Scholars on the Move

Researching, Learning, Inspiring.

McNair Scholars were in attendance and presented at several university conferences this semester. Some traveled to the University of New Mexico, University of Wisconsin, University of Iowa Carver College of Medicine, and Purdue University. From workshops and panel discussions to networking activities, scholars share their travel experiences here:

Quotes from our Scholars

“I am very thankful for the McNair Scholars Program for the educational opportunities they have given me. Without McNair, I would not have been able to visit Purdue University and attend their Big Ten Grad School Conference. Because of your help and support, students like me are able to go to grad school and succeed.”

-Diego Luna

Caroline K working in MPO.

Kelsey H enrolled in a London program.
Scholars on the Move cont.

“I had a great time attending the McNair Annual conference in Wisconsin. The people there were friendly and welcoming. I also made some good friends at the conference, and I had a good time during Karaoke night. I met with representatives of prospective graduate schools. I am thankful to McNair for giving me that opportunity.”

-Nancy Urbano

“Traveling with fellow McNair scholars to conferences and symposiums has been the pinnacle of my undergraduate career. As a McNair Scholar, not only have I seen myself grow stronger academically, but I have seen how my cohort has grown along with me. Furthermore, I have seen how Hispanics are vastly underrepresented in the academic world beyond Texas. Thus, my research interests have also been greatly influenced and inspired by my travels as a McNair scholar.”

-Juan Valdez

Nicole Rodriguez presenting at University of New Mexico.

Nancy pictured with Carl McNair, brother of the late Ronald McNair.

Nancy, Rachel & Juan in Wisconsin.

Happy Holidays!
Another semester has passed and we are poised to bid farewell to another year. Our graduating scholars are working diligently to complete graduate school applications while our continuing and rising scholars are beginning to focus on next year’s research.

Letter from the Director
Jennifer Zwahr– Castro, Ph. D.

Here at the MPO, we are preparing for our annual performance report and reaching out to graduated scholars. As you know, we follow all of our scholars for ten years or until they complete their first (!) doctoral degree. Those of you who have graduated, please email the MPO or contact us on Facebook to update your file and let us know how you are progressing- if we don’t hear from you soon, we will be chatting up your parents.

Provost, Andre Hampton, also in Photo

The McNair Program is now accepting applications for a few open spots in our program. Deadline is Monday, February 16, 2015 by 12 noon in Charles Francis 016. Please go online to see more information. Look for info tables in January!
“When a young person, even a gifted one, grows up without proximate living examples of what she may aspire to become—whether lawyer, scientist, artist, or leader in any realm—her goal remains abstract. Such models as appear in books or on the news, however inspiring or revered, are ultimately too remote to be real, let alone influential. But a role model in the flesh provides more than inspiration; his or her very existence is confirmation of possibilities one may have every reason to doubt, saying, 'Yes, someone like me can do this.”

— Sonia Sotomayor