FORMATION OF DISSERTATION COMMITTEE

RITA DETWEILER  
**Proposed Dissertation Title:** "In Pursuit of Mathematical Proficiency for all Students: A Utilization-Focused Evaluation of the Pre-K - 8th Grade Math Assessment Practices in one Massachusetts Regional School District."

**Statement of the Problem:** The demands for accountability have led to the institutionalization of assessment systems as a key mechanism for improving student achievement. Numerous school districts, including the one that is the focus of this study, face the challenge of developing a comprehensive and balanced system of summative, formative and student self-assessment practices that can provide timely data to guide instructional decisions. Recognizing the value of the evaluation process, this regional school district seeks a comprehensive review of the Pre-K - 8th grade math assessment practices with the goal of implementing systematic improvements to their current assessment system. It is anticipated that these changes in practice will translate into more students performing at higher levels of mathematical proficiency.  

**Chairperson:** Dr. Rebecca Gajda.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF COMPREHENSIVE EXAMINATION

PAUL ST. JOHN FRISOLI  
March 31, 2010, 2:00 - 4:00 p.m., Room 287, Hills South.  
**Chairperson:** Dr. Jacqueline Mosselson.

**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 formation of dissertation committees will run for one.
Faculty and student AERA presentations

Please send us the names of faculty and students who are presenting at AERA April 30-May 4, 2010 to publish in The Beacon. Remember to include the titles of the presentations.

Send information to dms@educ.umass.edu in 12 pt. Arial, in the following format:

Last name, first name. Department. “Title of presentation.”

Example:

Ives, D. TECS. “Getting in on the Act: Rewriting the Script in an Urban Language Arts Classroom.”

We will publish material as we receive it. If your information has already been published in The Beacon, we thank you very much for sending it, but please do not e-mail it again. Thanks!

MARK YOUR CALENDARS! Commencement Weekend 2010

The School of Education’s Graduation Celebration Campus Center Auditorium
Thursday, May 13 5-7 p.m.
5-6 p.m.— Social Hour  6-7 p.m.— Program

This is a festive event for our 2009-10 graduates, Minor in Education graduates, and their guests.

RSVP to goodnews@educ.umass.edu

Remember to tell us your name and the number of guests you will bring to the celebration.

For details about the University Commencement weekend including schedules for Graduate Commencement, Friday, May 14, and Undergraduate Commencement, Saturday, May 15, visit:

http://umass.edu/commencement/2010/

MARK YOUR CALENDARS! Commencement Weekend 2010

NEW THIS YEAR! The School of Education’s Commencement Continental
Saturday, May 15
Light breakfast refreshments in Furcolo Hall lobby from 7:30 to 8:30 a.m.
for our undergraduate Minors and their guests.

For details about the University Commencement weekend, visit: http://umass.edu/commencement

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Scholarships and Awards

The School of Education is pleased to provide the following opportunities for financial assistance. The deadline for the 2010-2011 Winifred Green Scholarship is April 2, 2010; the deadline for all other 2010-2011 scholarships described on this page is April 23, 2010. Please note that there are three scholarship application forms:

- a form for applying for the Grace Norton Carney Scholarship
- a form for applying for the Winifred Green Scholarship
- a general scholarship form for all other scholarships and awards (please be sure to check the scholarships for which you are applying if you are using this form)

For the General Scholarship form, go to: http://www.umass.edu/education/downloads/general Scholarship Application for 2010-2011.doc
For the Winifred Green Scholarship application from, go to: http://umass.edu/education/downloads/scholarship page Green scholarship version 4 final.doc
Or go to the scholarship page on the SOE website http://www.umass.edu/education/student/awards.shtml

Graduate Students May Apply

Joseph Burroughs Scholarship
Provides scholarship support to a student in a School of Education Teacher Preparation Program, or a Master's Degree student enrolled in a service-oriented program. Students in good academic standing, with demonstrated financial need, and evidence of strong service experience with children or youth are encouraged to apply.

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.

Camby Scholarship
Provides scholarship support for a student accepted or enrolled in a teacher preparation program in the School of Education. Students must be from an economically disadvantaged area and in good academic standing. ALANA students are encouraged to apply. Must complete FAFSA.

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.

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
Provides scholarship support to full-time doctoral students. Students with a demonstrated financial need, high academic performance, and exceptional promise are encouraged to apply. Must complete FAFSA.

Patricia Silver Award
Provides scholarship support to incoming or current students in a teacher preparation program with demonstrated financial need. Preference for students with a learning disability or some other special need and/or who are committed to working with children with special needs. Must complete FAFSA.

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

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.
School of Education faculty, students, staff & alumni share what they are doing.

SOE Faculty and student presentations at AERA, Denver CO, 2010 will include:

- SOE doctoral student Marcella Runell Hall and activist JLove Calderón have edited "Love, Race and Liberation: ‘Til the White Day is Done." Dr. Cornel West of Princeton University describes the book by saying “Love, Race & Liberation is a grand tribute to the love of freedom and the courage to struggle for justice.” The book includes writing by SOE doctoral student Andrea Dre Domingue.

“Love, Race and Liberation provides a hands-on and inspiring curriculum for use in classrooms and community settings. This promises to be a critical and practical resource for youth leaders, anti-racist educators, teachers, dialogue practitioners, and community activists interested in bridging racial divides through education, sustained dialogue and action,” said Ximena Zúñiga, School of Education Associate Professor, Social Justice Education, and co-editor of “Readings for Diversity and Social Justice” (Routledge 2010) and co-author of “Intergroup Dialogue: Meaningful Learning for Social Justice” (Jossey Bass 2007).

Runell Hall has received the American Association of Colleges & University’s K. Patricia-Cross Future Scholar Award and as well as a Racial Unity Citation from the Brooklyn Borough President’s Office. She wrote “Ten Most Influential Hip-Hop Artists” (Scholastic 2008) and co-edited two books, “The Hip-Hop Education Guidebook “ (2007) with Martha Diaz and “Conscious WomeRock the Page: Using Hip-Hop Fiction to Incite Social Change” (2008.)

Students from Springfield’s Duggan Middle School recently visited SOE as part of their social sciences class’s study of education in Pakistan. After a tour of campus, the middle school students interviewed Dr. Robert Maloy’s students to find out the importance of higher education and to learn more about college life. Our students then asked the 6th graders “What qualities make a good teacher?” Duggan student Shyanne Brueno planned to ask “What did you do in high school that helped you get into college?” When asked by SOE student Emily Taylor about teacher qualities, Brueno said: “My favorite was my fifth grade teacher. She spoke to us like she was our friend, so I think you have to be kind to your students, but still be in charge.” See photos of the 6th graders and SOE students on our web site www.umass.edu/education

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

Bookmark the School’s website
www.educ.umass.edu
DEAR COLLEAGUES:
I AM PLEASE AND EXCITED TO SHARE THE FOLLOWING NEWS. MARK YOUR CALENDARS AND JOIN US.
BEST, LINDA GRIFFIN, ASSOCIATE DEAN

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INNOVATIVE INSTRUCTIONAL FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM INVITATION

The School of Education is pleased to announce the Innovative Instructional Fellowship Program. All full- and part-time faculty in the School of Education are invited to submit proposals to develop individual courses or programs (e.g. master’s, certificates or C.A.G.S.) that will be offered in online or blended formats in collaboration with Continuing and Professional Education. Fellowship activities will take place during the 2010-11 academic year and carries a stipend.

A one-hour introductory workshop will be held to provide more detailed information about the Innovative Instructors Fellowship program and application process. Applicants are required to attend one of the introductory sessions. Please RSVP to Linda Griffin (lgriffin@educ.umass.edu). Faculty can attend either workshop.

- Wednesday, March 24, 2 p.m., Furcolo 225
- Thursday, April 1, 2 p.m., Hills South 483

Goals of the Program
The Innovative Instructional Fellowship (IIF) program is designed to:
- Provide support to School of Education faculty to design, develop and teach high-quality online or blended courses.
- Expand the capacity of the School of Education to offer high-quality, rigorous courses and programs using innovative delivery methods. (These offerings should be sustainable, e.g. designed to be offered on an ongoing basis, not a one off.)
- Provide the School of Education with increased ability to enhance revenue through high quality innovative mission-driven course and program offerings.
- Extend the reach of School of Education offerings to:
  1) Provide access to courses to geographically diverse students who would not otherwise be able to take advantage of the unique educational opportunities at UMass Amherst.
  2) Allow existing UMass Amherst undergraduate and graduate students to take advantage of online or blended course offerings during the summer session giving added flexibility and convenience to students in their progress towards graduation.
  3) Provide working professionals with access to online or blended courses that integrates theory with practice in a convenient online or blended format.

Application deadline: Monday, April 14 at 5 p.m.
Applications should be submitted in electronic form to Jane Clukay (jclukay@educ.umass.edu). Application forms will be available soon (click Grants & Contracts) at:

http://www.umass.edu/education/faculty_resources/index.shtml

Decisions will be announced: by April 23
Decisions will be based on the quality of the proposal; the feasibility of the proposed project; the congruence of the project with the goals of the IIF Fellowship program; the extent to which the proposal aligns with the strategic objectives of the concentration, department and school.

For additional information about the Innovative Instructional Fellowship contact: Linda Griffin (lgriffin@educ.umass.edu)
ATTENTION: Doctoral Students & the Comprehensive Examination

Doctoral students who are preparing for their comprehensive examination should be aware of the following:
- Submit the signed D-3 form (Formation of Comprehensive Examination) to Linda Guthrie in 123 Furcolo at least several weeks before you plan to defend your comprehensive exam. (Do not submit the entire comprehensive paper(s).)
- Contact Sally Dumont (sdumont@educ.umass.edu) in Furcolo or Robbie Calliham (calliham@educ.umass.edu) or Sue Overstreet (sue163@educ.umass.edu) in Hills South to reserve a room for the exam after you have confirmed the date and time with your comps committee.
- Submit the completed, signed D-4 with attachments (unofficial transcript and brief statement concerning the form and content of the comprehensive exam) to Linda Guthrie two weeks prior to the comprehensive exam date.

After your D-4 form is approved and signed by Linda Griffin, Graduate Program Director for the School for Education, Linda Guthrie will forward the information to the Beacon to announce your exam.

INTERNATIONAL PROGRAM OFFICE (IPO)

CURRENT STUDENT TUITION WAIVERS for FALL, 2010

ELIGIBILITY

1. Must be accepted into a full-time degree program
2. Have a minimum 3.25 GPA
3. Must have proof of sufficient funds to meet expenses except tuition (estimated at $28,700 for AY 10/11)

Must have non-immigrant visa status

CURRENT STUDENTS MUST SUBMIT:

1. Formal application form (student can pick up form at the International Programs Office, 467 Hills South) or download from:
   http://www.ipo.umass.edu/_customtags/ct_FileRetrieve.cfm?
   File ID=050470734F7B067B027176700E1F00730F011B7C0608006B0722722702730106740E000473717675
2. Financial documentation proving student has sufficient funds to cover all academic fees and living expenses other than tuition, estimated at $28,700 for AY 10/11.
3. Recommendation letter from student’s advisor or chairperson.

APPLICATIONS MUST BE SUBMITTED AS FOLLOWS:

- Educational Policy, Research and Administration: applications to Sue Overstreet, 161 Hills South.
- Student Development & Pupil Personnel Services: applications to Robbie Calliham, 161 Hills South.
- Teacher Education & Curriculum Studies: applications to Malis Loeung, 117 Furcolo.

The Department chairs will rank order all nominations before they are submitted to the Graduate Program Office. Linda Griffin, the Graduate Program Director, will review and nominate applicants based on strength of application.

DEADLINE FOR CURRENT STUDENTS TO SUBMIT APPLICATIONS TO THEIR DEPARTMENTAL OFFICE IS APRIL 13, 2010
IMPORTANT: REVISED MAY, 2010 DEGREE DEADLINES

The Graduate School has changed its graduation deadlines. Listed below are the revised deadline dates to apply for a May, 2010 degree for Master’s, CAGS and Doctoral students who will complete their degree requirements during the Spring, 2010 semester.

M.Ed. and C.A.G.S. Candidates
The Degree Eligibility form and School of Education Master’s Forms M-2 or CAGS form C-2 must be completed and returned to Linda Guthrie in the Graduate Program Office, 123 Furcolo, no later than APRIL 8, 2010. This is to allow time for processing and obtaining the necessary signatures of Linda Griffin, the Graduate Program Director and Dean Christine McCormick (Department Head). The Eligibility form must be submitted to Linda Guthrie with the Master’s Form M-2 or CAGS Form C-2. Your advisor must sign the School of Ed form, but NOT the Eligibility form. Forms can be downloaded from: http://www.umass.edu/education/academics/advising_guidelines.shtml

Ed.D. and Ph.D. Candidates:
The Doctoral Degree Eligibility form, the D-9 form (Result of Final Oral Examination) and 2 copies of the Signature pages (on acid free paper) must be submitted to Linda Guthrie in Room 123 Furcolo no later than APRIL 8, 2010. The Eligibility form (2 pages) can be downloaded from:
http://www.umass.edu/gradschool/files/Doctoral%20Degree%20Eligibility%20Form.pdf

Linda will submit these forms to the Degree Requirements Office after they are signed by Linda Griffin and Dean Christine McCormick.

The dissertation must be submitted electronically, and fees and other required materials must be submitted to the Office of Degree Requirements (Room 534 Goodell) by 5:00 p.m., APRIL 15, 2010. THIS IS A FIRM DEADLINE!

We’ll see you in Denver at the AERA Annual Meeting
April 30 – May 4, 2010
And at the UMass Amherst SOE alumni reception
Monday, May 3 7-9 p.m. Hyatt Regency Denver Centennial Ballroom A

Co-sponsored by the
American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AI CPA)
JOSEPH L. BOSCOV SCHOLARSHIP

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 of approximately $6,100 for Fall, 2010 and Spring, 2011 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 2009-10 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: APRIL 20, 2010 to your departmental office.

* EPRA students submit completed nominations to Sue Overstreet, 161 Hills South
* SDPPS students submit completed nominations to Robbie Callihan, 161 Hills South
* TECS students submit completed nominations to Malis Loeung, 117 Hills South.

REMINDER

LLC Annual Student Conference, Wed. April 28

If you have changes of information (name, phone, e-mail address, etc.) for your faculty listing on the school’s web site, please send them to dms@educ.umass.edu.

Thanks.