

THE McNAIR SCHOLAR

Volume 11, Issue 2

TRUMAN STATE UNIVERSITY

Spring 2010

Graduate School Visits and McNair Conference



George Washington University Visit

Twelve McNair Scholars, accompanied by Program Director Dr. Sylvia Macauley and Program Coordinator Sarah Hass, traveled to the Washington, D.C. area over spring break to visit graduate schools and to attend a McNair research conference at the University of Maryland in College Park, MD. The Scholars visited George Washington University, Howard University, and the University of Maryland at College Park during the first half of Spring Break. At each prospective graduate institution, Scholars met individually with a faculty member in their intended area of study, talked to graduate admissions personnel about funding opportunities, and went on a campus tour led by a current graduate student.



Howard University Visit

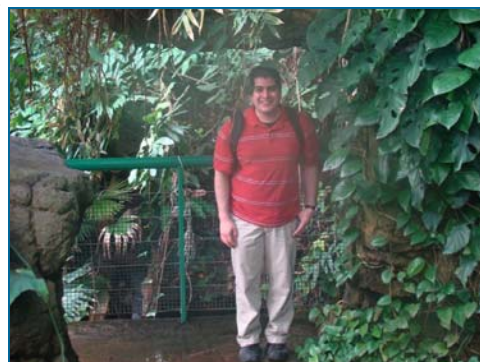
The trip included a visit to the National Mall in Washington, DC, the White House, the World War II and Vietnam War Memorials, the Lincoln Memorial, and the Washington Monument. Scholars also toured the Smithsonian Museums of American History and Natural History, and were present when First Lady Michelle Obama's Inaugural Gown was unveiled as part of the "A First Lady's Debut" exhibit on March 10, 2010.



Maryland McNair Conference Dinner

Front Row: Jorge Camarillo, Danielle Henry, Katherine Tolle, Sean Orth, and Alyse Jenkins. **Middle Row:** Chermain Jennings, Emmanuel Camarillo, Hailey Feldhaus, and Joseph Dove. **Back Row:** Sherrie Fortson, Max Glenn, and Phillip Davis.

During the second half of the week, Scholars attended the 11th Annual National Conference for McNair Scholars and Undergraduate Research at the University of Maryland at College Park. Senior Scholar Phillip Davis gave a poster presentation during the conference. In addition to the research presentations, Scholars attended a graduate school fair, presentations by graduate students and graduate school deans explaining graduate school admissions procedures, strategies for securing funding, and what to expect as a graduate student. The conference concluded with an excursion to the Baltimore Inner Harbor on Saturday, March 13.



Emmanuel Camarillo, junior Agricultural Science major, at the Smithsonian National Zoo

Research and Scholarly Activities

Professional Meetings and Conferences

Chermain Jennings attended the Annual Meeting of the Midwest Sociological Society in Chicago, IL from March 31-April 3, 2010, along with her mentor, Dr. Elaine McDuff.



Brooke Ratterree and Leia Wilson presented their research at the Popular Culture Association/American Culture Association Conference in St. Louis, MO from March 31-April 3, 2010. Brooke's paper is entitled: "Philip Trager and Ralph Lemon's *Persephone*: Performing the Dialectic of Power Relations" and Leia's is: "Designing for Queer(ability): Writing On Walls".



Jeremy Mapp will be presenting his research, "Factors that Influence Retention of Black Male Educators", at the 24th National Conference on Undergraduate Research (NCUR) at the University of Montana from April 15-17, 2010.

Seminars

Since their acceptance into the program in January, the 2010 cohort of Scholars have attended seminars on minimizing undergraduate loan debt, building good credit, the Myers-Briggs Type Indicator Assessment, study abroad possibilities, effective studying skills and classroom engagement, and how the decisions students make at the undergraduate level affect their access to graduate education. A special thank you to the Truman staff who served as seminar presenters: Ms. Kathy Elsea, Ms. Lesa Kerlin, Ms. Rosa Mendez, Mr. Todd Phillips, and Ms. Bertha Thomas.



Discipline-Specific Experiences

Katherine Tolle, a junior Spanish and English major, returned in January after a semester studying abroad in Argentina where she lived with a family in the city of Cordoba. She took classes on South



American history, politics, culture, tango, and literature and traveled throughout the country and neighboring Uruguay. When asked about her study abroad experience, she said, "You also learn so much about yourself when you have the experience of living in another country. It challenges you every single day, and makes you realize who you are as a person and what you value. It also teaches you to be flexible and to accept others for who they are. Argentina is such a passionate country with an overwhelming spirit. I know that the experiences I had while living there have changed me for the better."



Amanda Wiggins, senior music major, sang pieces by Mozart, Wolf, Faure, and Puccini and a duet by Jason Robert Brown in her senior voice recital as part of the requirement to receive a BA in Music at Truman State

University. Amanda is from the vocal studio of Dr. Thomas Hueber and will be enrolled in graduate school this fall.

Summer Research

Ten Scholars will participate in either Truman's 2010 McNair Summer Research Internship (SRI) or an external summer research opportunity program through the CIC and Leadership Alliance. Truman's McNair SRI is a ten-week internship in which students conduct original research, under the guidance of their faculty research supervisor, that culminates in several public presentations of their findings. At the end of the SRI, Scholars have the opportunity to submit their paper to be considered for publication in the *McNair Scholarly Review*.

* * * * *

Eight Scholars will be participating in Truman's 2010 McNair Pre-Research Internship from May 10-28, 2010. In addition to attending faculty-led workshops on research design and professional writing, the Scholars will also travel to Washington University to utilize the resources at Olin Library and meet with graduate school admissions personnel. At the end of the internship, each Scholar will submit an original research proposal, which they will present in a public forum.

International Leadership Training Program

Congratulations to Max Glenn and Brooke Ratterree who were selected to participate in the Council for Opportunity in Education (COE) 2010 International Leadership Training Program, “World Citizenship:



Building Leadership Skills in a Multicultural Society”, sponsored by COE and the University of Liverpool. In this 3-credit hour program participants will explore common concerns of US and United Kingdom citizens, participate in community projects, and have the opportunity to travel within the United Kingdom and the Netherlands from June 18-July 10, 2010. To help defray the costs, Max and Brooke were awarded the Keith Sherin Global Leaders Scholarship, and received additional support from the Mid-America Association of Educational Opportunity Program Personnel (MAEOPP) and the Office of the Provost at Truman State University. This was a national competition among TRIO program participants in which Max and Brook successfully competed and secured two of only twenty spots in this program.

Graduate School Preparation

As part of McNair’s 3-credit hour “Graduate School Preparation” spring course, Scholars worked on components of a successful application to graduate school, graduate level research, presentation techniques, IRB and research ethics, and various methods of scholarly investigation. They prepared a proposal with their research supervisors which was then used to apply for the 2010 McNair Summer Research Internship. The course also prepared Scholars for the graduate Teaching Assistant position. After learning the theoretical aspects of teaching, they will practice developing a lesson plan in preparation for co-teaching a 1-credit hour course with the McNair Director next fall. Thanks to Kris McKim, Barb Bevell, Dr. Janet Gooch, and Elizabeth Bauer, who served as guest lecturers.

Publication

Eleven Scholars had their research papers published in volume 16 of the *McNair Scholarly Review*, a refereed journal. This 2010 edition includes articles in the field of communication disorders, health sciences, education, political science, art history, music, psychology, and queer studies. The journal can be accessed at <http://mcnair.truman.edu>.

Capitol Appreciation Day

Seven McNair Scholars were selected to participate in Capitol Appreciation Day on February 24, 2010. Representing Truman State University and the McNair Program, they traveled to Jefferson City as part of a group of 25 Truman students to help promote undergraduate research programs. The Scholars’ research presentation posters were displayed on the 3rd floor rotunda of the Capitol Building. Missouri senators and representatives toured the rotunda area examining student posters, and Scholars were given the opportunity to explain their research to their hometown legislators. McNair Scholars participating in the event were Phillip Davis, Jade Hicks, Dominique Johnson, Jeremy Mapp, Brooke Ratterree, Christopher Reid, and Jonathan Whitfield.



State Senator Jane Cunningham (District 7), McNair Scholar Phillip Davis, and State Representative Margo McNeil (District 078).

2009-2010 McNair Scholars



Front row: Ta’janette Sconyers, Shawn Glispie, Alyse Jenkins, and Luna Ocegüera. **Second row:** Christopher Reid, Erik Moody, Jorge Camarillo, Tahamara Ibarra, and Emmanuel Camarillo. **Third row:** Jeremy Mapp, Jade Hicks, Joseph Dove, Danielle Henry, Jonathan Hamilton, Sean Orth, Siera Ramsey, Jonathan Whitfield, Max Glenn, Leia Wilson, Katherine Tolle, Dominique Johnson, Dwuana Bradley, Hailey Feldhaus, and Shantez Tolbut. **Back row:** Phillip Davis, Michael Jones, Sherrie Fortson, Chermain Jennings, and Brooke Ratterree. Absent: Jeffrey Sanders and Amanda Wiggins.

Graduating Seniors

70% of the McNair Scholars who are graduating from Truman this May have been accepted into graduate school.

Jeremy Mapp was accepted into the MAE Program at Truman State University.

Christopher Reid was offered admission to the PhD Program in Political Science at the University of Missouri-Columbia, where he was awarded an assistantship, health insurance, and the Gus Ridgel Fellowship. He has also been offered admission to the MA program in Political Science at Southern Illinois University in Carbondale, IL with an assistantship; and the PhD Program in Political Science at the University of Missouri-St. Louis.

Ta'janette Sconyers was accepted into the Master's in Education Program in Counseling Psychology at the University of Missouri-Columbia with an assistantship and tuition waiver.

Amanda Wiggans was offered admission to the Master's in Music Therapy Program at the University of Kansas and the Master's in Musicology Program at Western Illinois University.

Leia Wilson was accepted into the MA program in Literature at Minnesota State University and into the MFA program in Creative Writing at the University of Alabama with tuition remission, health insurance, and a McNair Fellowship.

Kayla Simmerman graduated from Truman with a BA in Psychology in December 2009. She is also an Upward Bound alumna and is the first in her family to receive a college degree.

Alumni

Keynote Speaker



Dr. Megan (Dunn) Davison, Truman State University McNair alumna, will be the keynote speaker at the McNair End-of-the-Year Banquet in April. She participated in the McNair Program from 1999-2001 and graduated from Truman with a B.A. in Communication Disorders. She went on to get a Master of Science degree in Audiology and Speech Science at Purdue University and a Ph.D. in Speech-Language Pathology at Pennsylvania State University. Dr.

Davison is currently a Clinical Assistant Professor at Temple University in Philadelphia, PA. Her research interests include the development of language and literacy in children from diverse backgrounds.

Visiting Alumnae

Angela Carter (2006 cohort) and Laura Casey (2006 cohort) returned to Truman to share their graduate school experience with McNair Scholars. Angela is currently a first year PhD student in Feminist Studies at the University of Minnesota and Laura is a second year PhD student in Political Science at the University of Michigan-Ann Arbor. They both received a number of acceptance letters and lucrative packages before choosing their current graduate programs. They shared information on how they were able to secure funding, how they made their final graduate school selection, and what the transition to graduate school entails.

Graduate School Enrollment and Degrees Attained

- Twenty-three Truman State University McNair Program alumni have earned a doctoral degree since 1992, when Truman received its first grant.
- Thirty-nine alumni are currently enrolled in a doctoral program.
- 117 alumni have earned a master's degree since 1992.
- Twenty-eight alumni are currently enrolled in a master's program.

Alumni Updates

The Department of Education (DOE) requires all McNair Programs to track alumni until the attainment of a doctoral degree and submit yearly updates on them in the Annual Performance Report to DOE. Alumni can help the McNair Program meet this requirement by going to the McNair website and clicking on "alumni update" to update their information. It takes less than two minutes to complete the form.

Mentors



Truman McNair Faculty Mentors and Research Supervisors discuss research and graduate school experiences with McNair Scholars during the Mentor and Scholar Reception on February 24, 2010.

Mentoring

Mentors are a vital part of the McNair Program. They work regularly with their McNair Scholar to ensure their Scholar is developing the skills necessary to become a competitive graduate school applicant in his or her discipline and ultimately, successful enrollment in a post-baccalaureate program leading to attainment of the PhD.

Thank you to our 2009-2010 McNair Mentors

Professor Janet Albanese, Theatre
 Dr. Scott Alberts, Mathematics
 Dr. Curtis Blakely, Justice Systems
 Professor Chuck Boughton, Business Administration
 Dr. Maureen Carlson, Music
 Dr. Debra Cartwright, Business Administration
 Dr. Elizabeth Clark, Communication
 Dr. David Conner, Psychology
 Dr. James D'Agostino, English and Linguistics
 Dr. Roberta Donahue, Health and Exercise Science
 Dr. Sergio Escobar, Classical & Modern Languages
 Dr. Janet Gooch, Communication Disorders
 Dr. G. Victoria Landrum, Interdisciplinary Studies
 Dr. Sylvia Macauley, History
 Dr. Elaine McDuff, Society and Environment
 Dr. Wendy Miner, Education
 Dr. Judi Misale, Psychology
 Dr. Marie Orton, Classical and Modern Languages
 Dr. John Quinn, Political Science
 Professor Andrea Rinkol, Justice Systems
 Dr. Lynn Rose, History
 Dr. Michael Seipel, Agricultural Science
 Dr. Cole Woodcox, English and Linguistics
 Dr. Janice Young, Health and Exercise Science

Mentor Training Workshop



Dr. Amber Clifford-Napoleone, from the University of Central Missouri (UCM) and a former McNair Scholar, conducted a workshop for Truman McNair Mentors on effective mentoring strategies on April 1. She currently serves as a mentor and advisor for the McNair Scholars Program at UCM where she teaches Anthropology and is also Curator of the Nance Museum Collections. She specializes in gender and queer theory, ethnographic research, anthropology of museums, and critical geography. Dr. Clifford-Napoleone also conducted another workshop for McNair Scholars on strategic ways to fund graduate school.

Faculty Panel



McNair Mentors Dr. Marie Orton, Dr. Judi Misale, and Dr. Michael Seipel share their graduate school experience with McNair Scholars.

McNair Program Office

Truman Campus Location: Adair Building

Mailing Address:
McNair Program
Truman State University
100 East Normal Avenue
Kirksville, MO 63501

Phone: (660) 785-5393
Fax: (660) 785-7524
Email: mcnair@truman.edu
Web: <http://mcnair.truman.edu>

Staff:

Dr. Sylvia Macauley, Program Director
Dr. G. Victoria Landrum, Research Coordinator
Ms. Sarah Hass, Program Coordinator
Ms. Bich Kuhns, Administrative Assistant



McNair is partially funded by a U.S. Department of Education grant for \$255,009.

McNair Program Performance Objectives

Objective 1: McNair participants will complete research and scholarly activities each year that will directly impact their educational progression.

Objective 2: McNair participants will attain a baccalaureate degree within three years of entry into the program.

Objective 3: Bachelor degree recipients will enroll in a post-baccalaureate program by the fall term of the academic year immediately following completion of that degree.

Objective 4: McNair participants will attain a doctoral degree within ten years of attainment of the bachelor's degree.

Check out the McNair website for the 2010 edition of the *McNair Scholarly Review*, a referred journal of research conducted by McNair Scholars during their summer research internships.

Join our Facebook group: Alumni and Friends of the McNair Program at Truman State University.

ADAIR BUILDING
100 EAST NORMAL AVENUE
KIRKSVILLE, MO 63501-4221

