

THE CHALLENGER



Upcoming Events

McNair Senior Retreat is September 24-26, 2010, 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 preparing their personal statements and letters of recommendation.

McNair Birthday Breakfast Celebration is set for Wednesday, October 20 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.

19th Annual National McNair Research Conference and Graduate Fair is set for Friday, November 5 to Sunday, November 7 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.

SCHOLARS PRESENT RESEARCH AT 20TH ANNUAL MCNAIR SYMPOSIUM

Twenty-two undergraduate students participating in this summer's Ronald E. McNair Program presented their research at the 20th Annual Undergraduate Research Symposium held July 28-29.

The event kicked off with poster presentations on Wednesday, July 28 in the Alumni Memorial Union. Students displayed their research and were on hand to discuss their projects with the MU campus community.

On Thursday, the Opening Luncheon was to feature MU McNair alum Dr. Lee Trepanier, Associate Professor of Political Science at Saginaw Valley State University. However, due to a canceled flight, he was unable to attend. "I wish I was there to speak about the academic life and profession, and encourage you all to pursue it", he wrote in a statement read at the luncheon by McNair Director Eddie Guzman. "Being a professor is not simply a profession but a vocation that stays with you for your entire life: you are able to pursue things that interest you, work according to a schedule that suits your lifestyle, and have some of the smartest people be your colleagues in the workplace.

"But more importantly" his statement continued, "it is an opportunity for you not only to shape the minds of the next generation, but become a mentor to them, especially those who are underrepresented in the university. It is a way to make a contribution to society that has that personal touch and has a lasting influence on young people."



MU McNair Scholars who presented at the 20th Annual Ronald E. McNair Undergraduate Research Symposium. Left to Right/First Row - Vincent Dang, Monai Myles, Maly Lor, Angela Melchor, Simone Smith, Leticia Galindo, Domonique Miller, Affnan Mohammad, and Alexandra Villalaz. Second Row - Francisco Nava, Christopher Powell, Vladimir Bjelic, Geysa Gonzalez, Maurice Sharpe, Ewune Ewane, Ivy Awino, Eduardo De La Cruz, Gabrielle Gray, LaTasha Ellis, and Valencia Lynch (Not pictured—Ashley Bakre).

MU MCNAIR SUMMER 2010 RESEARCH

Why Women Can't Jump: A Trend Analysis of Women Executives in the National Basketball Association from 2003-2010

Ivy Awino (Ms. Sheena Carey), Communication Studies

An Animal Model of Anxiety Disorder: Effects of Chronic Variable Stress on Fear

Ashley L. Bakre (Dr. Matthew Sanders), Psychology

Systematic Analysis of Research Pertaining to Parent Speaking Rate and its Effect on Child Stuttering

Vladimir Bjelic (Ms. Katherine Brueck), Speech Pathology and Audiology

The Institutional and Public Presidency: The Scope of Presidential Influence on Civil Rights Policy from Eisenhower to Nixon

Jaimee L. Crape (Dr. Julia Azari), Political Science

Data Analysis of Amputee Gait Analysis

Vincent Dang (Dr. Barbara Silver-Thorn), Biomedical Engineering

A Comparison of First vs. Second Generation Antipsychotic Drugs for the Treatment of Chronic Schizophrenia: Effectiveness and Preference

Eduardo De La Cruz (Dr. M. Behnam Ghasemzadeh), Biomedical Sciences

The Co-Occurrence of Mental Health Symptoms in Adolescents with Type 1 Diabetes and Their Parents

LaTasha P. Ellis (Dr. Astrida Kaugars), Psychology

The Identity Formation of First Generation African Americans: An Analysis of Biculturalism

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

Discrimination and Depression Among Midwest Latinos: Internal and External Coping Resources

Leticia Galindo (Dr. Lucas Torres), Psychology

Development in the Post-Colonial Era: The Cases of Cuba, Dominican Republic and Puerto Rico

Geysa P. Gonzalez (Dr. Michael Fleet), Political Science

Racial Differences Among Class and Education in Brazil: The Role that Racial Classification Plays on Mobility and Educational Equality

Gabrielle L. Gray (Dr. Michael Fleet), Political Science

Charges Associated with Non-Traumatic Dental Condition Visits to Emergency Departments for Wisconsin Medicaid Enrolled Children

Maly Lor (Dr. Christopher Okunseri), School of Dentistry

Constant Tension: Indigenous Identity in Latin America and the Relationship with Western Concepts of Modernity

Valencia D. Lynch (Dr. Michael Monahan), Philosophy

Exploration of Hospital Discharge Instruction Comprehension by Spanish-Speaking Clients Attending a Community Clinic at First Post-Hospitalization Visit

Angela Melchor (Dr. Ruth Ann Belknap), Nursing

And the Academy Award Goes to... New and Old Generation Black Stereotypes: Backhanded Compliments and their Implications for Blacks

Domonique S. Miller (Dr. Ana C. Garner), Journalism

Comparing the Effectiveness of American and British Arab Lobby Groups

Affnan M. Mohammad (Dr. McGee Young), Political Science



Karen Martinez-Pagan and Phillip Gayle visited the Great Wall of China last March as part of an MU Study Abroad Program.

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McNair Scholars attending the National Conference on Undergraduate Research at the University of Montana in April, 2010. Attending were (l-r) front row—Christopher Powell, Jennifer Cossyleon, Karen Martinez-Pagan, Milijana Buac, and Tasha Hefter. Back row—Luisa Campos and Shona Hang.



McNair Summer Research Continued

Sino-African Relations: An Assessment of Influence and Dependency

Monai Myles (Dr. Julia Azari), Political Science

Localization of Dorsal in drop-dead (*drdX1*) embryos of *Drosophila*

Francisco R. Nava (Dr. Edward Blumenthal), Biological Sciences

Hate Crime in Wisconsin: An Analysis of Bias-Motivated Crimes in Wisconsin from 1991-2008

Christopher E. Powell (Dr. Olga Semukhina), Criminology and Law Studies

Organic Dyes: Researching a Viable Replacement for Other Forms of Energy

Maurice A. Sharpe, Jr. (Dr. Rajendra Rathore), Chemistry

The Enslaved Woman and the Video Model: Parallels of Subordination and Commodification

Simone Smith (Dr. Kristen Foster), History

Neuroanatomical Origins of Glutamatergic Input to the Hypothalamic Paraventricular Nucleus: Mapping Neurons Dual-Labeled For Retrograde Tracer and VGLUT3 mRNA

Alexandra C. Villalaz (Dr. William Cullinan and Dr. Dana Ziegler), Biomedical Sciences

SCHOLARS ON THE MOVE

Milijana Buac has been accepted to a MS/PhD. program in Communicative Disorders at the University of Wisconsin-Madison; received a National Institutes of Health (NIH) Research Diversity Supplement.

Jennifer Cossyleon received a meritorious conduct award from the Milwaukee Police Department in June, 2010 for her work with the MPD Cold Case Unit; has been accepted to a Sociology Ph.D. program at Loyola University-Chicago, where she was awarded a full tuition scholarship and a graduate assistantship.

Luisa Campos has been accepted to the School of Dentistry at Marquette University.

Carla De La Cruz has been accepted to medical school at John Hopkins University in Baltimore, Maryland.

Tommy Dang has been accepted to the graduate program of Biomedical Sciences at Northwestern University in Downers Grove, IL.

Claudia Rodriguez has been accepted to the Master of Science in Nursing Program at Marquette University.

Valencia Lynch and **Desiree Valentine** attended the Caribbean Philosophical Association Conference in Cartagena, Columbia during August 11-14.

Leticia Galindo has been accepted to present a poster at the National Psychology Association Conference in San Antonio, Texas in November.

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 enjoy a "Taste" after visiting Chicago area graduate schools.

MCNAIR ALUMNI DEGREE UPDATE

Bachelor Degrees

Angela Armstrong, Bachelor of Science in Nursing, College of Nursing
James Bell, Bachelor of Arts, College of Communication
Milijana Buac, Bachelor of Science, College of Health Science
Jennifer Cossyleon, Bachelor of Arts, College of Arts and Sciences
Tommy Dang, Bachelor of Science, College of Health Sciences
Carla De La Cruz, Bachelor of Science, College of Health Sciences
Phillip Gayle, Bachelor of Science, College of Business Administration
Dasmond McMillan, Bachelor of Arts, College of Communication
Claudia Rodriguez, Bachelor of Science, College of Biomedical Sciences
Jennifer Rorex, Bachelor of Science, College of Arts and Sciences
Desiree Valentine, Honors Bachelor of Arts, College of Arts and Sciences

Master Degrees

Joanna Brooks, Marquette University
Ryan McCabe, University of Delaware
Virginia Lee, University of Wisconsin
Diep Tran, American University

Other Professional Degrees

Anique Ruiz, J.D., Marquette University
Syvil Shelbourne, J.D., Marquette University