Learning to Learn Department

Learning to Learn seeks to support low-income, underrepresented, first generation college students, to excel academically and to provide a nurturing environment where our target population can achieve their full potential. In the Jesuit spirit, we foster the intellectual and personal formation of students in a holistic manner and guide students as they learn to navigate college life.

We provide students with financial, academic and personal advising; teach students the skill they need to succeed and to graduate from the University; and prepare students for post-graduate work. Critical thinking skills, financial literacy, as well as an array of skills to deal with the rigors and challenges of university life, including academic, social, and economic, are an essential part of our focus. We strive to assist students to see their potential, set manageable goals, learn the necessary skills, and attain their goals at Boston College and then leave the University having reached their fullest potential.

Additionally, Learning to Learn acts as a liaison for students between all offices and departments at the college to aid students as they navigate through the system. These services support students in their effort to "unlock" their potential in the academic arena that will allow for greater success.
Eleven McNair Scholars participated in the annual Summer Research Program on July 10th.

The scholars presented the research that started their journey as a McNair scholar in the fall of 2013.

This summer’s research topics were...

- Convergence to Long-Run Purchasing Power Parity: Testing Argentina’s Official Exchange Rate Against the Dolarblue.

- A Comprehensive Model for the Bacterial Pathogen *Streptococcus Pneumoniae* Leads to Novel Vaccine Targets and Improved Drug Combinations.

- Family Time. For research on the Effect of Family Maintenance Activities on Low-Income Urban Adolescent Achievement.


- Post-Transcriptional Regulation of α-synuclein Expressions and Localizations in HEK293FT Cells by Leucine-Rich Repeat Kinase-2.

- Is East Africa Ready for the Implementation of a Common Currency?

- How are Foreign-born CEO of American Corporations Represented?

- What Factors do Hispanic/Latino Men Define as Influencing their Levels of College Persistence?

- ‘L’union fait la force’? – Assessing the Social Supports that Help Mid Level Female Entrepreneurs Thrive in Haiti.
“Whether or not you reach your goals in life depends entirely on how well you prepare for them and how badly you want them. You’re eagles! Stretch your wings and fly to the sky.”  
-Ronald E. McNair

McNair Recruits

The McNair Program would like to welcome the newly selected McNair scholars that will be performing research on campus starting the fall semester.

The McNair students are…

Arnesia Banks
Cimron Charles
Lisa Edouard
John Gabelus
Medina Geyer

Kadeajah Goslin
Jovani Hernandez
Fehad Khan
Erick Olaverria
Giancarlo Sanchez
Jenelle Steele
Stephanie Thermora
Luis Torres
Gabriella Vazquez
Kathy Wong
Sara Wong

McNair Fall Programming

Upcoming Programs

Graduate Mentor Program
The Graduate mentor Program (GMP) is a program designed to provide students with a Graduate School Mentor. This program is in partnership between the Learning to Learn Department and the Office of Graduate Student Life.

Any students who receive services from the department can apply to this program. Applications are due in September 10th and are available at 50 College Road.

McNair Exploratory Program
The McNair Exploratory Program (MEP) is a program designed to involve first-year students in a conversation with a faculty mentor about professional career, graduate education, and research. The program will start in the fall semester. Applications are available at our office at 50 College Road and are due October 3, 2014.

Welcome Scholars!

A Letter from Dewan Woods, Class of 2014, McNair Scholar

Hi, I hope all is well. I just wanted to update you on some things. The conference in Germany went really well.

Other news include being one of the only entering graduate students to pass the Physics PhD qualifier on the first try (which I took less than 24 hours after arriving back from Germany). I was also the only student chosen to receive both the Purdue University Fellowship as well as the Physics Department fellowship, which relieves me of any teaching/grading duties, pays my tuition and allows me to accelerate a bit as I will be able to start research earlier than other students. I’ve already initiated some research talks with a professor here who also works in Metamaterials and have been assigned to work with his postdoc student on some quantum experiments.

So far, I am off to a good start and hope that it continues.

Student Buzz

Get Involved!
Scholars in Action

Octavio Brindis – Currently enrolled at Marquette University in a Masters of Education Program. He is a teaching fellow for Teach for America.

HanSol Choi – Attending Rutgers Graduate School of Biomedical and Health Sciences for Master in Biomedical Sciences. This program is part of Robert Wood Johnson Medical School. She will prepare to apply to medical school in June 2015.

Vanessa Garza – Volunteering for JVC in Milwaukee as a paralegal for Catholic Charities Immigration Services. She will be attending law school after the first year of service.

Annelise Mirella Hagar – Is currently enrolled in the Fifth Year M.A. Program for Sociology at Boston College.

Kayla Prieto-Hodge – Currently enrolled at UMASS Amherst in the Sociology Ph. D Program. She is a teaching assistant.

Steven Jefferson – Currently enrolled in the Sociology Ph. D Program at the University of North Carolina Chapel Hill.

Philip McHarris – Currently enrolled in the Sociology Ph. D program at Yale University.

Kakas Rish – Is enrolled in Boston College’s Donovan Program. Which focuses on preparing future teachers to teach in urban settings.

- Graduate Mentor Program
  Applications due September 29, 2014.

- McNair Exploratory Program
  Applications due October 3, 2014.

- If you are a Freshman or Sophomore and are interested in applying to the McNair Scholars Program applications are due during spring semester, February 19, 2015.