THE STUDENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE OF THE LANGUAGE, LITERACY, AND CULTURE CONCENTRATION; BILINGUAL, ESL, & MULTICULTURAL PROGRAM; READING & WRITING PROGRAM INVITES YOU TO

COME CREATE WITH US!

A workshop on infographics, posters, and flier design useful for presentations and publications

Bring a laptop!

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 18TH
FURCOLO 101 6:45PM
LIGHT REFRESHMENTS PROVIDED

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION
University of Massachusetts Amherst
Kathryn McDermott, has had an article included in a new “virtual issue” of the Journal of Public Administration Research and Theory, one of the top-ranked journals in the field of public administration. In a “virtual issue”, a team of guest editors selects previously published articles, and weaves them together in a new introductory essay. Here is a link to the virtual issue: https://academic.oup.com/jpart/pages/education_vi. Below is the original article.


Presentations, Workshops, and Seminars


Please send your information for the next issue of Spotlight on Research to educore@educ.umass.edu by Friday October 13th.
Jacob Carter, a doctoral student in international education, is organizing the following event.

Solidarity Hike on the Holyoke Range
October 21, 2017 from 9:00 - 5:00

Hike in solidarity with Central American youth by supporting organizations that are doing groundbreaking and critical grassroots work in the U.S and in Central America. Or, hike in solidarity with any organization advancing solidarity and social justice that you wish to elevate at this time. We will be hiking 12 miles across the Holyoke Mountain Range, rain or shine, and hope that you will consider joining us for just a section or the whole range.

Given the recent termination of DACA, the co-organizers are seeking a small way to honor and respond to the struggles faced by Central American youth (particularly in Guatemala, El Salvador, and Honduras), whether they are undertaking the treacherous journey to the U.S.A., they are DACAmented or undocumented, or if they remain in their home lands. We aim to raise awareness and support organizations, here and abroad, that work to elevate their voices as leaders, advocate for their rights and celebrate their possibilities.

By hiking together and rallying our community in support of these youth, we are hoping to add a small but meaningful ‘granito de arena’ to the struggle. For full event details and to sign up to hike, visit our Facebook Event page here: http://bit.ly/2xL0Dpb or contact Jacob Carter (jacobacarter.1@gmail.com)
Walk for Puerto Rico on October 15

Sally Galman and others have organized a walk-a-thon to benefit Puerto Rican children at Shutesbury Elementary School, at the track, on October 15 from 10 a.m.-12 p.m.

The event is open to the public.

There will be a bake sale, hot coffee, and pledge sheets available on site, as well as opportunities to participate as a walker, or just a coffee drinker. People will also be able to donate lump sum amounts.

Children (and grown-ups) from all over the valley are encouraged to participate—even if they don’t attend or have children who attend Shutesbury Elementary School.

Contact Sally Galman at sal-ly@educ.umass.edu if you have questions.
# The College of Education’s Statistical Consulting Services

## Fall 2017

### FREE & PRACTICAL

### Statistics Workshops

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Workshop</th>
<th>Date and time</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Introduction to SPSS:</strong> From</td>
<td>Friday: 9/22 2:30-4:00pm</td>
<td>Furcolo W09</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Descriptive Statistics to t-tests</td>
<td>Friday: 9/29 9:30-11:00am</td>
<td>(PC Lab)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Intermediate SPSS:</strong> ANOVA and Regression</td>
<td>Friday: 10/6 2:00-3:30pm</td>
<td>Furcolo W09</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Friday: 10/13 2:00-3:30pm</td>
<td>(PC Lab)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Introduction to Excel:</strong> Simple</td>
<td>Thursday: 10/19 1:30-3:00 pm</td>
<td>Furcolo 110</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Analyses, Charts, and Tricks</td>
<td>Thursday: 10/26 1:30-3:00 pm</td>
<td>(Mac Lab)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Introduction to R:</strong> Basics of the</td>
<td>Wednesday: 10/25 9:30-11:00 am</td>
<td>Furcolo 110</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Platform and Language</td>
<td>Wednesday: 11/8 9:30-11:00 am</td>
<td>(Mac Lab)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Basic Plots in R</strong></td>
<td>Friday: 11/3 9:30-11:00 am</td>
<td>Furcolo 110</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Friday: 11/10 9:30-11:00 am</td>
<td>(Mac Lab)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**FREE** to all UMass faculty, staff, and students

Sign up at [www.sites.google.com/site/UMassStatConsulting](http://www.sites.google.com/site/UMassStatConsulting)

or email [ddtaylor@umass.edu](mailto:ddtaylor@umass.edu), **Walk-ins are always welcome!**

Research in Educational Measurement and Psychometrics (REMP)
Promoting sound educational research and testing practices since 1968
SAVEnote NOvember 7, 2017
Chancellor Subbaswamy
addresses the college

1-3 p.m. Furcolo 102

The Amherst College Education Studies Initiative is pleased to announce an interdisciplinary speaker series on

EDUCATION AND INEQUALITY

Please join us for our inaugural event:

SEAN REARDON
Professor of Poverty and Inequality in Education and (by courtesy) of Sociology, Stanford University

“EQUALITY OF EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY: THE AMERICAN DREAM OR THE AMERICAN FANTASY?”

Wednesday, October 18 • 7:00 p.m. • open to the public

The Cole Assembly Room • Converse Hall

AMHERST COLLEGE

The “American Dream” promises everyone in America equal educational and economic opportunity. And education is widely imagined to be the pathway to economic opportunity. But some argue that our schools, rather than serving as engines of educational opportunity, are instead agents of inequality. In this talk, Professor Reardon will describe the landscape of educational opportunity in America, with a particular focus on how opportunity is distributed by race, ethnicity, and social class, and the roles that our schools play — and might play — in making the American Dream a reality.

Thank you to our co-sponsors: American College Education Professors and Departments of American Studies, Black Studies, Economics, English, History, Mathematics and Statistics, and Spanish.

Dr. Reardon’s research focuses on the causes, patterns, trends, and consequences of social and educational inequality, and the effects of educational policy on educational and social inequality. He is a member of the National Academy of Education and the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. He is also a recipient of the William T. Grant Foundation Scholar Award, the National Academy of Education Postdoctoral Fellowship, and an Andrew Carnegie Fellow.

For questions contact Leah Gordon, Lewis Schubring Visiting Associate Professor of History and American Studies, Amherst College, lgordon@amherst.edu

SUPPORT THE HUB
Stop by and buy some coffee, bagels, salad, soup, snacks, and say “hi” to the cheerful person behind the counter who attends to our food and beverage needs.
**Lyiscott receives Fulbright**

Jamila Lyiscott received a 2017 Fulbright-Hays Group Study Abroad Grant entitled, “Learning in Ghana: Linking Language, Literacy & Culture.” This U.S. Department of Education program “provides grants to support overseas projects in training, research, and curriculum development in modern foreign languages and area studies for teachers, students, and faculty engaged in a common endeavor.” Lyiscott and co-grantees, Esther Ohito and Susan Wilcox, will lead a group of pre-service and in-service teachers to Ghana during the summer of 2018 for an immersive experience toward developing culturally sustaining pedagogical skills.

---

**Ask Steve the education librarian**

Steve McGinty, education librarian, holds office hours in The Hub, Tuesday afternoons from 3:00 to 4:00. You can ask him anything about the libraries and education!

*Drop by - no appointment needed.*

---

**FORMATION OF DISSERTATION COMMITTEE**

**MICHELLE BOYER**

*Proposed Dissertation Title: The Effects of Changes in Automated Rater Bias on Test Equating Solutions*

**Statement of Problem:** As the state of the art in automated scoring advances, practitioners will need to consider the effects of continued improvements in scoring accuracy on the psychometric properties of test scores, and their impact on examinee scores. There are both intended and unintended consequences of advancing the state of the art in automated scoring. The intended consequences are clear: Develop automated raters that can produce quality scores while decreasing scoring time and costs. While automated scoring improves, however, a potential unintended consequence may be characterized by any systematic effects that scoring improvements have on equating results, where such items are used in the equating solutions. **Chair: Dr. Lisa Keller**
The **UMass Amherst Writing Center** is open

**We Work with Writers**
Writing Center tutors work with undergraduate, graduate, post-doc, staff, and faculty writers on any academic genre at any point in the writing process. Our highly-trained tutors (from a variety of disciplines) help writers develop a draft, clarify an argument, gain control over sentence structure and word choice, reorganize a text, and learn to reflect on and build productive writing practices. Writers often bring just an idea or an assignment to the Center and work with a tutor on how to begin writing. We meet individually with writers in 45-minute consultations both face-to-face and online. Writers can schedule up to two appointments per week.

**We Work with Instructors**
We are also happy to collaborate with you on teaching a writing-related concept in your class. If you're interested a collaboration, please write to us at writingcenter@acad.umass.edu.

**Inform Your Students**
*Text for syllabi or Moodle.* The Writing Center is located in W. E. B. Du Bois Library and provides free support on any writing you do while at UMass, whether for a course or not. Trained tutors are available to work with you (in person or online) as you plan, draft, and revise your writing. Please visit www.umass.edu/writingcenter for hours and information about making appointments. If you have questions about the UMass Writing Center, please email writingcenter@acad.umass.edu or call 413-577-1293.

*Class visits by tutors.* Our tutors are available to visit your classes to explain what we do and answer any questions your students might have. Students have told us that it's helpful to learn about the Writing Center from a fellow student writer. Presentations take about ten minutes. If you are interested in a class visit, please fill out this request form.

---

**The College's calendar of events and meetings** is at

http://www.umass.edu/education/news/calendar

Send your information for the calendar to

dms@educ.umass.edu

---

**COLLEGE of EDUCATION**

University of Massachusetts Amherst
2017 Tenth Annual Seminar on Exploring Buddhism

Engaging Buddhism

Khen Rinpoche Geshe Lobzang Tsetan
Abbot, Tashi Lhunpo Monastery, South India

October 11-24, 2017

Free and open to the public
(donations to Jampel Nyingpo Ling appreciated!)

The 10th Annual Exploring Buddhism Seminar will be held at Amherst, Smith and Hampshire Colleges and the University of Massachusetts. Returning to the Pioneer Valley for the 29th consecutive year, Rinpoche will teach Buddhist practices from the Tibetan tradition, give guided meditations, and participate in discussions with 5-College Buddhist Studies scholars and practitioners.

Wednesday, October 11, 7:30 – 8:30 PM
University of Massachusetts: Old Chapel Building
“Tara, Female Goddess of Mercy”: Khen Rinpoche will give an introduction to Tara, beloved by Tibetans as a manifestation of all the Buddha’s activities, then lead a guided visualization. He will be welcomed by Ranjanaa Devi, Director, Asian Arts & Culture Program, FAC; Prof. Stephen Miller, Dept. of Asian Languages, Literatures & Cultures; and Thondup Tsering, Residence Director, Thatcher, Lewis & Johnson. (Tenzin Sangpo will translate for all of the Engaging Buddhism sessions.)

Thursday, October 12, 7:00 – 8:30 pm
Amherst College: Babbott Room, The Octagon Building
“Dependent Origination”: a dialog with Khen Rinpoche and Mark Hart, Amherst College Buddhist Advisor.

Tuesday, October 17, 7:30-8:30 pm
Smith College, Dewey Hall Common Room
“Equalizing and Switching Self and Other”, a talk by Khen Rinpoche, with Q & A.

Friday, October 20, 12:00-1:30
Hampshire College: Faculty Lounge, Merrill Living Room
“Geshe Lobzang Tsetan/Khen Rinpoche’s Spiritual Journey.” Rinpoche will be welcomed by Sue Darlington, Dean of Social Inquiry and Professor of Anthropology & Asian Studies, and Liza Neal, Director, Spiritual Life Center.

Tuesday, October 24, 7:30-8:30 pm
Smith College, Dewey Hall Common Room
“Emptiness (Sunya)”, a talk by Khen Rinpoche, with Q & A.

Co-Sponsored by:

Amherst College Department of Religion
Hampshire College Tibetan Studies Program
Smith College Department of Religion
Five College Buddhist Studies Certificate Program
UMass Asian Arts & Culture Program
Jampel Nyingpo Ling, Center for Tibetan Buddhist Studies

For more information: 413-340-1580; nancybraxton@gmail.com

The Beacon will not be published during the week of October 23-27.
SEND NEWS and MORE

Please send information that you think will be of interest to our faculty, staff and students to dms@educ.umass.edu. Items about meetings, awards, workshops, changes, processes, and news and links to interesting articles about education and other subjects are welcome.

If your item is about an event or activity, send it well in advance...two weeks in advance is standard.

SEND PHOTOS (Identify who is in the photo if you can and indicate if you have permission to use it!)

NOTE: Spotlight on Research is compiled by the Office of Research and Engagement (ORE). For Spotlight send your news to educore@educ.umass.edu.

Thanks.

The Beacon will not be published during the week of October 23-27.
INVEST IN MINDS NOT MISSILES:
Resisting the Trillion-Dollar Nuclear Weapons Escalation

JONATHAN KING
Professor, Department of Biology, MIT | Science for the People

Wednesday, October 25, 2017
4:00 p.m.
Gordon Hall, Room 303
418 N. Pleasant Street | UMass Amherst

The event is free and open to the public | www.peri.umass.edu

Event co-sponsors: Massachusetts Society of Professors, Public Higher Education Network of Massachusetts, UMass History Department, UMass Social Thought & Political Economy Program, UMass Resistance Studies Initiative, Northampton Committee to Stop the Wars, Resistance Center for Peace and Justice
Support community charities with UMACC!

The UMass Amherst Community Campaign is an employee benefit that allows faculty and staff to donate to any charitable organization through payroll deduction, check/cash, or credit card.

Giving through UMACC instead of directly to the charities helps streamline the donation processing with one lump sum instead of multiple individual donations, which helps the charities save on labor and allows more time to focus on their mission.

Everyone who donates through UMACC will receive tickets to a performance from the Department of Music and Dance in the spring semester of 2018 and will be entered to win a $300 Amazon gift card, round-trip airfare for two, UMass hockey tickets, and more.

The Community Campaign is running now until December. Any employee can sign-up to donate $1 per payroll deduction for a $26 yearly donation. See how easy it is to donate by visiting http://www.umass.edu/umacc/

THANK YOU! Jenn Masztal, coordinator of UMACC in the College of Education

Find out more about how you can be involved in UMACC and support the charities you care about in next week’s Beacon or talk with Jenn Masztal, Financial Services, who is managing UMACC here in the college.