Access The Beacon online: http://www.umass.edu/education/publications/beacon.shtml.  
Or go to the School of Education home page and click on The Beacon icon.

Research Assistantship
Department of Teacher Education and Curriculum Studies

One 10 hour/week research assistant position for Fall 2011. Research assistant will assist Language, Literacy and Culture concentration faculty member with school-based qualitative data collection, including observations, interviews and focus groups and data organization including transcription of recorded data (A-V and video).

A qualified candidate will possess research and organizational skills, experience working with teachers/school staff/Latino families and collecting and organizing qualitative data. Candidate must have strong skills in using electronic sources for research purposes and collecting and organizing qualitative data. Knowledge of Excel is required.

To apply: Send a one-page cover letter and updated resume to Nélida Matos, nmatos@educ.umass.edu Please write “RA PSEG S2011” in the email subject.

Students: how to submit information for announcements
Students must submit proper forms for announcements about Formation of Dissertation Committees (D-6) 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.

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 for two issues.
- Please submit notices of examinations and formation of dissertation committees to Linda Guthrie. These types of announcements will run for one week.

School of Education  ◆  813 N. Pleasant Street, Amherst, MA 01003
**Project Assistantship**
Department of Student Development

One 10 hour/week project assistantship is available in the Department of Student Development.

**Responsibilities include:** gathering and organizing reading list materials; research for publications, compiling references into an electronic format, assisting with all phases of editing various documents; assist with department-based data collection projects; assist with data entry and statistical analyses for various projects; assist in all stages of grant preparation.

If interested, contact: seuffert@educ.umass.edu

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**Research Assistantship**
Department of Teacher Education and Curriculum Studies

A 10 hour/week research assistantship position is available immediately for fall 2011 with the possibility of continued funding through spring 2012 in the Children, Families and Schools concentration. The research assistant will participate in a project examining the efficacy of children’s e-book app’s in supporting the acquisition of early literacy skills.

**Responsibilities include:** data collection and analysis of parent-child reading interactions, content analysis of children’s literature, preparation of literature reviews, and participation in the writing of research reports and publications.

**Qualifications include:** experience working with young children and families, understanding of early literacy development, strong writing skills, experience with video data collection methods, and basic familiarity in the use of mobile app technology.

Application process: Please send a cover letter and resume to Claire E. Hamilton cehamilt@educ.umass.edu with the subject of your email titled “Ebook TA”.

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**Teaching Assistantship**
Department of Teacher Education and Curriculum Studies

EDUC500-TEACH 180 Days in Springfield Pathway Supervisor

Ten hour/week teaching assistantship available to supervise student teachers in TEACH 180 Days in Springfield pathway for fall 2011 semester.

**Responsibilities include:** Supervision of five student teachers, site visits to schools, conferences with students and supervising practitioners, observation reports, weekly email contact, review of student teaching portfolios on Tk20, assisting students in developing and completing their Teacher Performance Assessment. Especially important is the timely completion of ongoing documentation of student performance.

**Qualifications:** Excellent organizational and communication skills. Classroom teaching experience. Preferences given to students who have or are taking Educ 851 and/or have experience in teacher leadership and supervision.

Applicants should submit letter of interest, resume, and and contact information to Dr. Kathleen D. Gagne, Coordinator, TEACH 180 Days in Springfield, 111 Furcolo Hall. kdg@educ.umass.edu
Faculty, students, staff & alumni share what they are doing

Professor Paula Elosua from the University of the Basque Country in Spain is visiting the Research and Evaluation Methods Program as a visiting scholar this semester. This is Elosua’s third visit and this time she is here to continue her research initiatives with several faculty members in REMP. Also, Elosua is organizing a conference for the International Test Commission scheduled for four days in July of 2014 in San Sebastien, Spain. The theme of the conference has not been finalized but will be related to educational and psychological testing advances, practices, and technical guidelines for use around the world. Elosua is conferring with two REMP faculty members, Distinguished professor Ronald Hambleton and professor Steve Sireci, in the early stages of planning the conference.

Rebecca Woodland, associate professor, Department of Educational Policy, Research and Administration, shared a link to articles posted to the Amherst Pelham Regional Schools’ (APRS) website about the Teacher Collaboration Instructional Improvement Partnership (TCIIP), a grant-funded contractual partnership between the School of Education and the APRS, for which Woodland is Principal Investigator. The first article mentions UMass, and the second mentions Woodland directly. Access the articles at: http://www.arps.org/node/3142

Barbara Madeloni, senior lecturer, Department of Teacher Education and Curriculum Studies, is working with Julia Mohlala in Residential Life to host six students from the University of the Free State, Bloemfontein, South Africa, as part of that university’s initiative to develop student leaders who are able to act as agents of change within diverse settings. The six first-year students will be arriving with their faculty adviser, Scarpa Schoeman, this Sunday, Sept. 25, and staying with host students on campus for 10 days as they attend classes and meet with student groups across campus and in the community with the focus on issues of leadership for social justice.

Massachusetts Green High Performance Computing Center (MGHPCC) in Holyoke has attracted a national science grant through the University of Massachusetts Amherst and MIT. UMass Amherst computer scientist Rick Adrion and geoscientist Christopher Hill of MIT, both experts in developing science, computing and technology curricula for students in kindergarten through community college, received the nearly $250,000, two-year National Science Foundation grant to support their collaboration with middle and high school teachers in Holyoke. As a part of the grant, associate professor Florence Sullivan and assistant professor Nat Turner, both of the Department of Teacher Education and Curriculum Studies, will work with teachers in Holyoke and Springfield to develop science units that will be adapted to integrate two approaches to online interactive textbooks into classroom learning. They will use such new educational tools as the Virtual Interactive Textbook (VIT), designed at MIT, and electronic integrated books (EIB), a new technology developed at UMass Amherst, to engage students in conducting science experiments that rely on computers. Read more at http://www.umass.edu/newsoffice/newsreleases/articles/136148.php

Associate professor Kathleen Davis, assistant professor Sandra Madden and senior lecturer Barbara Madeloni, all of the Department of Teacher Education and Curriculum Studies (TECS), Stephen Schneider from the College of Natural Sciences, and Paula Sturdevant Rees, School of Engineering, were awarded a $3 million grant from the National Science Foundation for a NOYCE Teaching Fellowship project: “Supporting STEM Teaching and Learning through Communities (S2TLC).” The grant was accompanied by $1.5 million in matching contributions from the University and project partners. The project responds to the critical need for middle and high school science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) teachers through a collaboration of UMass Amherst educators and researchers, mathematics and science administrators from Springfield, Holyoke and Greenfield public schools and Mahar Regional school district, and the Hitchcock Center for the Environment, a non-profit organization focused on the professional development of teachers and the education of youth in the sciences. Read more on the SOE web site.

Please send items to dms@educ.umass.edu
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