On July 27, 2018, McNair Scholars will showcase their research findings before family, friends, faculty, and administration. The Closing Symposium will be held at the Rhatigan Student Center from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. This event provides skill development in preparation for graduate study in the pursuit of a doctoral degree.

Scholars representing various disciplines commit to 200+ hours of research and work with Wichita State faculty to learn research methodology, test design, literature analysis, and writing techniques. The following students will present their research:

- Tracia Banuelos
  Dr. Rhonda K. Lewis
- Aja Molinar
  Dr. Robert Zettle
- Alondrea Del Real
  Dr. Rui Ni
- Marsha Norton
  Dr. Amy Chesser
- McKenna Douglass
  Dr. Jens Kreinath
- Andrea Ponds
  Dr. Rhonda K. Lewis
- Raven Hodges
  Dr. Kyong Lee
- Elizabeth Ramirez
  Dr. C. Brendan Clark
- Shantal Knibb
  Dr. Robin Henry
- Christian Saldana
  Dr. William Miles
- Eric Kromidas
  Dr. Gregory Meissen
- Inneke Vargus
  Dr. Amy Chesser
- Abdul-Manaan Giles
  Dr. Diana Cochran-Black
- Jessica Wewer
  Dr. Raymund Hull

The GRE is a required component of the application process for many graduate programs. While some institutions use the test results as a formality, others use these scores as an important selection factor. It is important for students to perform their best to ensure a competitive graduate school application.

The Program is offering a GRE preparation workshop throughout the summer. Students should begin by scheduling a practice test to help identify weak areas. The following four week preparation workshop will cover tips and strategies for preparing for the quantitative, verbal, and analytical sections of the exam. Once completed, students will schedule time with the office for a post-test. Before taking the actual exam, students can request a fee reduction waiver from the McNair Office that is provided from ETS. The waiver covers half of the $150 testing fee.

In Memory

McNair is saddened by the loss of alum Catherine “Cat” Browning who passed away Thursday, May 17, 2018 at her home. Browning participated in McNair during the 2002 - 2005 grant years and conducted research regarding conduct disorders in children and adolescents with the late Dr. James Snyder of the Psychology Department. She earned her bachelor's degree in business in 2005 and complete a MBA from Friends University in 2012.
Adding sentence variety to prose can give it life and rhythm. Too many sentences with the same structure and length can grow monotonous for readers. Varying sentence style and structure can also reduce repetition and add emphasis. Long sentences work well for incorporating a lot of information, and short sentences can often maximize crucial points.

Structurally, English sentences can be classified four different ways based on the number of independent and dependent clauses a sentence contains. An independent clause forms a complete sentence on its own, while a dependent clause needs another clause to make a complete sentence. By learning these types, writers can add complexity and variation to their sentences.

Simple Sentence: A sentence with one independent clause and no dependent clauses.

Note: An independent clause is a group of words that contains a subject and verb and expresses a complete thought.

- My aunt enjoyed the hayride.
- Jim studied in the Sweet Shop for his chemistry quiz.

Compound Sentence: A sentence with multiple independent clauses but no dependent clauses.

Note: A conjunction is a word used to connect clauses or sentences or to coordinate words in the same clause.

- The clown frightened the little girl, and she ran away.
- The Freedom Riders departed on May 4, 1961, and they were determined to travel through southern states.

Complex Sentence: A sentence with one independent clause and at least one dependent clause.

Note: A dependent clause cannot stand alone as a sentence because it does not provide a complete thought. It will begin with a subordinate conjunction (ex. after, until, as) or a relative pronoun (ex. that, which, who) and will contain both a subject and a verb.

- After Mary added up all the sales, she discovered that her cash drawer was 32 cents short.
- While all of his paintings are fascinating, hieronymus Bosch’s triptychs are his best work.

Complex-Compound Sentence: A sentence with multiple independent clauses and at least one dependent clause.

- Although Fin likes to go camping, he hasn’t had the time to go lately, and he hasn’t found anyone to go with.

Sources: https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/573/01/; https://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/573/02/
Congratulations 2017-2018 Graduates!

The McNair Scholars Program extends a heart-felt CONGRATULATIONS to our graduates. May they soar in their endeavors as they pursue their graduate education.

The 2017 - 2018 Graduates are:
- Tracia Banuelos
- Lupe Fraire
- Abdul-Manaan Giles
- Aja Molinar
- Marsha Norton
- Andrea Ponds
- Elizabeth Ramirez
- Veronica Ramirez
- Carrie Van Dusen
- Joshua Villa
- Carol Viluethpad
- Jessica Wewer

Alumni Graduates
- Alissa Bey - MA
- Marcus Crawford - PhD
- Christine Fuston - MA
- Angula Moss - MSW
- Valerie Noseng - MSW
- Rebecca Rodriguez-Carey - PhD
- Joseph Shepard - MPA

Events to Come

1. Devlin Hall, Rm 106 (2 - 3 p.m.)
   Shannon Nakai, “Writing and Editing”
   Abstract Due

4 - 6. Hubbard Hall 228 (1 - 3 p.m.)
   Research Seminar Series
   Dr. Schommer-Aikins, CESP

7 - 8. Ablah Library, Rm 217 (1 - 3 p.m.)
   Library Database Tour/Endnote
   Angela Paul/Aaron Bowen

8. Final Abstract Due

13. Hubbard Hall 219 (1 - 4 p.m.)
   “GRE Review”

20. Hubbard Hall 219 (1 - 4 p.m.)
   “GRE Review”

22. Manuscript Due

27. Hubbard Hall 219 (1 - 4 p.m.)
   “GRE Review”

29. Final Manuscript Due

6. Devlin Hall, Rm 105 (2 - 3 p.m.)
   Ashley Cervantes, “Presentation Skills”
   Summary Due

9 - 20. Mock Presentations

11. Hubbard Hall 219 (1 - 4 p.m.)
   “GRE Review”

13. Final Summary Due

16 - 20. Poster Approval

25. All Materials Due

28. Closing Symposium (8 a.m. - 3 p.m.)

17. Devlin Hall, TBD
   Student Orientation (10 a.m. - 2 p.m.)
   LaWanda Holt-Fields

Birthdays

Happy Birthday to those celebrating during the months of June, July and August

- Carol Viluethpad • 6/6
- Eric Kromidas • 6/10
- Shantal Knibb • 6/30
- LaWanda Holt-Fields • 7/2
- Alondra Del Real • 7/7
- Raven Hodges • 7/8
- Carrie Van Dusen • 7/12

Happy Birthday to those celebrating during the months of June, July and August
Dr. Christa D. Platt earned her Bachelor of Science in criminal justice at Wichita State University. She joined the McNair Scholars Program in 2004. McNair was the place where the desire to pursue a doctoral degree became a confident reality. It was a place of firsts for Platt—first publication, first academic talk, and first graduate school campus visit. The staff served as advocates, teachers, and mentors and expected her to perform at the highest level.

She earned masters and a doctoral degrees in higher education administration from Illinois State University. Over the course of a decade in higher education, she has gained experiences in specialized retention programming, diversity and inclusion affairs, crisis management, first year experience support, assessment and evaluation, academic probation, peer mentor program development, TRiO programs, and STEM advocacy for underrepresented students. Each experience has guided the steps of her professional and academic path.

Platt was recently promoted to director of diversity advocacy at Illinois State University. She was coordinator of targeted retention services at the university.

Platt thrives on cultivating safe spaces and rich learning opportunities for students, staff, and faculty. Her future goals are to marry her passion for research, teaching, and advocacy in a senior level administration position in order to support student retention and academic success.

Already a proud alum of Wichita State, Platt is honored to be in the family of WSU McNair alums.

Dr. Mikki Phan graduated from Wichita East High School in 2003. Despite not having a firm idea of what she wanted to study, she chose to attend college right away. Phan participated in both Student Support Services and the McNair Scholars Program at Wichita State. She initially decided to study biochemistry but later changed her major.

During her tenure with McNair, Phan conducted research regarding website usability and disabled populations under the guidance of Dr. Barbara Chaparro. Her project, “Examining Website Accessibility Among the Disabled Population,” was designed to assess general internet usability concerns and preferences among this population.

Phan was accepted into the doctoral program at Wichita State where she developed a great interest in several areas pertaining to human factors. Phan conducted research regarding artificial intelligence/machine learning, vision, aging, and video games.

In May 2015, Phan completed a doctoral degree in human factors psychology from Wichita State. She began working at Google, where she currently serves as a senior user experience researcher.
Inside....

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McNair Fee Waiver/Fellowships

The Council for Opportunity in Education (COE), in conjunction with the Council of Graduate Schools (CGS), has compiled a list of McNair incentives to help Scholars find graduate schools that offer application fee waivers and/or fellowships and other opportunities available to McNair Scholars.

This list can be found at https://www.coenetc.us/coe_prod_imis/COE/TRIO/McNair_Fee_Waiver_List/COE/NAV_TRIO/McNair_Scholars_Fee_Waiver_List.aspx?hkey=d459a62a-5577-4103-b125-8c3bb8a5029

Highlighted Fellowship:

Miami University of Ohio waives application fees for McNair scholars and provides an assistantship opportunity.

The Miami University McNair Graduate Assistantship Program provides a Graduate School funded stipend and tuition waiver for one academic semester per year for either two years for master’s students or three years for doctoral students. During the student’s program, they will also be provided an additional Graduate School funded Research Assistantship for either one semester for master’s students or two semesters for doctoral students. Departments will provide the remaining stipend and tuition waiver for the duration of the student’s graduate program. Refer to the University’s website for additional details and nomination information: https://miamioh.edu/graduate-school/awards-recognition/ronald-e-mcnair/index.html

McNair Facts: Did You Know?

Ronald Ervin McNair displayed an early aptitude for technical matters, earning the nickname “Gizmo.”

An outstanding all-around student at Carver High School, McNair starred in baseball, basketball and football and played saxophone for the school band. He graduated as valedictorian of the class of 1967, earning a scholarship to attend North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University.

Source: https://www.biography.com/people/ronald-mcnair

Notice of Nondiscrimination

Wichita State University does not discriminate in its employment practices, educational programs or activities on the basis of age, color, disability, gender, gender expression, gender identity, genetic information, marital status, national origin, political affiliation, pregnancy, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, or status as a veteran. Retaliation against an individual filing or cooperating in a complaint process is also prohibited. Sexual misconduct, relationship violence and stalking are forms of sex discrimination and are prohibited under Title IX of the Education Amendments Act of 1972. Complaints or concerns related to alleged discrimination may be directed to the Director of Equal Opportunity or the Title IX Coordinator, Wichita State University, 1845 Fairmount, Wichita KS 67260-0138; telephone (316) 978-3187.

Effective Date: March 25, 2016