

“The Doctor”

McNair Scholars Program

Wichita State University

Division of Campus Life and University Relations

webs.wichita.edu/mcnair



Putting the Pieces Together with McNair

March - May, 2009

Vol. 14 No. 3

National TRIO Day Observance

In 1986, the 99th Congress passed a resolution urging people to celebrate National TRIO Day. This observance calls attention to TRIO programs (initially just three programs) and their place in the federal strategy to ensure equal educational opportunity in higher education. These programs enable Americans, regardless of economic circumstance, race, or ethnic background, to successfully enter college and graduate.

On Wednesday, February 18, 2009 the Wichita State University TRIO Programs (i.e. **Disability Support Services, Educational Opportunity Centers Program (EOC), McNair Scholars Program, Student Support Services, Talent Search-Project Discovery, Upward Bound Math/Science Regional Center, Upward Bound/Wichita Prep, Communications Upward Bound, Veterans Upward Bound** along with **Kansas Kids at GEAR UP** and **The Office of Disability Services**) celebrated National TRIO Day with middle, high school and college students, school staff, university administrators, community representatives and TRIO alumni from the various programs.

“*The Blueprint for a Lifetime of Success*” is the continuing theme that all the WSU TRIO Programs support. They collaborated together to make TRIO Day a success. This year’s celebration brought in several speakers to motivate students, staff and administrators. The following shared their stories and expertise to middle, high school and college students: **Dr. Raymond Farag, Mr. Buddy Shannon, Ms. Kaye Monk-Morgan, Dr. Marche Fleming-Randle and Mr. Lawrence Britton.** The luncheon keynote speaker was **Mr. Marcus Engel**, a motivational speaker who shared his story of losing his sight due to a drunk driver while in his first

semester in college. He explained the challenges he faced and how he overcame through perseverance and determination--all speakers instilling a “Blueprint for Success” to those who attended National TRIO Day.

Now Accepting Applications

The McNair Scholars Program is looking for new participants for the **2009 - 2010** academic year. To be eligible for the Program, students must meet the following criteria: have U.S. citizen status, enrolled at WSU full-time with sophomore, junior or senior standing (between 45 - 90 cumulative hours), and have a cumulative GPA of 2.75 or 3.0 in the last 60 credit hours. Students must also be first generation and low income *or* a member of traditionally underrepresented groups in graduate education (i.e., *African American, Hispanic/Latino, Pacific Islander/Native Hawaiian and American Indian/Alaskan Natives.*)

The Program is designed for students who are interested in pursuing a doctoral degree. Support and services for graduate school planning include, but are not limited to: graduate school exploration, tutoring, research opportunities, faculty mentoring, writing assistance, GRE preparation, attending conferences, and opportunities to be published in local and regional journals.

The application period is **March 1 - April 20, 2009.** Students may stop by the McNair Office, located in room 173B, Grace Wilkie Annex to pick up an application. **Faculty and staff may also contact the office with the names of potential candidates.**

**Spring Break
March 16 - 20**

Grammatically Speaking When and When not to Quote



When using quotes, it is important to know when and how to use them. A general rule is to use quotes to backup and support your own statements. Usually, quotations should not be used to introduce new data due to the issue of authority. For example, when one uses quotes to present new data or information, it is deferring the authority to the source--it knocks the wind out of your own authority as an author and also the power out of your statements. Below are some pointers on when and when not to use quotes.

You should quote:

- ✿ When you want to back up your view with that of a prominent scholar who agrees with you.
- ✿ When something someone has written is catchy or memorable in its wording.

You should Not quote:

- ✿ When you can say it just as well in your own words.
- ✿ When the material you want to quote is over 5 or 6 lines long (unless it is absolutely crucial in its original wording and is necessary for the central theme of your paper).
- ✿ When you have a quote on every page or two in your paper. You do not want to fill your paper with quotations. Your reader primarily wants your wisdom, not that of everyone else.

A research paper is predominately a presentation of material *in your own words*, showing that you can present data and use it analytically to answer important questions. Quotes should be used to support and back up your ideas and statements.

Source: Research Strategies, William Badke, ©
2004 <http://www.acts.twu.ca/lbr/chapter10.htm>

**The WSU Undergraduate Research
and Creative Activity Forum**
May 1, 2009
Eugene M. Hughes Metropolitan Complex



Happy Birthday!

The staff would like to wish a **Happy Birthday** to those celebrating Birthdays in March, April and May.

Adella Rucker - March 1

Stephanie Ingram-McFarlin March 24

Kate Page - April 21

Joanna Duran - April 26

Kristal McGhee - May 26

Food For Thought

“We are what we repeatedly do.
Excellence then, is not an act,
but a habit.”

~ Aristotle

Health Alert: Stress & Sleeplessness

When we are stressed and anxious, we can often find it difficult to get to sleep as thoughts keep whizzing through our minds, stopping us from relaxing enough to fall asleep. If you find this is the case:



Make sure to stop mentally demanding work several hours before going to bed – give your brain time to wind down before trying to sleep.



Try reading a calming, undemanding book for a few minutes, again to relax your body, tire your eyes and help you forget about the things that worry you.



Write persistent thoughts and worries down in a notebook to put them out of your mind. Review the notebook in the morning and take appropriate action.



Keep the same bedtime. Let your body and mind get used to a predictable routine.



Cut back on caffeine and alcohol. Some people find that they sleep badly if they drink coffee or cola after 4 pm. Others find that if they drink alcohol in excess, they wake up in the middle of the night and cannot get back to sleep.

Source: <http://www.mindtools.com/stress/Defenses/Rest.htm>

Someone Like me?



Isiah M. Warne, PhD
Vice Chancellor, Office of Strategic Initiatives
Boyd Professor and Philip W. West Professor of Analytical and Environmental Chemistry
Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, Louisiana

Isiah M. Warne was born in DeQuincy, Louisiana on July 20, 1946. However, he spent his formative years (from the age of two) in Bunkie, Louisiana where he attended Carver Elementary and High School. His interest in science developed at an early age (two years old) when he orally sampled kerosene to determine why this odd smelling liquid was able to produce light. After a stay in the hospital, he put his science career on hold until the age of twelve when he received his first chemistry set. Needless to say, he did not resume his oral sampling technique and instead relied on smell and visual observations. From that point on, he took every science course that was offered at Carver High, graduating Valedictorian of his high school class in 1964.

With schools still segregated in Louisiana, Warne was offered a full scholarship to Southern University in Baton Rouge, a Historically Black Institution. Between his high school graduation and his freshman year in college, Warne attended a summer institute in chemistry at Southern University. After this program, the Chair of Chemistry at Southern offered him the opportunity to skip the first year of chemistry if he majored in chemistry, an opportunity Warne quickly accepted. He graduated Cum Laude with a B.S. Degree in 1968.

After working in Washington for five years, Warne attended graduate school at the University of Washington, receiving his PhD in analytical chemistry in 1977. He was assistant professor of chemistry at Texas A&M University from 1977 - 1982. Warne was awarded tenure and promotion to associate professor in September 1982. However, he elected to join the faculty of Emory University and was promoted to full professor in 1986. During his tenure at Emory, Warne went on sabbatical to the National Science Foundation (NSF) as Program Officer for Analytical and Surface Chemistry. He was named to an endowed chair at Emory University in September 1987 and was the Samuel Candler Dobbs Professor of Chemistry until he left in 1992. In August 1992, Warne joined Louisiana State University as Philip W. West Professor of Analytical and Environmental Chemistry. He was Chair of the Chemistry Department from July 1994-97 and was appointed Boyd Professor of the LSU System in July 2000. In April 2001, he was appointed the Vice Chancellor for Strategic Initiatives.

Warne has had more than 230 published or in-press articles in refereed journals since 1975. He has given more than 400 invited talks since 1979. In September, 1985, he was issued a patent for his work entitled "*Process and Apparatus for Chemical Removal of Oxygen in Luminescence Measurements*," a patent in September, 1986 entitled "*Method and Apparatus for the Stabilization of Direct Current Arc Lamp*", and a patent in June, 1998 entitled "*Micelle Polymers for Improved Separations of Chiral Species*." He has since had two additional patents, and has one other patent pending. He has chaired thirty-one doctoral theses since 1982 and is currently supervising thirteen other PhD theses.

Dr. Isiah M. Warne: Someone Like Me!

GRAD-CONNECT

Accepted to Graduate School, Now What?

Congratulations! The acceptance letters are starting to come in. How does one make a wise decision on which school or program to choose? *About.com: Graduate School* offers some suggestions to help ease the anxiety of choosing the graduate program that is the best fit.

When the Offers Start Coming In:

Each time an offer arrives, compare it with the previous offer and determine which to decline. Repeat this comparison process with each new offer.

Admissions committees will appreciate timeliness and honesty so they will be able to move on to the next candidate on their list. Holding on to offers that you have no intention of accepting hurts other candidates. Notify programs as soon as you realize that you will decline their offer.

Declining Admission

You may contact the program by email, fax, or phone, but be sure to follow up with a written letter notifying them of your decision because messages are sometimes lost. Address the note to your contact person or to the entire graduate admissions committee, simply explaining your decision. Be sure to type your name and then sign the letter.

Pressure to Accept

You may find that some programs may pressure you to make a decision and accept their offer of admission before *April 15*. It is not appropriate for the committee to pressure you, so stand your ground (unless you are absolutely certain that it is the program for you). Remember that you are not obligated to make a decision until *April 15*. When you've accepted an offer of admission, remember that you are committed to that acceptance. If you attempt to be released from an acceptance agreement, you might make waves and gain an unsavory reputation among graduate programs (it is a very small world indeed) and among the faculty who have provided you with letters of recommendation.

Accepting Admission

When you are ready to accept an offer of admission, call or email your contact for the program and follow up with a written letter that is faxed and then mailed to the program. A short, professional note indicating that you have made your decision and are pleased to accept their offer of admission is adequate.

Placed on a Waiting List as an Alternate

Wait. Take the time to consider whether the program is still of interest to you. If you have been accepted elsewhere and plan to attend, notify the admissions committee to withdraw your name from the wait list. If you receive an offer from another program, but are more interested in the program to which you are waiting, it is permissible to follow up and inquire for more information if the *April 15* deadline is approaching. Understand that the program staff may not have more information, but, like you, they want to end the process as quickly as possible. If you are down to the wire and have an offer of admission, sometimes you will have to make a decision to withdraw your alternate status or run the risk of declining a solid offer of admission for something that may never materialize (forcing you to start the graduate admissions process all over again).

To view examples of declining and acceptance admission letters go to:

<http://gradschool.about.com/od/admissionsadvice/a/accept.htm>, click on: *I've Been Accepted to Graduate School*

Back to Basics

Things to Consider when Writing

Students are well into the writing process of their research manuscripts. Now is the time to begin to consider incorporating various elements of writing style to their work. Consider. . . .

Colloquialisms: If using colloquialisms, slang words or phrases, use it simply and do not bring attention to it by placing quotation marks around it.

Exclamations: Do not bring emphasis to simple statements by using exclamation marks, reserve them for true exclamations or commands.

It was a wonderful show.
What a wonderful show!

Numerals: Do not spell out dates or other serial numbers; write in figures or in Roman notations, as appropriate.

March 11, 2000 Part XII
Rule 3 352d Infantry

Exception: When they occur in dialog, most dates and numbers are best spelled out.

“I arrived home on August ninth.”
“In the year 1990, I turned twenty-one.”

Capitalization:

Job titles: Use lower case letters for job titles when the title is just describing the job.

The director of human resources is a woman.

Capitalize job titles when they precede a person’s name or are a part of the phrase used to identify the person.

James Brown is the Director of Human Resources.

Races and Ethnic Groups: Capitalize racial groups when referring to a specific race (Native Alaskan), but not when racial terms are used in a more general sense.

Note: There has been some discussion on whether the *b* in *black* should be capitalized and it is argued that *black* replaced the term *Negro*, which is capitalized. If one decides to capitalize *black*, then *white* needs to be capitalized when used in the same context.

Directions: Do not capitalize north, south, east and west, unless the term is part of the name of an actual city or country, or refers to a specific region of the world that incorporates a group of countries.

Source: *The Elements of Style*. Strunk, William & White, E.B. 2000. Longman, New York.
Grammar for Smart People. Tarshis, Barry. 1992. Pocket Press. New York

Events to Come

MARCH

- 6 Grad Prep & Seminar (2 - 3 p.m.)
Devlin Hall, Rm. 106
Dr. Cheryl Adams, Dean of Students
“*Networking and Mentor Selection*”
- Research Assembly Meeting (3 - 4 p.m.)
“*Parts of a Manuscript*”
- 13 Communication Fitness (2 - 3 p.m.)
McNair Computer Lab, GWA, Rm. 166
- 16-20 Spring Break- Enjoy!
- 27 Grad Seminar (2 - 3 p.m.)
Devlin Hall, Rm. 106, Staff
“*The Plan A, B & C (the Back-up Plan)*”
- 28 Grad Prep & Seminar (10 a.m. - Noon)
Devlin Hall, Rm. 106
Dr. Rhonda Lewis-Moss, Psychology
“*What it Took to Receive My Doctorate*”

APRIL

-
- 3 Grad Prep & Seminar (2 - 3 p.m.)
Devlin Hall, Rm. 106, Staff
“*Graduate School Terminology*”
- Research Assembly Meeting (3 - 4 p.m.)
“*Style and Grammar*”
- 10 Communication Fitness (2 - 3 p.m.)
McNair Computer Lab, GWA, Rm. 166
- 18 Grad Prep & Seminar (10 am - Noon)
Devlin Hall, Rm. 106
“*Graduate School Panel*”
- 24 Grad Seminar (2 - 3 p.m.)
Devlin Hall, Rm. 106
Dr. Michael Birzer, Sch. of Comm. Affairs
“*Social Skills and Professionalism*”

MAY

-
- 8 Grad Prep & Seminar (2 - 3 p.m.)
Devlin Hall, Rm. 106
Connie Dietz, Cooperative Ed.
“*Portraying a Professional Image*”
- Research Assembly Meeting (3 - 4 p.m.)
“*Special Concerns in Research*”
- 11 *Last Day of Classes*
- 13-19 *Finals*
- 15-16 *Spring Commencement*”

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Inside....

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*“If you are not willing to risk the
unusual,
you will have to settle for the ordinary.”*

The Wichita State University McNair Scholars Program has served 182 students since 1995, of which 131 students have graduated with bachelor’s degrees and 44 with master’s degrees. Six students are currently enrolled in doctoral programs and 10 students have graduated with doctorate degrees.

***McNair Facts
Did You Know?***



“The Doctor”

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NOTICE OF NON-DISCRIMINATION

1. It is the stated policy of Wichita State University to prohibit discrimination in employment and in educational programs and activities because of race, color, religion, gender, age, marital status, national origin, sexual orientation, political affiliation, disabled/Vietnam-era veteran status or physical or mental disability.
2. In working to achieve and maintain a welcoming and discrimination free environment, it is necessary and appropriate that employees and students be encouraged to make complaints and concerns about perceived discriminatory behaviors known to University supervisors and officials.
3. Any University employee or student who in retaliatory conduct against a University employee or student who has filed a complaint alleging discrimination or otherwise exercised their rights and privileges against illegal discrimination will be subject to disciplinary actions pursuant to establish University procedures up to and including termination of employment or student status.
4. This prohibition against retaliatory conduct applies regardless of the merits of the initial complaint of illegal discrimination.