Research Assistantship

Department of Educational Policy, Research and Administration

10-hour/week assistantship supports new academic staff and is related to Bjorn H. Nordtveit’s scholarly portfolio. In particular, it supports research, write-up, and follow-up related to grant proposals; research related to courses and publication; and other duties that may arise.

Qualifications & Experience

1. Experience and ability in writing project and research proposals, and concept papers; 2. Knowledge of and experience in research and project implementation, monitoring, and evaluation; 3. Ability to conduct independent research on the internet and through other sources 4. Excellent organizational and communication abilities and collaborative work style.

POC: Sheila Seuffert Seuffert@educ.umass.edu Deadline 10/5/12

ATTENTION: DOCTORAL DISSERTATION RESEARCH GRANTS

The Graduate School has announced a new program to offer some support for doctoral students engaged in dissertation research. Students must have achieved candidacy by passing their comprehensive examination. For more information and an application, go to the following site: http://www.umass.edu/gradschool/funding-support/dissertation-research-grants

Please note that while the Graduate School lists their deadlines for receipt of applications and other materials, the School of Education needs to receive a copy of the student’s application one week prior to the Graduate School’s deadline in order to review those that Dr. Linda Griffin will support. Therefore, please observe the following School of Education deadline for submission of a copy of the application:

October 8th for Fall, 2012 and March 4th for Spring, 2013.

The Beacon Deadline is FRIDAY

- Please submit general news and announcements to: dms@educ.umass.edu by 5:00 P.M. on Friday for inclusion in the following issue. All assistantship notices will run in two issues.
- Please submit notices of examinations and formation of dissertation committees to Linda Guthrie. These types of announcements will run for one week.
ASSISTANTSHIP

Department of Teacher Education and Curriculum Studies

A 10 hour/week assistantship for Fall 2012 for program supervisor for the ESL Licensure Program and the Advanced Practitioner field experience. Both programs have placements in K-12 public schools in western Massachusetts (e.g., Amherst, Northampton, Springfield, Holyoke, Easthampton, and Hadley). The Advanced Practitioner Program has field experience sites for teaching English and other world languages in a variety of traditional and non-traditional settings in western Massachusetts (e.g., Chinese immersion, adult education, after school programs, informal teaching contexts).

Responsibilities include:

• Attending an orientation and meetings with UMass Amherst faculty regularly to problem solve and trouble shoot issues.
• Establishing and maintaining professional relationships with administrators and teachers in the schools and at field experience sites as well as with the faculty.
• Conducting observations of candidates’ teaching practices according to specified timetables and using appropriate forms;
• Providing quality oral and written feedback to candidates to support them in designing and reflecting on curriculum, instruction, and assessment practices;
• Writing weekly written reports to the LLCAP/Licensure advisor regarding all feedback that you provide candidates/field experience practitioner.
• For 500L: Conducting three-way meetings among the Supervising Practitioner, the UMass Amherst teaching candidate, and the Program Supervisor according to specified timetables and using appropriate forms;
• For EDUC 698AP: meeting with each cohort of three students at least twice during the semester to help learners self-assess their own teaching and provide some feedback on the teaching activity that they have videotaped.
• Assisting UMass faculty in assessing candidate’s course projects using TK20.

Qualifications:

• Classroom teaching experience in K-12 schools
• Knowledge about language/culture of diverse students.
• Expertise in designing curriculum, instruction, and assessments for language learners
• Commitment to social justice in education
• Excellent communication and problem-solving abilities; ability to negotiate differences and meet professional standards
• A research interest in teacher education in ESL, EFL or World Language Instruction

Applicants should submit letters of interest, resume, and contact information for two references to Marie-Christine Polizzi <mpolizzi@educ.umass.edu>

Application deadline: September 28, 2012. Applications will be reviewed until the positions are filled. Hiring is contingent upon availability of funding.

Travel Grant Programs

There are two travel grant programs that support graduate students’ travel to present their research and scholarly works at profession regional, national and international conferences. Go to our website- http://www.umass.edu/education/students/current/travel-grant-programs - and click on each of the programs to find out how to apply. Since we have a large number of professionally active graduate students, students will only be eligible for one grant.
Save the Date! Nov. 14-15
The Military Child Education Coalition’s Professional Development Institute at UMass Amherst

Living in the New Normal Institute: Helping Children Thrive in Good and Challenging Times

Registration and Breakfast: 8:00 am—8:30 am
Institute Training: 8:30 am—4:00 pm including a Working Lunch
University of Massachusetts
Murray D. Lincoln Campus Center Room 165-69
One Campus Center Way, Amherst, MA 01003

95% attendance is required to receive Institute credit and course materials
Funded by Office of the Secretary of Defense/Department of the Army.

No cost to participants. FREE.

For counselors, school nurses, educators, daycare and social service providers
and anyone who works with or is interested in helping children

The Military Child Education Coalition is a nonprofit organization addressing the educational needs of military-connected families. The LINN is a two-day institute outlining specific community resources, deployment information, and practical strategies for encouraging resilience in all children.

REGISTRATION & QUESTIONS
For more information about this institute, please contact Joe Clever at 254-953-1923 or Joe.Clever@MilitaryChild.org.

Please visit www.MilitaryChild.org
and click on Training to register.

Hosted by:
The UMass Amherst
School of Education &
4-H Operation Military Kids

Log on to MilitaryChild.org to register!

Participants will have the opportunity to earn educational credits in the form of 1.2 CEUs for $25.00 and/or 1 hour of graduate credit from Texas A&M—Central Texas for $175.00, payable at the completion of the training. The Military Child Education Coalition is accredited through IACET and NBCC, along with many other state professional development agencies.
ANNOUNCEMENTS OF COMPREHENSIVE EXAMINATION
KARLA SARR October 5, 2012, 2:30 p.m., Room 285, Hills South.
Chairperson: Dr. Gretchen Rossman

MOLLY KEEHN October 3, 2012, 2:00 p.m., Room 163, Hills South.
Chairperson: Dr. Ximena Zuniga.

ANNOUNCEMENT OF FINAL ORAL EXAMINATION
SCOTT M. TYNER October 23, 2012, 2:30 p.m., Room 219 Furcolo Hall. “From Diagnosis to Intervention: Charting the Path with Families of Young Children with Autism Spectrum Disorder.”
Chairperson: Dr. Grace J. Craig.

TEACHING ASSISTANTSHIP
Department of Teacher Education and Curriculum Studies
10 hour/week assistantship for fall 2012 to support EDUC 698LA. This course is offered through the ACCELA Alliance, a school-university professional development partnership. It is taught off campus at Dean Technical High School in Holyoke, MA.

Duties: Support ACCELA teachers in:
- Collecting qualitative and quantitative data related to ESL students’ academic literacy development (e.g., samples of student writing, video clips of classroom instruction, survey data, test data)
- Archiving data systematically and run data reports
- Attending a weekly seminar on Thursdays from 4-7 in Holyoke and a planning meeting on Wednesdays from 10:30-12:30.

Qualifications:
- Qualitative research experience
- Quantitative research experience
- Advanced knowledge of systemic functional linguistics (SFL) and ability to use SFL tools to analyze oral and written discourse
- Knowledge of second language learning and multicultural education research
- Linguistic and cultural knowledge of a language other than English, especially Spanish is desired
- Excellent academic reading, writing, and oral communication abilities
- Demonstrated ability to collect multimedia data (e.g., video, scanned documents)
- Demonstrated ability to work collaboratively and professionally
- Demonstrated ability to be organized and meet deadlines

Applicants should submit letters of interest, resume, and contact information for two references to Meg Gebhard at gebhard@educ.umass.edu
**STUDENT TRAVEL GRANTS**

There are two student travel grant programs this year.

1. **The Graduate Student Travel Grants** sponsored by the Graduate School. Applications are on the School of Education website (URL below). All applications should be sent to Linda Guthrie.

2. **For the first time the School of Education has a Doctoral Student Travel Grant Program.** Grant awards will be $400.00. There are a limited number of grants. Students must submit a complete application with an advisor/chairperson’s recommendation to Linda GRIFFIN.  
   http://www.umass.edu/education/students/current/overview

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**Faculty, students, staff & alumni share what they are doing**

In June, **Theresa Austin**, professor, Department of Teacher Education and Curriculum Studies, was the plenary speaker at the Colombian Conferencia Magistral XVII Symposium on Research in Applied Linguistics, Universidad Distrital Francisco Jose De Caldas, Bogota, Colombia, presenting on second language research, “Why Research Matters”. She also presented on “Critical thinking and critical reading and writing in EFL” at the Universidad de Tunja, Boyacá, Colombia. Also in June, Austin says she conducted three workshops: “Workshop on qualitative language data analysis,” Universidad de Tunja, Colombia; “Reviewing research in Applied Linguistics,” Universidad Distrital Francisco Jose De Caldas, Bogota, Colombia; and, “Towards youth leadership engagement, struggle, and hope,” Okubo Ward, Tokyo, Japan.

**Additionally, Austin** and Dr. Reddad Erguiga, faculty member, Department of English, Faculty of Letters and Human Sciences at Chouaib Doukkali University, in El-Jadida, Morocco, co-edited a special issue on “Languages and cultures in contact in Africa and the Americas”, for the international journal, “Languages and Linguistics”, scheduled for publication, December 2012. Austin says that the journal issue involved time-intensive international collaboration in passing two levels of peer review. The issue contains 8 articles that make a contribution to the research of multiple literacies. The Introduction and Table of Contents are available in English, as well as French and Arabic. Austin and doctoral student, **Katya Ites**, co-authored one of the articles entitled, “Testing assessing literacies: How do educators build useful knowledge about second language learners’ development.”

**Laura Valdiviezo**, assistant professor, Department of Teacher Education and Curriculum Studies, co-authored an article with Dr. Reddad Erguiga, entitled “Islam and the everyday life literacy practices of newly literate Moroccan women.”

“Handbook of Leadership and Administration of Special Education,” edited by Jean B. Crockett, professor, University of Florida, Bonnie S. Billingsly, professor, University of North Carolina at Greensboro, and **Mary Lynn Boscardin**, professor, and Chair, Department of Student Development, has been published by Routledge. The book is a reference volume for scholars, leaders and policy makers, and a textbook for graduate courses in special education, educational administration, and policy studies. It brings together research informing leadership practice in special education from preschool through transition into post-secondary settings, and provides comprehensive coverage of disability policy, leadership knowledge, school reform and effective educational leadership practices.

Please send items of interest to dms@educ.umass.edu
YOU ARE INVITED! RSVP BY OCTOBER 17

During UMassAmherst Homecoming 2012,

you are invited to attend
the unveiling of a portrait of
Dwight W. Allen commissioned
by Dr. Timothy Taylor (Ed.D. 2004)
as a gift to the School of Education
and to honor the legacy of his
mentor, the school’s former Dean.

Saturday, October 27, 2012
2 p.m.
School of Education
Furcolo Hall

A reception with former Dean Allen
will follow the unveiling.

RSVP by Oct. 17, 2012
413-545-0897 or
goodnews@educ.umass.edu

More about this event at www.umass.edu/education