

"The Doctor" McNair Scholars Program

Vol. 24, No. 1 Sept. - Nov. 2018

Letter from the Director

Congratulations and welcome to the 2018 – 2019 McNair Scholars Program year, where every day we work to "Hit the Mark." I am excited to share this journey with you as you explore the graduate school process, improve your test-takings skills, develop your writing skills, engage faculty and strive for the



ultimate goal of attaining a doctorate degree.

The staff and I want to encourage you to take full advantage of the "privilege" of being a part of this elite group, the McNair Scholars. It is our intention to challenge, push and guide you on this great journey. We have confidence that you are more than capable of being successful and we are here to support you and provide the tools/arrows in your quiver that you need to do so.

The McNair Program is merely a stepping-stone that provides you with resources to help you get where you want to be, attaining a doctorate degree (PhD/EdD). Use your tools/arrows to enhance your skills so that you can take action when needed, check your perspective as it can and will affect your results, build your knowledge base so that you are well versed in your chosen area and lastly, use whatever you feel you are missing as your inspiration to gain what it is that you want.

It is my pleasure to serve as your director. The staff and I are here to assist you. As we start on this path together, put your best foot forward, do all that you can, and we will meet you where you are to assist you in getting to where you want to be.

I am looking forward to great year and hope that you are too.



2018 - 2019 McNair Scholars

The McNair Scholars Program is off to an excellent start for the 2018 - 2019 academic year, with students participating in activities to become familar with the graduate school process and scholarly research. The McNair staff welcomes the following scholars:

Lakia Adams
Ana Astoquilca
Jannet Balderrama
Judy Chavira*
Whitney Cravens
Alondra Del Real*
McKenna Douglas
Jemima Forcha
Rex Hafenstine
Ana Barbara Hernandez
Raven Hodges*
Lily Jackson
Kathy Johnson*
Shantal Knibb

Eric Kromidas*
Darrin McPherson*
Autumn Minor
Courtney Minor
Courtney Nunez
Esmeralda Paez
Eugene Potts*
Casey Reyes
Christian Saldana*
Zane Storlie*
Marliz Valles*
Inneke Vargas*
Abel Velasquez
Hydiyah Woods

*indicates returning students



McNair Scholars Program: Hit the Mark

Grammatically Speaking: The Literature Review

All students involved in the research component will complete a literature review as part of that process. Use the information below as a guide. Your aim should be to evaluate and show the relationship between previous research and your current research. In order to do this effectively, you should carefully plan how you will organize your work.

Functions of the Literature Review

1. What is a literature review?

A literature review can be just a simple summary of the sources, but it usually has an organizational pattern and combines both summary and synthesis.

A summary is a recap of the important information in a source, but a synthesis is a re-organization, or a reshuffling, of that information. It might give a new interpretation of old material or combine new with old interpretations. Or it can trace the intellectual progression of the field, including major debates.

2. How does a literature review relate to my research question?

A review of the literature is an essential part of an academic research project. In a research paper, the literature is used as a foundation and as support for a new insight that you contribute. The review is a careful examination of a body of literature pointing toward the answer to your research question.

3. Why do we write literature reviews?

Literature reviews provide a solid background for research investigation. Comprehensive knowledge of the literature in the field is essential to most research papers. Through the literature review you will discover whether your research question has already been answered by someone else. If it has, you must change or modify your question.

Strategies for Writing the Literature Review

1. Find a focus

A literature review is usually organized around ideas, not the sources themselves like an annotated bibliography. You will not simply list your sources and go into detail about each, one at a time. As you read widely but selectively in your topic area, consider what themes or issues connect your sources together. Do they present one or different solutions? Is there an aspect of the field that is missing? Do they reveal a trend in the field or a raging debate? Pick one of these themes to focus the organization of your review.

2. Read with a Purpose

You should summarize the work you read, but you must decide which ideas or information you want to add to your research (so you can emphasize them).

3. Additional Considerations:

- <u>Use evidence</u> Your interpretations must be backed up by evidence to show that what you are saying is valid.
- <u>Use quotes sparingly</u> A few short quotes here and there are okay, though only if what the author said just cannot be rewritten in your own words.
- <u>Keep your own voice</u> While a literature review presents others' ideas, your voice (the writer's) should remain front and center.
- <u>Use caution when paraphrasing</u> When paraphrasing a source, be sure to represent the author's information or opinions accurately and in your own words.

Summary: Your Literature Review should:

- Demonstrate why your research should be conducted
- Summarize important information, but remember to synthesize that information as well.
 - 1. Interpret information in a new way
 - 2. Trace progression of relavent ideas/debates

- Provide a foundation for your research
- Include the most important ideas from each source
- Provide evidence to support your interpretations
- *Employ a limited use of quotes*



Sources: http://www2.uncp.edu/home/acurtis/Courses/ResourcesForCourses/LitReview.html; http://writingcenter.unc.edu/handouts/literature-reviews/; http://www.ait.ac.th/education/LanguageCenter/ait-writing-services/guide-book/using-the-literature.html#.U-EzLFYtS68; http://webs.wichita.edu/depttools/depttoolsmemberfiles/holtfields/Newsletters/2012%20Doctor%20Oct%20-%20Nov.pdf

Research Proposal Deadline

Research proposals for the 2018 - 2019 McNair grant year are due on September 14, 2018.



| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
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| 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 |
| 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 |
| 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 |
| 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 |
| 30 | 31 | | | | | |

Birthdays

Happy Birthday to those celebrating during the months of September, October, and November:



Hydiyah Woods • 9/9

Lily Jackson • 9/11

Ana Barbara Hernandez • 9/27

Ashley Cervantes • 10/12

Kathy Johnson • 10/27

Eugene Potts • 11/23

Events to Come

McNair Resource Room **Grad Prep Meeting** (2 - 3 p.m.) EPTEMBER Jill Pletcher, "Vitae Writing" **Research Assembly Meeting (3 - 4 p.m.)** Ashley Cervantes, "Intro Research/Proposal" 14 McNair Resource Room **Grad Prep Meeting** (2 - 3 p.m.) LaWanda Holt-Fields, "Time/Stress Management"

22 McNair Resource Room Faculty Led Seminar (10 a.m. - noon)

Research Proposals Due

Micheal Birzer, "Selecting a Mentor"

5 McNair Resource Room Grad Seminar (2 - 3 p.m.) Ashley Cervantes, "Grad School Apps/Funding"

> Ablah Library, Rm 217 Research Assembly Meeting (3 - 4 p.m.)

Angela Paul, "Library Database Tour"

20 McNair Resource Room

Faculty Led Seminar (10 a.m. - noon) Michael Heppler, "Personal Statement Writing"

26 McNair Resource Room **Grad Prep** (2 - 3 p.m.)

Ashley Cervantes, "Intro to Writing Styles"

2 McNair Resource Room

McWrite (2 - 3 p.m.)

Ashley Cervantes, "Lit. Review/Integrating Sources"

McNair Resource Room

Research Assembly Meeting (3 - 4 p.m.)

Library Services, "Library End Note Training"

17 McNair Office

NOVEMBER

Program Meeting (11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.)

"Closing the Semester/Holiday Feast"





Someone Like Me: Davarian Baldwin, Ph.D.



Davarian Baldwin, Ph.D., American Studies

Despite a childhood of limited opportunity, Davarian Baldwin dreamed that he could become a politician or lawyer. He was the son of a single mother who milled parts for ice cream machines, in Beloit, Wisconsin. He was also a driven student.

Something more began to emerge while Baldwin was in high school. He noticed an overt racial divide and unequal treatment that shot through the school, city, state, and beyond. Working with the school's student affairs group, Baldwin examined the curriculum, diversity of the school staff and tracked which students found their way into advanced English and math classes versus those placed in home economics and remedial courses. He joined a statewide governor's task force as a student representative and engaged with the federal government's Positive Youth Development program that helps community youth to build leadership strengths. President George H.W. Bush honored him, in person, with the "Daily Point of Light Award," bestowed upon people who create meaningful change in American communities.

He enrolled in Marquette University's School of Communications. Entry-level communications courses began and so did an agonizing moment of truth that neared crisis levels during Baldwin's sophomore year. He was bored. Although deeply involved in the student-led multiculturalism movement, his studies didn't align with his drive to engage in issues and causes including racial justice, and curriculum advocacy and diversity.

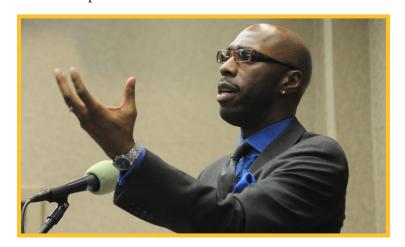
At the same time, the TRIO Ronald McNair Program started on the Marquette campus. McNair program director Myra George listened to Baldwin's concern that public relations would leave him little time to develop his own ideas and she unfurled a new vision for him: professor. "I knew what a professor was but I didn't know it was a viable career. To actually become a professor was

such a foreign thing to me, coming from a working class, blue-collar town. Going from the known to the unknown is hard," Baldwin said. George encouraged him to attend a McNair event with Professor Joe William Trotter, author of "Black Milwaukee," to meet a professor and find out what the role entailed. At the end of the evening Baldwin knew she was absolutely right.

McNair guided Baldwin through key decisions. Changing his major to philosophy aligned his studies with his core values and beliefs. McNair offset costs of Graduate Record Examinations (GRE) and helped him identify and navigate approaches to the best graduate schools for his future in American Studies. Moreover, it ushered him into a world of confident, aspiring, first-generation students of color who didn't have to prove that they were brilliant and capable. Drawing on that confidence, Baldwin made a case for himself in person with New York University's director of graduate studies when his application might not have otherwise stood out. That inspired visit earned him admission and scholarship money.

Baldwin has had a rich career. Researcher, professor, historian, author, cultural critic and social theorist, he combines urban studies, 20th century U.S. History and African American and American Studies to examine cities through the lens of the African Diasporic experience. As the Paul E. Raether Distinguished Professor of American Studies at Trinity College, he changes how students view race relations in the United States.

Source: https://trio-alumni.hivebrite.com/news/27053

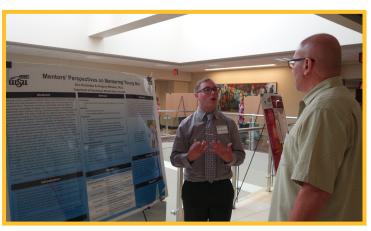




McNair Events



2017-2018 McNair Student Researchers at the 23rd Annual Closing Symposium July 27, 2018.



Student researchers gave both oral and poster presentations during the Closing Symposium.



Student researchers arrived at 7 a.m. to set up their posters and prepare for Symposium.



First-time presenters receive a McNair pin. Eleven of the 2017-2018 researchers were first-time presenters.



Student researchers document at least 200 hours of research culminating in presentations at the annual summer event.



Dr. Shchommer-Aikins led the Summer Research Seminar for prospective McNair researchers who may participate in research during the 2018-2019 academic year.







McNair Scholars Program

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Inside....

Letter from the Director Grammatically Speaking Events to Come Someone Like Me? McNair Events

McNair Fee Waivers/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 that are available to McNair Scholars.

This list can be found at http://www.coenet.us/coe_prod_imis/COE/TRIO/McNair_Fee_Waiver_List/COE/NAV_TRIO/McNair_Scholars_Fee_Waiver_List.aspx?hkey=d459a62a-5577-4103-b125-8c3bb8aa5029

Highlighted Fellowship:

The University of Oklahoma waives application fees for McNair Scholars and offers up to three McNair Graduate Fellowships. Each award includes:

- A \$5000 stipend supplement for 4 years (doctoral students)
- A \$2,500 stipend supplement for 2 years (master's students)
- A 0.50 FTE Graduate Teaching or Research Assistantship
- A full tuition waiver for the total number of hours required to complete the degree
- A subsidy for the basic student health insurance plan

"The Doctor"

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McNair Facts: Did You Know?

As he was finishing his doctoral thesis in physics, someone stole his backpack that contained two years worth of data. He returned to the lab, redid his experiments and graduated on time — and with honors — in 1977.



The title of his doctoral thesis was "Energy Absorption and Vibrational

Heating in Molecules Following Intense Laser Excitation."

Source: https://www.greensboro.com/news/things-you-should-know-about-astronaut-ronald-mcnair/article_35a46ea7-b52b-5be5-91ec-6d02a023dfe4.html

Notice of Nondiscrimination

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