The College of Education’s Center for Youth Engagement sponsored the Third International Conference and Symposium on Inclusive Education on June 26-27 at the UMass Center in Springfield. The conference brought together researchers from Germany, Turkey, the Netherlands, and the U.S. to address inclusion research and issues as they relate to education in public schools. At the conference, a special issue of a new international journal on research on inclusion was planned, as well as three collaborative research projects, which will be initiated over the next several months, according to Michael Krezmien, SD, Associate Professor and Director of the Center for Youth Engagement.

The American Journal of Evaluation (AJE), edited by Sharon F. Rallis, Dwight W. Allen Distinguished Professor of Education Policy and Reform, and housed in the College of Education, has seen an impressive increase in its impact factor for 2014. The Impact Factor, a calculation conducted by Thomson Reuters, indicates how often journal articles are cited. AJE’s has risen to 1.804 from .965 in 2013 and 1.447 in 2012. Most impressive, the five-year impact factor has reached 2.358. Only citations appearing in ranked journals are used in the calculation; those journals in which AJE articles were cited are also highly ranked. AJE is ranked 13 among the 95 international Social Science Interdisciplinary journals ranked by Thompson Reuters.

Rebecca H. Woodland, EPRA, has been awarded a sole source contract to carry out the 2015 - 2016 Massachusetts School Counselors Association (MASCA) Strategic Planning Leadership Project. Dr. Woodland will work with the MASCA governing board to examine MASCA strengths, opportunities, aspirations and results, and plan for the organization’s transition to a policy governance model.

Rebecca H. Woodland, EPRA, has been awarded a 2015 - 2016 UMass Public Service Engagement Grant which will support the implementation of a job-embedded instructional rounds process in the Gill-Montague school district intended to strengthen administrator instructional leadership skills, quality of classroom-based instructional practice, and levels of student achievement and engagement.


Theresa Y. Austin, TECS, presented, “Teaching in a Global Society,” for the Get Inspired Keynote Address at Middlesex Community College for the Carnegie Academy for the Scholarship of Teaching and Learning (SoTL) on May 19, 2015.

If you would like to submit information to be included in the next College of Education Spotlight on Research, please email educore@educ.umass.edu no later than Wednesday August 12, 2015.
SPOTLIGHT ON RESEARCH

Previous Conference Presentations

- Torrey Trust, TECS, Grace Kim, UC Berkeley, Leshell Hatley, George Mason University, Meghan Welch, Georgia State University, and Delila Omerbašić, University of Utah, presented at the Digital Media and Learning (DML) Conference in Los Angeles, California from June 11-13, 2015 for the session titled, "Educators Experience Boundaries, Students Don’t? Blurring the Boundaries Between Formal and Informal Learning Spaces."


- Torrey Trust, TECS, presented at the International Society for Technology in Education (ISTE) Conference in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania from June 28-July 1, 2015 at the session titled, "Understanding the Sociocultural Factors that Shape Teacher Learning in an Online Community."

- Theresa Y. Austin, TECS, and Kahori Kobayashi, TECS alumni, presented “Content Based Instruction-Perspectives from Learners and Teachers,” at Ritsumeikan University on June 30, 2015 in Kyoto, Japan.

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