentence level; advanced research skills, including database search skills in a broad range of social justice/diversity/education topic areas; knowledge of social justice and diversity as an academic field; ability to work well both independently and collaboratively; knowledge of Microsoft Word, Excel, Access, and E-mail communication.

**Desired Qualifications:** Master’s degree in Social Justice, Higher Education, or similar field; prior experience editing and writing for an academic audience; knowledge of the writing process and ability to provide thoughtful, instructional feedback about writing; prior experience in academic publishing or some other publishing field.

**Responsibilities:** Read manuscript submissions to assess fit to the journal’s social justice education purpose; provide clear, written editorial feedback to authors in support of their literature review, research methodology, analysis, and overall organization and writing; search academic databases to identify the most recent research in areas related to submissions to identify potential peer reviewers; solicit and maintain contact with manuscript reviewers.

To apply, contact Dr. Maurianne Adams at adams@educ.umass.edu.

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**Teaching Assistant Orientation**

This is a reminder that the Provost’s Office, Graduate School, Center for Teaching & Faculty Development (CTFD) are co-sponsoring the annual TA Orientation for NEW TAs/TOs on Friday, August 30, 2013, from 8:45 am to 12:30 pm (registration starts at 8:15am) in the Campus Center (Lower Level). The preliminary program can be found at: http://www.umass.edu/ctfd/teaching/pdf/2013%20TAO%20Main%20Program%20DRAFT.pdf

TAs must register online at:https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/TAO_Registration

Mei-Yau Shih, Ph.D., Associate Director, Center for Teaching & Faculty Development  545-1225