

# Partnership

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*The Five College Public School Partnership is guided by a Steering Committee made up of Five College faculty and Connecticut River Valley school administrators and teachers. Partnership programs are developed by planning committees of school and college faculty. If you would like to become involved or have ideas for the Partnership, please contact us at 413/256-8316.*

The Partnership office acknowledges the loss to the Western Massachusetts educational community of Michael Smith, Superintendent of the South Hadley School District, and former Assistant Superintendent in Greenfield. Mike Smith was held in high regard as a person, and deeply respected as an educator. To his family, South Hadley school personnel, and all of those who regarded him as a friend, mentor, and colleague, we extend our deepest sympathy. To honor him, and his fine work, we offer these three statements.

*My memories of Mike go back to about 1976 when I was teaching in Amherst and helped organize a training program through the Hampshire Educational Collaborative (HEC) to develop teacher-administrator inservice teams. Mike was such fun, and he was so smart and so very, very wise. I enjoyed him then, and through the years I was at HEC and then through all the years at the Partnership. I especially remember our conversations in his office in Greenfield. He was so well-read, so knowledgeable about all aspects of teaching and learning and administering a school system. I am hard pressed to remember anyone that I worked with whose judgement I more valued. Of course, everyone is saying the same thing and everyone means it!*

Mary Alice Wilson

Former Coordinator, Five College Public School Partnership

*Mike typified the best and brightest of our profession. He will be remembered as an articulate rising star in his community and among colleagues in the Valley and across the state. In an era marked by so many leadership changes, I think we all saw in Mike a vibrant, impassioned image of everything we would want for the future of the superintendency. We express our heartfelt condolences to his family and friends, and to the teachers, staff and students in the South Hadley schools on their tragic loss.*

William Erickson

President, Connecticut Valley Superintendents Roundtable

*I cannot conclude this update without addressing the recent death of Mike Smith, Superintendent of the South Hadley Schools. While the greatest tragedy lies with his wife and his teenage son and daughter, his loss is a blow to the schools and community of South Hadley and to Education Reform in Massachusetts. Mike was a special friend who helped me a great deal, with the mathematics curriculum framework and our teacher career advancement program, and with his honest common sense advice. His successes were based on his ability to balance personal popularity with high expectations for all. He will be greatly missed.*

Commissioner David Driscoll

Massachusetts Department of Education

Two memorial funds have been established in memory of Mike Smith, The South Hadley Foundation for Educational Excellence and the Smith Children Educational Fund. Donations to either should be sent to in care of the Peoples Savings Bank, 494 Newton Street, South Hadley, Massachusetts 01075.

the **Color** of **School Reform:**  
**Inequalities, Public Education, and the Challenge of Change**

March 30-31, 2001  
Amherst College

Racism has grown deep roots in public education and the impacts upon the intellectual and emotional development of every child that passes through it. We, a group of five Amherst College-affiliated students, have come together over the past year to create a conference that would continue to honestly explore the impact of reform, aimed specifically at struggles around color and whiteness, on a public-school level.

This conference has been designed with the hope of bringing together writers and speakers who have dedicated much of their lives to the study of education and race with teachers and students who live in this interplay everyday. Understanding that everybody must play the dual roles of learner and learned, our mission in planning this conference has been to create a stimulating and open space for dialogue, so that we each may take back to our own spheres of influences new knowledge that will aid in our struggles towards justice in our public educational system.

## A G E N D A

Friday March 30

8pm **Sonia Nieto:** *Multicultural Education: Beyond Diversity Dinners and Sensitivity Training*

Saturday March 31

8:30 Check-in

10:00 **Theresa Perry,** *How Racism Affects African-American School Achievement*

11:15 Anti-Racism Workshop

12:45 Lunch

2:00 **Michele Foster:** *Racism in Schools: Here and There, Now and Then*

3:00 Concurrent Workshops I

**Signithia Fordham:** *Write-ous Indignation: Abandoning the Practice of Highlighting 'Black Adolescents' Academic Failure*

**Badi Foster:** *Politics of Change in Schools and Community Politics in Education*

4:15 Concurrent Workshops II

*Local Issues*

*Effective Ways to Approach the MCAS Tests*

*Effective Community Based Learning*

*Ability vs. Performance* (Workshop and Discussion exclusively for junior high and high school students.)

6:30 **Ira Shore:** *Still Separate, Still Unequal: The Color of Success in School and Society* (dinner provided)

*Registration fee is \$25.00. For more information contact Sara Bozorg at [bocorg@Amherst.edu](mailto:bocorg@Amherst.edu), or 413-542-3480.*

*CORRECTION: Participants will receive 7 PDP's for the day and an additional PDP for each lecture attended. (The original brochure noted only 3PDP's.)*

# SUMMER RESEARCH OPPORTUNITIES FOR TEACHERS

## Amherst College

Amherst College is sponsoring two research fellowships for area high school science teachers, positions that have been funded by the Howard Hughes Medical Institute (HHMI) and the National Science Foundation (NSF). Each teacher will pursue research with a faculty member from the Biology, Chemistry, Geology, Neuroscience, Physics, or Psychology Departments in one of seven on-campus, collaborative research groups: "Antibody Catalysis," "Environmental Science," "Fluorescence as a Biological and Biophysical Probe," "Infectious Disease," "Neural Plasticity," "Materials Science," "Membrane Vesiculation and Fusion," or "Physical Chemistry/Atomic Physics." Direct involvement in the process and culture of modern research—especially in the interdisciplinary contexts proposed here—will provide the participating teachers with a vital perspective on the teaching of science. Teachers will also earn professional development points for their recertification portfolios.

The summer fellowships will run for six to eight weeks, beginning in late June. The exact start date is negotiable and each fellowship carries a stipend of \$1,000 per week. At the end of the summer, each teacher will write a research report and prepare an action plan in which he or she will propose strategies for direct implementation of new science teaching modules in their classrooms. To facilitate the development and implementation of these modules, each teacher will be provided with \$1,500 to purchase course materials to bring back to his or her school.

To apply, please submit a one-to-two page letter to the Five College Public School Partnership explaining why you would like to spend the summer doing research, and the impact you expect the experience will have upon your teaching. Briefly describe your interests and experiences in the sciences (previous research experience is not necessary). Please also include an up-to-date c.v. or résumé. In addition to your letter of application, please arrange to have one letter of recommendation from a Department Head or Principal forwarded to the Partnership. Both letters should be addressed to M. Sue Thrasher, Coordinator, Five College Public School Partnership, 97 Spring Street, Amherst, MA 01002. **The deadline for receipt of these materials is April 23.** The selection committee will notify all applicants of its decisions no later than May 21. Please feel free to call (413)256-8316 if you have any questions.

See additional summer opportunities offered by CESAME (p4), the Western Mass Writing Project (p5), Massachusetts Department of Environmental Management (pp 6-7), Summer Orienteering at Northfield Mountain (p7), and the University of Massachusetts Amherst (pp 8-9).

## University of Massachusetts

The Materials Research Science and Engineering Center (MRSEC) at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst is soliciting applications for a Research Experiences for Teachers program in the summer of 2001, from middle school and high school teachers.

Three teachers will be selected to participate in team research at the Silvio O. Conte Center for Polymer Research. Participants will perform research as a team and develop teaching modules to transfer their experience to their classroom. The teachers will be able to select a research topic from a broad spectrum of topics in the chemistry, physics, or engineering of polymers. Example of projects under consideration are nanomembranes, crystallization in confined geometry, sensors, and polymer deformation.

The program has a flexible duration as teachers can participate from 5-8 weeks. Benefits include a salary of \$1,000 per week, up to \$1,000 to defray housing or commuter costs, six graduate credits, and a least 80 PDPs. Please send a one page resume along with a paragraph describing how a research experience could benefit your teaching. Electronic or hard copy applications are acceptable.

**The deadline for receipt of applications is April 1.** For more information contact UMass-PSE-Conte Gregory M. Dabkowski Fax 413-545-0082 gdabkowski@resgs.umass.edu.

# PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES

This newsletter is a service of the Five College/Public School Partnership. To register for any courses listed below, please contact the indicated sponsoring organization.

## Workshops & Seminars

**HAMPSHIRE EDUCATIONAL COLLABORATIVE  
(HEC)**

**413-586-4900 x130, FAX 413-586-2878**

**EVENTS@COLLABORATIVE.ORG**

### *Teachers as Writers: A Weekend Retreat for Teachers of Writing (all grades)*

March 10-11, 8am-4pm

David Korr

20 PDP's

This special program offers teachers an opportunity to explore and deepen their own engagement with writing while enjoying the company of colleagues. This program is open to inexperienced and seasoned writers alike - the only prerequisites are a love of language and a sense of humor.

### *Plant Pathology/ Plants That Feed the World*

March 13, 27; April 10, 24

3:30-5:30pm, 10 PDP's

UMass, Amherst, MA

Gail Schumann & Steve Herbert

The Plant Pathology meetings will focus on laboratory experiments that are easy to recreate in the classroom, using easy-to-collect outdoor plants and grocery store items. The presenter will lead participants in inquiry-based experiments on topics that will include bio-diversity, germ theory, and fungal biology, including Oomycetes (water molds), Ascomyces, basidiomycetes, plant pathology bacteria, and nematodes. The final two sessions will provide a look at the plants that feed the majority of the world. Discussion will center on the care, handling, and production of the most important food crops.

### *Measuring the Passage of Time*

March 18, 5-6:45pm

and May 23, 7-8:30pm

Participants will meet with Dr. Judith Young at the *UMass Amherst Sunwheel*

on the vernal equinox and summer solstice to explore how students can measure the passage of time using the celestial calendar.

### *Picture Exchange Communication System*

March 22, 23, 8:30am-4:30pm

Diane Black, M. Ed., and David F. Freschi, MS

13 PDP's, Holyoke, MA

PECS uses picture symbols to provide children with autism and other communication deficits with an effective and functional method of communication. This two-day workshop will provide participants with an understanding of PECS and its unique approach for promoting communication/ language ability.

### *Literacy Roadmap: Engaging Minds in the Middle (Gr. 6-8)*

March 26-27, 9am-3:30pm, 12 PDP's

Jan McLellan, HEC, Northampton

Improve student reading by teaching and using graphic organizers in all content areas. Learn to teach thinking skills in context and improve student comprehension and organization, while increasing student writing performance across all content areas.

### *Preparing Elementary Students for MCAS Composition*

March 30, and follow-up session

HEC, Northampton,

David Korr

8:30am-12pm (Day 1); 8:30am-

3:30pm (Day 2) Must attend first

session, chose second session:

4/4 Exploring and Practicing Uses of Group Writing

4/10 Designing Writing Assessments & Exercises

4/30 Responding to Students' Written Work

### *It's A Balancing Act! - Integrating Technology and Literacy for Students with Disabilities*

April 2, 8:30am-4pm

Dr. Caroline Ramsey Musselwhite  
Holyoke, MA

This workshop for parents, special and regular educators, and therapists will focus on interactive literacy learning for students with disabilities, including students who use augmentative and alternative communication. The focus will be on encouraging a delight in literacy through motivating, successful, student-centered activities.

**CENTER FOR THE ENHANCEMENT OF SCIENCE  
AND MATHEMATICS EDUCATION (CESAME)**

**617-373-8380**

**WWW.CESAME.NEU.EDU**

### *Everyday Mathematics Curriculum Trainer Institute*

June 24-28 at the University of Massachusetts in Dartmouth, MA.

The goal of the Institute and follow-up meetings is to develop leaders who will become part of the IMPACT network and part of the network of *Everyday Mathematics* trainers. Topics for the week include: training and materials for *Everyday Mathematics* presentations, workshop outlines for *Everyday Mathematics* units, implementation issues (materials support, professional development, assessment and community support).

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**MASSACHUSETTS AUDUBON SOCIETY**

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**413-584-3009**

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## *Natural History of Vernal Pools*

March 23, 7pm. Fee \$22, \$15 MAS members.

Information will be presented on the natural history of vernal pools, emphasizing the importance of vernal pool protection and steps that citizens can take to protect these important habitats. A citizen's step by step protection guide is included.

## *The Night for Salamanders*

When the weather forecast promises a night of warm rain, you will be notified. The group will meet at Arcadia at 6pm to carpool to several known salamander-breeding areas. This outing requires participants in good physical condition as the group will be walking over uneven terrain in the dark. Children over 10 are welcome when accompanied by an adult. Date to be determined by weather. Free - please register early as this program fills quickly.

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**WESTERN MASS WRITING PROJECT**

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**413-545-5466**

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**WWW.UNIX.OIT.UMASS.EDU/~CMORAN/  
WMWP**

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## *Writing and Response Groups*

Saturday mornings: Feb 3, Mar 10, Apr 7. UMass Bartlett Hall  
Open to all K-12 teachers in western Mass, these gatherings provide a supportive and creative atmosphere in which all levels of writers can revise with the help and advice of others. Free of charge.

## *Teachers as Writers Workshop*

Saturday, March 31, 9am-2pm. UMass Bartlett Hall

## *Teachers as Writers Retreat*

Thursday-Saturday, May 3-5. Jiminy Peak Resort Hancock. Come write with other teacher-writers. Work in small response groups in a relaxed environment. Open to all K-12 teachers in western Massachusetts. Fee.

## *New Teacher Seminars 2000-2001*

Thursday, March 8, April 5, May 10, 4-7pm. Smith Vocational and Agricultural High School, Northampton. A seminar series for new teachers in western Massachusetts. Registration limit: 50. Sponsored and funded by the Massachusetts Department of Education.

## *Student Publication Celebration*

June 12, 4-6pm. UMass, Campus Center Auditorium.  
A celebration of student writing published in WMWP student anthologies, the culmination of the Student Publication Program. Free of charge, but space is limited to participating students and teachers.

## *Invitational Summer Institute*

Monday-Thursday, July 9-27, 8:30am-4pm UMass-Amherst, Tobin Hall  
By application. A three-week program for area teachers on writing and the teaching of writing. Orientation Saturday, June 2, 9am-2pm. PDP's. Stipend \$600.

## *Invitational Summer Institute II (Worcester)*

Mon-Thursday, July 10-27, 8:30am-4pm, The ALL School, Worcester  
By application. A three-week program for area teachers on writing and the teaching of writing. Orientation Saturday, June 2, 9am-2pm. PDP's. Stipend \$600.

## *Teachers as Writers 4: Exploring Place*

July 23-27, UMass-Amherst, Tobin Hall. Led by Lucile Burt, the workshop will focus on teachers' writing, with writing-time, prompts, feedback, and time to share. 35 PDP's. Limit 20. Fee: \$99.

## *Technology for Teachers*

July 9-13, 9am-4pm. UMass-Amherst, Bartlett Hall. Led by Paul Oh, participants will learn to use Internet tools to enhance curriculum and preview commonly-used educational software. PDP's. Fee: \$99.

## *Best Practices in the Teaching of Writing (Worcester)*

Monday-Friday, July 9-13, 8:30am-3:30pm, The ALL School, Worcester  
This workshop will provide a supportive environment where teachers can expand their understanding of and work with the writing process, increase their repertoire of teaching strategies, and learn to see themselves as writers. PDP's. Fee \$99.

## *Writing Matters: Writing in the Science Classroom, Grades 4-9.*

August 20-22, 9am-12pm  
UMass-Amherst, Tobin Hall  
In this four-day workshop for upper elementary and middle school teachers, participants will learn strategies for integrating writing into their science classrooms. Teams of science and language arts teachers are encouraged. PDP's. Fee \$50; limit 30, first come, first served.

## *SummerWrite 2001*

Monday-Friday, July 9-20, 9am-12pm  
UMass-Amherst, Bartlett Hall  
A two-week summer writing camp for students in grades 5-12. Led by Mary-Ann Palmieri. Fee \$100.

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**STEM EDUCATION INSTITUTE SEMINAR**

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**545-2016**

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**[HTTP://K12S.PHAST.UMASS.EDU/STEM/](http://K12S.PHAST.UMASS.EDU/STEM/)**

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## *Stem Education Institute Seminar*

April 3, Josephine Ryan - Nursing Department, UMass

April 17, Steve Goodwin -

Microbiology Department, UMass

Light refreshments will be served at 3:45pm. Parking is available at the Campus Center Garage

## *Statistics for Whippersnappers*

Cliff Konold: Department of Scientific Reasoning Research Institute  
Tuesday May 1, UMass Hasbrouck Lab Room 138, 4pm.

Students are now getting measured doses of statistics. After reviewing recent efforts to take statistics into the schools, what we are learning from research about how younger students reason about data? Currently, we are applying this research to the design of data analysis software for the middle school. The software, Tinkerplots, comes with no ready-made graphs and allows students to begin organizing data without having to consider different data types or to think in terms of variables and without explicit knowledge of how we use dimensions to simultaneously represent different aspects of data.

## *What do women want in a math class?*

Jim Morrow: Department of Mathematics, Mt. Holyoke College  
Tuesday May 15, UMass Hasbrouck Lab Room 138, 4pm.

In this session, we will discuss the design of mathematics classes and projects for young women in high school. I will provide background information on the study, ala Women's

Ways of Knowing, and on my vision of constructivism, especially as it compares to the Socratic method and "discovery learning." Following the discussion of learning, we will discuss ways of assessing learning. Is there anything but the MCAS?

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**WGBY CENTER FOR INSTRUCTIONAL TECHNOLOGIES**

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**413-781-2801**

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**[CIT@EGBY.ORG](mailto:CIT@EGBY.ORG)**

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## *Geology and Technology: Paper Maps and Electronic Maps*

March 14, 3:30-5:30pm

Participants will learn how to use topo maps to find wetlands, streams, and other natural areas near their schools. We'll also delineate the shoreline of Glacial Lake Hitchcock, look for ancient deltas, sand dunes and oxbows and work with some curriculum materials that were developed using local topo sheets. \$10 (\$5 members). WebQuest Development

This will be a brief introduction to WebQuests, how teachers can create them based on the state standards and how students can use them in a school setting or at home. \$20 (\$10 members).

## *National Teacher Training Institute (NTTI) Williston Northampton School, Easthampton, MA.*

March 16, 8:30am-4pm.

K-12 master teachers share their lesson plans and strategies for using the Internet and instructional video together with hands-on activities in all subject areas. Lots of resources. A keynote speaker and lunch provided. \$50 (\$35 members). Registration limited to 120 teachers.

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**MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT**

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**413/584-6788****[HOLYOKE.RANGE@STATE.MA.US.](mailto:HOLYOKE.RANGE@STATE.MA.US)**

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## *Project Learning Tree*

Pre-Registration is required. Each 6-hour workshop costs \$15. For more information contact Gini Traub.

March 20-27, Tuesdays (a two-part workshop), 3:15-6:15pm. Holyoke Heritage State Park, 221

Appleton Street, Holyoke.

May 3,17; Thursdays (a two-part workshop), 3:15-6:30pm. Millers River Environmental Education Center, 100 Main Street, Athol.

## *Forest Ecology Basics and How to Lead a Field Trip to the Outdoors*

Thursday, April 19, 9am-3:30pm

From the ground up, we will examine slope, aspect rocks, soils, layers of plant life, herb, shrub, subcanopy and canopy, and animal sign. Emphasis is on observations, however, we will have sources of information to make identifications. Useful handouts will be available. We will discuss logistics of educationally sound, fun and safe field trips to outdoor settings. Geared toward grade 3-6 teachers. Pre-registration required. Enrollment is limited. A six-hour certificate of completion will be awarded and PDP's may be earned. Please call or email Gini Traub at Skinner State Park.

## *Parks as Classroom Workshop Series.*

Mondays, July 9 - August 20

The workshops will help educators become comfortable with field trips to the state parks, introduce subject areas that are well-suited to for study at the parks, such as forest ecology, land use management, tree measurement, pond life, water quality, and Massachusetts

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history, take you to some of the jewels of DEM's Connecticut River Valley parks where we will develop more specific programs that meet your individual needs.

*Schedule:*

July 9: Project Learning Tree Workshop, Notch Visitor Center at Holyoke Range State Park, Amherst.  
July 16: Forest Ecology Basics and How to Lead a Field Trip to an Outdoor Setting, Skinner State Park, Hadley  
July 23: Mt. Tom State Reservation, Holyoke  
July 30: Wendell State Forest, Wendell; Lake Wyola Recreation Area, Shutesbury  
August 6: Robinson State Park, Agawam *tentative location*  
August 13: Chicopee State Park, Chicopee *tentative location*  
August 20: JA Skinner State Park, Hadley; Mt. Holyoke Range State Park, Amherst  
For more information call Gini Traub.

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**NORTHFIELD MOUNTAIN**

**(800) 859-2960**

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*Teaching Children Outdoors.*

Saturday, March 31  
9am-12pm  
Experience tried-and-true environmental education activities that effectively focus and nurture children's innate interest in the natural world. With low or no cost activities, the workshop will address potential challenges of taking children outside, and the best ways to handle each. Led by Northfield Mountain's Environmental Educators, Beth Bazler and Kim Noyes, the registration is \$25 per person, and pre-registration is required.

*Summer Orienteering Teacher Workshop*

Thursday, August 23, 9am-4:30pm  
The sport of orienteering, known as the "Thinking Sport," primarily involves map reading and decision making. This active program includes instruction on the main skills of orienteering. We will then introduce methods of teaching. Participants will have the option to use these skills in the afternoon by experiencing an orienteering course. By the end of the day, participants will be prepared to teach a beginning orienteering unit. Participants will receive a 70-page Orienteering Curriculum Guide. Teachers will receive a certificate of completion. Fee: \$35 per person.

*Technology Education: Tools for Today's Classroom*

April 4 & May 9, HEC, Northampton, MA. Presenters: Bill Randolph and Dan Herlihy. 8:30am-3pm (Day 1), 3:30-5:30pm (Day 2), 10 PDP's  
This free, hands-on Tech Tools workshop will provide an overview of how to integrate technology into science curriculum in K-12 classrooms using the Technology Education Tech Kit. All of the devices in the Tech Kit are low-cost, easy to use, portable, and support the National Educational Technology Standards.

*Birds & Other Fowl Talk*

April 24,27, HEC, Northampton, MA and DAR State Forest, MA  
Bill Randolph, presenter. 4-6pm (Day 1); 9am-3pm (Day 2) 10 PDP's  
After an initial after school meeting at HEC covering "Bird Basics," participants will meet at DAR State Forest in Goshen for a bird walk at this and other sites to explore a variety of environments and to learn how to identify local species in their habitats.

Course topics will include bird physiology, diversity, habitats, and niche preferences. Audience: K-8 educators.

*Aries Physical & Earth Science Curriculum*

May 2 & 16, HEC, Northampton, Bill Randolph, presenter. 9am-3pm (Day 1); 3:30-5:30pm (Day 2), 10 PDP's

*Forest Ecology*

May 7,15, HEC, Northampton, TBA. Bill Randolph, presenter  
4-6pm (Day 1); 9am-3pm (Day 2)  
10 PDP's. New England forests have survived ice ages and repetitive deforestation from the early industrial revolution, yet they are flourishing. Learn tree and shrub identification basics and the different succession states found in mixed transitional forests, and search out the niches that plants and animals occupy in a variety of forest stands. Audience: K-8 educators.

*Geology of the Connecticut Valley*

May 19, June 2 & 9, GCC, Greenfield  
Richard Little, presenter  
10am-4pm, 25 PDP's

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**SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION PARTNERSHIP (STEP)**

**(413)559-5792**

**SBUCKLEY@HAMPSHIRE.EDU**

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*Girls' Day in the Lab*

Friday, April 20  
This annual spring event, initiated and developed by the Women in Science Program at Hampshire, offers a day-long series of workshops held in the Natural Science Laboratories, the Farm Center, and other outdoor locations for 150 middle school/junior high

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school girls. The program, run by Hampshire faculty and students, aims to stimulate the interest and participation of female students in science and math. Girls must register by mail before March 12. For information contact Sara Buckley at the number above.

## Conferences

**WEISMAN CENTER FOR LEADERSHIP**

**413-538-3066**

**WWW.MTHOLYOKE.EDU**

### *"In America" and work in progress.*

April 12, 7:30pm New York Room, Mary Woolley Hall  
Susan Sontag, essayist and novelist, will give a public reading of excerpts from her novel

**HERITAGE PROFESSIONAL EDUCATION**

**WWW.HERITAGETECH.COM**

**800-397-0180**

**SPRINGFIELD**

### *Behavior Disorders in Children and Adolescents*

Presenter James A. Fogarty, Ed.D.  
Springfield April 2  
Sheraton Springfield  
Attendees will learn practical and usable treatment methods, counseling techniques and school-based peer programs to assist with behavior problems. This seminar will help caring professionals understand the influences that have made childhood and adolescence so complex and confusing. Continuing education credit may be available. Registration required.

## Certification Programs & Courses

**UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS AMHERST**

**HONAN@EDUC,UMASS.EDU**

**413-545-2396.**

### *Perspectives in Children's Literature: 31st Annual Conference*

March 31, 8:30am-4:30pm, Isenberg School of Management, UMass Amherst, sponsored by the Integrated Day Program, School of Education. Noted children's book authors and illustrators presenting include Gail Carson Levine, Julius Lester, Barry Moser, Jane Yolen, and Anne Sibley O'Brien. Offering 10 PDPs and an optional 1 graduate credit. For registration information, call (413)545-1116 or 4325; email web site [www-unix.oit.umass.edu/~childlit](http://www-unix.oit.umass.edu/~childlit)

### *Preparation Workshops for the Massachusetts Educator Certification Test (MECT)*

Test dates for spring 2001 are April 7 and June 16 (registration deadlines are Feb. 23 and May 4). UMass is offering a series of workshops to prepare educators for the Communication and Literacy Skills (CLS) portion of the MECT. There is a choice of three kinds of workshops to suit different needs: A - two-hour Overview; B - eight-hour Skills Development Multi-Session (two hours a week for four weeks); C - Intensive six-hour Saturday workshops. Spring workshop dates are: Overview workshops: March 13, March 27, May 17, or June 6, 7-9:30pm- \$40. B - Skills Development Multi-Session Workshop, Thursdays March 8 to April 5, or June 5 to June 14, 7-9pm - \$120. C - Intensive six-hour Saturday workshop, March 17 or

March 31, May 19 or June 9, 9am-4pm, \$120. Advance registration is encouraged. To register, call (413)545-2701 during office hours (9am-12pm; 1:30-5pm).

### *Leadership Institute in Social Justice,*

*Understanding Racism in the International Context - An Institute Focusing on the United Nations World Conference Against Racism.*  
3 days at UMass Amherst (Aug.20-22); 10 days at the UN World Conference Against Racism in Durban, South Africa (Aug. 30-Sep. 8). 3 graduate credits. Lead by Prof. Barbara J. Love. For pre-service and in-service teachers, school counselors and psychologists, and school administrators. Participants will attend the conference sessions, special seminars at the University of Natal at Durban, and field trips to a township and other places of interest. Transportation & housing arranged by the Institute.

### *Leadership Institute in School Psychology*

Contemporary Issues in Assessment and Intervention for Achievement and Behavior Problems. June 25-29. Presented by Professors Gary Stoner, John M. Hintze, and William J. Matthews, this week-long institute at the UMass-Amherst offers 3 graduate credits. Join colleagues in school psychology, special education and general education for an exciting opportunity to learn state-of-the-art theory and best practices. A broad range of new material will be presented this year, and last years' participants are cordially welcomed. Social gatherings planned to encourage relaxed exchange of ideas include an outing on the Connecticut River and a dinner with live music (schedules permitting!). Teams of psychologists

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and educators from one school or school district are encouraged, and receive a discounted registration. Living accommodations are available on campus.

## *History Institutes*

For teachers seeking to deepen their understanding of working with primary sources and connecting them to the Mass. Frameworks. Historic methodology and current pedagogy will be combined in these intensive institutes. *American Conversations (HIST 596A)* is offered July 9 through 13. *Medieval Civilizations (HIST 596B)* is offered July 16 through 20. *Colonialism - the African Experience (HIST 596C)* is offered July 9 through 13. Each course offers 4 graduate credits. For more information, call (413)545-9695 or (413)545-2396, or [www.umass.edu/contined](http://www.umass.edu/contined).

## *New Summer Fall Certification Program in Math and Science*

Juniors, seniors, and Post-BA/BS students are invited to consider this intensive program leading to certification in secondary math and science. This program offers students intensive summer course work combined with a pre-student teaching experience in local schools, and a fall internship teaching in area schools. Applications received after March 1, will be considered on a space-available basis. For more information, contact the Secondary Teacher Education Program (STEP) at (413)-545-4397 .

## *Post Baccalaureate Teacher Certification*

This program offers experienced, nontraditional students who already have a bachelor's degree in the liberal arts or sciences, an opportunity to

become certified to teach in Massachusetts. Admission is available in a wide range of fields. Information and application available from the School of Education at (413)545-2701, or from the Secondary Teacher Education Program (STEP) Advising Office at (413)545-4397.

## *Integrated Day Program*

Master of Education/Certification of Advanced Graduate Study (CAGS) For Inservice teachers in the Holyoke/South Hadley/Chicopee/West Springfield/Springfield area, this program offers courses in South Hadley and Holyoke, and leads to either a Master's degree or C.A.G.S. Certificate. Courses offered may include: Cooperative Learning, Integrating Curriculum, Brain-based Curriculum, Issues in Children's Literature, and Mentoring. For information, contact Marsha K. Rudman at (413)545-1116 or [rudman@educ.umass.edu](mailto:rudman@educ.umass.edu).

## *180 Days in Springfield Project Master of Education*

The 180 Days in Springfield Project is a site-based, collaborative teacher education program between the Springfield Public Schools and the University of Massachusetts Amherst, for graduating college seniors and college graduates with baccalaureate degrees. The program provides a year-long educational experience for new teachers in a diverse, urban school environment, and leads to a Master of Education degree and Massachusetts Provisional certification (reciprocal in 34 states). For information, contact the 180 Days Project at (413)545-1574 or [p180days@educ.umass.edu](mailto:p180days@educ.umass.edu).

## *Master of Education for Science Teachers*

This program is offered to elementary and middle school teachers in the Springfield Public Schools, with classes held in Springfield. The program enhances knowledge of science teaching methods as well as science content knowledge, and prepares middle school teachers for certification as science teachers. For information, contact Professor Kathleen S. Davis, Program Coordinator, at (413)577-2317 or [kdavis@educ.umass.edu](mailto:kdavis@educ.umass.edu).

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### **MEAD ART MUSEUM, AT AMHERST COLLEGE**

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**(413)542-2551**

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## *Offering 3 age-appropriate school tours:*

"Building Blocks of Art" grades PreK- 3; "People to People" grades 4-8; "Landscape and Literature" grades 9-12. Tours are offered Tuesday through Friday mornings at 10 am. The museum can accommodate two tour groups of 15 students each. Tours are led by trained Amherst College students who are part of the docent program.

## *"Teaching from the Source: Incorporating Mead Art Museum in Your Curricula."*

March 29 from 4-6pm, Mead Art Museum. A workshop to learn about our permanent American galleries from Interim Curator of American Art, Martha Hoppin, preview school tours, and discover how to bring art education into your classroom. Includes classroom activities for before and after museum visits, and a small reception following the workshop. Limited to 40 participants.

# STEM

## 15 YEARS OF CONNECTING TEACHERS TO THE WORLD

By Mort and Helen Sternheim

*Editors Note: Mort and Helen Sternheim recently received Pathfinder Awards from MassCue for their leadership in planning and integrating the use of technologies in education. Here they reflect on the building of UMass K12.*

May 1, 2001 marks the fifteenth birthday of UMassK12 and its predecessors. Originally a PC based electronic bulletin board system (BBS) called the Physics Forum, it is now an Internet service for teachers and students. It is the oldest such service in Massachusetts, and one of the oldest in the nation.

We designed the original Physics Forum to meet the needs of physics teachers; the idea was to link them to each other and to the resources of the University. Being a bit naïve, we were surprised when nobody showed any interest. Teachers didn't have modems, or telephones in school, or computers, and didn't see why they would want to get online anyway. At the urging of Mary Alice Wilson, then the Coordinator of the Five Colleges/Public School Partnership, we broadened our vision to include all teachers. We did presentations, offered training sessions, and wrote articles.

The bulletin board led to helping teachers improve their science teaching with National Science Foundation funded projects. In 1989, SpaceMet enabled middle school teachers to make science more engaging using space science and exploration, and, of course, telecommunications. It also funded the expansion of the bulletin boards and Angus "Terry" Dun, a computer technology teacher at Franklin County Tech, joined us as Technical Director. 5C5E followed in 1992, showing teachers how to do environmental research with their students.

In May 1993, we launched UMassK12, offering Internet accounts to all Massachusetts teachers and their students. Again we were a bit naïve, but we were surprised in a different way: we were inundated by a flood of eager users. Close to 10,000 accounts were issued overall. Ultimately the system was overwhelmed.

Funding became a problem as the NSF grants ended. Reluctantly, we began to charge for accounts. This gave us the resources to expand our services to meet the demand. Subsequently, as other commercial and educational Internet options appeared, our user base diminished. However, despite the free or almost free accounts now available to public school teachers, we retain a core of users who appreciate our service.

Soon after the text-based UMassK12 went online, the World Wide Web made its appearance, and our users clamored for access to its resources. By late 1995 we offered both the new UMassK12s and the older system, which needed less advanced hardware.

As Y2K approached, we learned that our DEC workstation's operating system and our FreePort software were both non-compliant. With the help of talented high school programmers at Franklin County Tech, users were transferred to a new system, and we waited with curiosity to learn what would happen to the old one at midnight on December 31. One more surprise: nothing happened. It was running just fine when we pulled the plug in March.

At this time, our Internet servers can be reached via modem pools in Amherst, Franklin County, and Holyoke. We operate a website open to everyone with many pointers to educational resources, <http://k12s.phast.umass.edu>. We offer low cost accounts to anyone involved in K12 education. Account application forms are available on the website.

## Resources

### Center of Latin American and Caribbean Studies at University of Connecticut.

We have a large on-line library, and lend materials to teachers for free on Latin America and the Caribbean.  
[www.edoutreach.org](http://www.edoutreach.org)

"Building Big" helps kids think about structures they see every day and the impact of technology on society. The website includes animated interactive labs on engineering concepts and problem solving activities; historical overviews that introduce bridges, domes, skyscrapers, dams, and tunnels, and the forces that affect them; and a database of engineering marvels. <http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/buildingbig/>

### Aerospace Technology Programs

Offers aerospace-related products and programs that help connect students and teachers to aeronautics and space flight.  
[www.centennialofflight.gov/](http://www.centennialofflight.gov/)

The world's most powerful X-ray observatory, Chandra joins the Hubble Space Telescope and NASA's other observatories in a study of our universe, providing insights into the universe's structure and evolution. Visitors can track Chandra in orbit, watch live images from NASA-TV, and learn more about prior shuttle launch preparations. <http://chandra.nasa.gov/>

### Engineering Technology Programs

The website offers resources such as online instructional materials tied to NASA missions, movies, aeronautics projects, and the Remote Sensing Public Access Center, which makes space instrumentation data available to the public. (NASA) <http://learn.arc.nasa.gov/>

"Who Really Built America" is a long-term student-driven project that examines primary source materials related to child labor in America from 1880-1920. The unit helps students see the role of labor in our emerging industrial society and its effect on American children. <http://lcweb2.loc.gov/ammem/ndlpedu/lessons/98/built/index.html>

# Western Mass Writing Project

WMWP is sponsoring a number of programs this spring: a workshop for vocational-school teachers, a seminar series for new teachers, a student publication program, a Teachers as Writers retreat in Hancock, and a new Saturday workshop for teachers as writers. WMWP teacher-consultants are engaged in a number of school-based workshops in Chicopee, East Longmeadow, Warren, and Holyoke. Tina Browne, working with Laurie Risler at the Jones Library in Amherst, has been leading a series of student writers' workshops.

This summer, WMWP hosts its three-week Invitational Summer Institute, a week-long program in Teaching With Technology led by Paul Oh, a three-day program for science teachers grades 6-9 led by Jack Czajkowski, Jeff Kenney, Cynthia LeBlanc, and Mary Moore, and a week-long "Teachers as Writers" workshop led by Lucile Burt. A three-day summer program for teachers of English Language Learners, led by Karen Sumaryono and Wilma Ortiz is in its planning stages. In addition, WMWP is sponsoring a three-week Invitational Summer Institute in Worcester, led by Bruce Penniman, Jennifer Traverso, and Jim McDermott. Also in Worcester, Lynn Leschke and Suzanne Rubenstein are leading a one-week workshop titled "Best Practices in the Teaching of Writing."

And, if everything breaks right, WMWP will host teachers from Cape Town, South Africa, at the Amherst-based Institute, and it seems at least possible, as we go to press, that Diana Callahan and perhaps one other WMWP teacher-consultant will travel to the University of Cape Town to work with their faculty in designing an in-service program for writing teachers.

We list times, dates, stipends and costs of our programs in the calendar.

This information is available at our web site: <http://www-unix.oit.umass.edu/~cmoran/wmwp>.

Please come and work with us—join the community of teachers that have become so active in western Massachusetts.

## *Resources Cont'd*

### **Free Subscription To TechDirections**

TechDirections at <http://www.techdirections.com>

### **Texas Elementary Technology Education Lesson Plans**

Examples of design briefs or lesson plans that promote the study of Technology in grades K-5. [www.texastechnology.com](http://www.texastechnology.com)

**The New York State Department of Education** has an 8th Grade Technology Assessment that all students take. This can be previewed online at <http://www.emsc.nysed.gov/cia/mst/techedtest/online.html>

**National Aeronautics and Space Administration's (NASA's)** planned mission to Mars, visit this page from the Jet Propulsion Laboratories—scheduled to launch on April 7, 2001: <http://mars.jpl.nasa.gov/2001/>

### **US Holocaust Memorial Museum (USHMM) Learning Center**

<http://wlc.ushmm.org>

The site offers a very impressive collection of resources, including short articles, artifact images, video clips, maps, chronologies, and photos. These are organized by topic, such as anti-Semitism, "Final Solution," America and the Holocaust, Jewish Resistance, and Forced Labor, among others. A keyword search engine is also provided.

### **Telecommunications Technologies Education Guide**

Published by the New England Board of Higher Education and the Northeast Center for Telecommunications Technologies, this guide offers a comprehensive survey of secondary and post-secondary telecommunications-related programs and contacts in New England and New York. Includes a resource section with a Curricula-At-A-Glance part. Cost of the guide is \$14.95, which includes shipping. To preview the guide, visit [www.nctt.org](http://www.nctt.org). To order, contact the NCTT at (800)-421-9556.

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