

THE CHALLENGER



Upcoming Events

McNair Senior Retreat is September 25-27, 2009, at the Abbey Resort in Fontana, Wisconsin. This event is designed to jump start McNair students in preparing their graduate school application materials. In addition, students will receive hands-on assistance with preparing their personal statements and letters of recommendation.

McNair Birthday Breakfast Celebration is set for Wednesday, October 14 on the 4th Floor of Marquette Hall beginning at 9 until 11am. Be sure to wear your McNair shirt. Ronald E. McNair was born on October 21 in Lake City, South Carolina.

18th Annual National McNair Research Conference and Graduate Fair is set for Friday, November 6 to Sunday, November 8 at Lake Lawn Resort in Delavan, Wisconsin. Workshops, panel discussions and activities will introduce McNair scholars to the nature of graduate study as well as provide helpful tips and suggestions for writing an effective graduate admissions essay.

Interested in becoming a McNair Scholar? Attend the McNair Program Overview on November 10 to learn more about the application process. Contact the McNair Office for more information.

MCNAIR STUDENTS TO PRESENT AT 19TH ANNUAL MCNAIR SYMPOSIUM

Eighteen undergraduate students participating in this summer's Ronald E. McNair Program presented their research at the 19th Annual Undergraduate Research Symposium held on July 22-23.

Poster presentations took place on Wednesday, July 22 in the Alumni Memorial Union and oral presentations on Thursday, July 23 in Cudahy Hall. The event was followed by a reception for presenters, mentors and guests.

On Friday, July 24, as part of the MU's Ethnic Alumni Association Reunion Weekend, the scholars were introduced at the Reunion Dinner by EOP founder Dr. Arnold Mitchem as the "professors of tomorrow."

"When Dr. Mitchem named the McNair program and scholars in his speech my first reaction was surprise" responded Carla De La Cruz. "The next emotion I felt was pride. I was proud of being part of such a wonderful family. I felt connected not only to my fellow McNair scholars but also to all the generations of EOP graduates."

"It was an honor to be recognized" said Tommy Dang.



Ronald E. McNair Scholars, Summer 2009. Left to Right - Tommy Dang, Tasha Hefter, Angela Armstrong, Claudia Rodriguez, Bernard Rahming, Monai Myles, James Bell, Ewune Ewane, Shona Hang, Dianne Jackson, Jennifer Cossyleon, Milijana Buac, Desiree Valentine, Christopher Powell, Karen Martinez, Luisa Campos, Carla De La Cruz (not pictured Francisco Bravo).

MU MCNAIR SUMMER 2009 RESEARCH

Assessing the Policies and Practices of Nurses Regarding Pain Management in Patients with a Suspected or Confirmed History of Addiction

By Angela M. Armstrong (Dr. Margaret Callahan), College of Nursing

The Significance of the Exodus Story on the African American Experience Past, Present, and Future

By James B. Bell (Dr. John Schmitt), Theology

A Critical Analysis of Post 9/11 Labor Policy and Their Ethical Implications on the Undocumented Mexican Population in Milwaukee, Wisconsin

By Francisco C. Bravo (Dr. Laura Matthew), History

Bilingual Speech-Language Pathology: Should All Graduate Students be Required to have Multicultural/bilingual Exposure Prior to Practicing?

By Milijana Buac (Ms. Kathleen Erdman), Speech Pathology and Audiology

Affinity of Phosphate-Containing Denture Base Materials to Bind Salivary Antimicrobial Peptides

By Luisa N. Campos (Dr. Andrew Dentino), School of Dentistry

Collateral Consequences for Female Felony Offenders in the US

By Jennifer E. Cossyleon (Dr. Heather Hlavka), Criminology and Law Studies

Glutamic Acid Decarboxylase Distribution in the Brain Stem Region

By Tommy Q. Dang (Dr. William Cullinan), Biomedical Sciences

Interaction of Fibrin(ogen) and Factor XIII: Movement of Factor XIII Through Clots

By Carla De la Cruz (Dr. Kevin R. Siebenlist), Biomedical Sciences

The Intersection of Personal Ideology and Self Narrative in President Barack Obama: A Presentation of the Psychological Study of Presidential Personalities

By Ewune Ewane (Dr. Ed de St. Aubin), Psychology

Preliminary Study of the Potential Role of Beta Adrenergic Receptor Subtypes in Stress-Induced Reinstatement of Cocaine Seeking in Male Mice

By Shona C. Hang (Dr. John Mantsch), Biomedical Sciences

Extracellular Matrix Assembly: Focus on the Drosophila Eggshell Protein sV17

By Tasha L. Hefter (Dr. Gail Waring), Biological Sciences

The Hidden Curriculum: How Practices, Policies and Pedagogies Affect African American Children in Urban Education

By Dianne R. Jackson (Dr. Terry Burant), College of Education

Attitudes Toward Affirmative Action: Is it Related to Racism?

By Karen N. Martinez Pagan (Dr. Cheryl Maranto), Management

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MU McNair Scholars at the National Conference on Undergraduate Research held at UW-La Crosse in April 2009. Seated are Milijana Buac, Catherine Curley, and Lauren Gilbert. Back row - Reema Ahmad, Theo Braden, Ben Juarez, James Bell, Janice Blades, Jennifer Cossyleon, and Desiree Valentine.

Six MU McNair Scholars presented their research at the Berkeley McNair Conference in August. The presenters were (clockwise) Bernard Rahming, Francisco Bravo, Breone Sanders, Milijana Buac, Shona Hang and Monai Myles.



MCNAIR SUMMER RESEARCH CONTINUED

Reducing Sexual Violence: The Empowerment of Congolese Women through Peace Building

By Monai Myles, (Dr. Lawrence LeBlanc), Political Science

Death in the Cellblocks: A Study of Inmate Mortality in Jail and Lockup Custody- Part II

By Christopher Powell (Dr. Richard Zevitz), Criminology and Law Studies

Impact of Ovarian Hormones and Chronic Stress on Anxiety

By Bernard J. V. Rahming II (Dr. Matthew Sanders), Psychology

The Role of OCT3 in Corticosterone-induced Increases in Serotonin in the Ependymal Cells of the Dorsomedial Hypothalamus

By Claudia Rodriguez (Dr. Paul Gasser), Biomedical Sciences

What is Possible?: An Exploration of Liberatory Oppression Theory Through the Works of Maria Lugones and Judith Butler

By Desiree F. Valentine (Dr. Michael Monahan), Philosophy

SCHOLARS ON THE MOVE

Breone Sanders participated in the Summer Undergraduate Research Program at the University of California-Irvine this summer. Her research, *The Political Aims of Black Lesbian Independent Film*, was presented at the Berkeley McNair Conference in August.

Jennifer Rorex participated in the MU Biological Sciences Summer Undergraduate Research Program this summer. She presented her research at the Annual Poster Session, held on July 30. Her research was entitled *Her mentor was Dr. Paul Blumenthal.*

Desiree Valentine published "Visualizing a Critical Mixed Race Theory" featured in *Stance: An International Undergraduate Journal*, Volume 2 (Spring 2009); published "Removing the (color) Blinders: Seeing Race as a Transformative Concept" featured in *Eudaimonia*, the Georgetown Philosophical Review.

Jennifer Cossyleon was selected to participate in the Congressional Black Caucus Political Education and Leadership Institute (CBC Institute) political training program "Boot Camp '09".

Phillip Gayle was featured in *Pathways to a Life that Counts: A Mission Guidebook for the Marquette University Class of 2013* (Krueger and Kuehl, 2009).

McNair Scholars Program

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*"Preparing Students for
Graduate School"*

The McNair Scholars Program is an Educational Opportunity Program at Marquette University. Funding for the program is provided through a grant from the United States Department of Education.



McNair Scholars, mentors, and staff take a moment between bites to pose at the 4th Annual McNair Brewer Tailgate.

MCNAIR ALUMNI DEGREE UPDATE

Bachelor Degrees

Reema Y. Ahmad, Bachelor of Arts, College of Arts and Sciences
Walter T. Bond, Bachelor of Arts, College of Arts and Sciences
Jermaine A. Buckner, Bachelor of Science, College of Business Administration
Anabel Carrillo, Bachelor of Arts, College of Arts and Sciences
Catherine E. Curley, Bachelor of Science, College of Health Sciences
Lauren R. Gilbert, Bachelor of Science, College of Health Sciences
Benjamin I. Juarez, Bachelor of Arts, College of Arts and Sciences
Kyiet T. Lewis, Bachelor of Arts, College of Arts and Sciences
Vincent J. Stevenson, Jr., Bachelor of Arts, College of Arts and Sciences

Master Degrees

Dennis Griffin, M.Ed., Alverno College
Veronica Leshok, M.Ed., Loyola University

Professional Degrees

Latosha Harper, DPT, Concordia University
Dominic Lai, PharmD, University of Minnesota