

McNair Scholars Program NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2015

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Welcome Students

McNair Scholars Program staff welcomes all students back to a new academic year!

We are excited to share news about our McNair scholars. In this issue you will read about McNair Scholars' accomplishments, research and information about upcoming programs.

Alumni Highlights

We are pleased to congratulate two McNair Scholars who recently completed their doctoral studies.

Dr. Nijah Cunningham, Class of 2007, received a doctorate in Comparative English Literature from Columbia University. Dr. Cunningham has accepted an Assistant Professor position at Hunter College in NYC.

Dr. Ronald Mendoza, Class of 2008, received his doctorate in Philosophy from Emory University in Atlanta, GA. Dr. Mendoza is currently holding the Provost's Postdoctoral Scholar position in Humanities at the University of Southern California.

Student Buzz

Fehad Khan- Class of 2016, Recipient of the National Institutes of Health Scholarship for post graduation research

Martin Gamboa- Class of 2015, Fulbright Recipient, English Teaching Assistant at the University of Warsaw, Poland

Richard Martinez- Class of 2015, Masters of Education, Donovan Program, LSOE

Maria Vazquez- Class of 2015, Enrolled in the Psychology Ph. D. program at the University of California Santa Barbara

Jemima Victor – Class of 2015, Enrolled in the 5th year Masters in Accounting Program, CSOM

McNair Encounter

Message from Philip McHarris, McNair Scholar, Boston College Class of 2014

I hope this message finds all of you well! This past weekend I had the opportunity to meet Carl S. McNair at the 2015 Ford Fellowship conference, there was a special ceremony for all the Ford Fellows that were McNair Scholars in undergrad and a presentation was made to Carl McNair. After the ceremony I got a chance to meet Carl and tell him how much the McNair program helped along the path to graduate school. Here is a photo of me and Carl from the event.

My first year of graduate school went well; in addition to winning a 2015 Ford Predoctoral Fellowship I also won an NSF Graduate Research Fellowship this past year! My second year of school has been off to a great start as well.

Philip McHarris
Class of 2014



McNair Recruits

"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

The McNair Scholars Program welcomes the newly selected students who will begin research this fall.

Gerardo Acosta
Julia Bals
Jared Collier
Risa Kuroda
Isaacson Michel
Graciela Pena

Andres Sanin
Lisa Vu
Mi Jin Park
Josephine Tang
Jingzong Yan

Summer Research 2015

Lisa Edouard

Title: Attributing Academic Struggles to a lack of Privilege

Advisor: Dr. David Miele- Buehler Assistant Professor, LSOE & Doctoral Student Advisor: Shenira Perez Doctoral Student & Diversity Fellow, Lynch School of Education

Kadeajah Goslin

Title: Connecting adolescents' Beliefs and Behaviors: Positive Youth Development and Character

Advisor: Dr. Jacqueline Lerner, professor, Counseling Developmental and Educational Psychology Department

Ericka Olaverria

Title: The Latino paradox: Why Latino Immigrants Have a High Life Expectancy?

Advisor: Dr. Sara Moorman, Sociology Department

Stephanie Thermora

Title: Refugee Assimilation: The effect of cultural and socioeconomic expectations on Iraqi and Somali refugees in America

Advisor: Dr. Jennifer L. Erickson, Assistant Professor, Political Science and International Studies

Luis Miguel Torres

Title: *Raza*: an Exploration and Ethnicity in Dominican Literature

Advisor: Dr. Philip O'Leary, Professor, Department of English/Irish Studies Program

Gabriella Vazquez

Title: The Relationship between Nuclear Position and Muscle Disease

Advisor: Dr. Eric Folker, Assistant Professor, Biology

Kathy Wong

Title: Interfaith Dialogue for Community Building: A Pilot Investigation on Community Stakeholder's Perceptions of Christian-Muslim Dialogue

Advisor: Dr. Julia E Whitcavitch-Devoy, Counseling, Developmental, and Educational Psychology

Sara Wong

Title: The Model Minority: A Pilot Analysis of First Generation Asian American Student Experience at Boston College

Advisor: Dr. Julia E Whitcavitch-Devoy, Counseling, Developmental, and Educational Psychology Faculty

McNair Fall Programming

Graduate Mentor Program

The Graduate mentor Program (GMP) is a program designed to match students with a Graduate Mentor to learn about the intricacies of graduate school. This program is in partnership with the Learning to Learn Department and the Office of Graduate Student Life. Any student who receives services from Learning to Learn can apply to this program. Applications are due in October and are available at 50 College Road.

McNair Exploratory Program

The McNair Exploratory Program (MEP) is a program designed to involve first generation freshman students in a conversation with a faculty mentor about professional career, graduate education, and research. The program will start in spring semester 2016. Applications are due on October 23, 2015 and are available at our office at 50 College Road.