September 2012 marked the 20th anniversary of Truman’s McNair Program. Current scholars, alumni, the Truman campus, and Kirksville community celebrated the past two decades of excellence through several events. The 20th Annual McNair Research Presentation, showcasing results from the 2012 Summer Research Internship, kicked off the celebration on Friday, September 7. The following morning, four alumni currently employed outside of academia led a panel discussion on career opportunities available for PhD degree holders in the private, public, and non-profit sectors. The panel discussion, which was open to the public, addressed research and employment opportunities in fields ranging from science to social service. The public was also invited to attend a “meet and greet” social hour with alumni and current scholars that afternoon before attending the concluding banquet Saturday evening, September 8. More details on the history of Truman’s McNair Program can be found in the anniversary publication *Truman McNair at 20: Two Decades of Excellence, 1992-2012* at mcnair.truman.edu.

Dr. John Ishiyama, former McNair Program Director, with alumni panelists Keisha Farmer-Smith, PhD (below left) and S. Sonia Arteaga, PhD (below right)

Alumna speaker Kia Johnson, PhD, with Bertha Thomas, Assistant Dean of Multicultural Affairs and former McNair staff

Alumni speaker Ranessa Cooper, PhD

Alumnus speaker Philip Esposito, PhD

Alumni panelists (left to right) Bryan Huynh, PhD; Keisha Farmer-Smith, PhD; S. Sonia Arteaga, PhD; and Donna Stewart, PhD, with moderator Dr. John Ishiyama

Dr. Sylvia Macauley presents Dr. Janet Gooch a McNair Hall of Fame award for mentoring

Alumni doctoral students Donivan Foster and Chanee Anderson at the banquet
Truman McNair Scholars have established a legacy of exceptional research, and those who presented at the 20th Annual McNair Research Presentation were not an exception. Nine scholars presented the results of their summer research, which included topics in biology, communication disorders, English, exercise science, health science, mathematics, psychology, and sociology.

In addition, seven of these scholars, along with three Pre-Research Interns, also presented at the 16th Annual MKN McNair Research Conference in Kansas City, Missouri, a few weeks later.

Senior Kassi Crocker presented the results from her Summer Research Opportunities at Harvard (SROH) experience at the 2012 Annual Biomedical Research Conference for Minority Students in San Jose, CA, November 7-10. Her poster discussed the role of the Hippo (Hpo) pathway in Drosophila ovarian development.

Senior Erin Foster was selected as a 2012 Outstanding Student Major at Truman State University by the Missouri Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation, and Dance (MOAHPERD). She was one of only three Truman students to receive this honor.
New Program Initiatives

After a competitive application process, Truman’s McNair Program was notified in August 2012 that it would be refunded until September 30, 2017. This good news permitted several exciting changes in the Program’s operation.

Most notably, scholars will begin earning course credit for their summer research. Formerly known as the Pre-Research Internship and the Summer Research Internship, these intensive experiences have become **INDV 360: McNair Research Internship I** and **INDV 460: McNair Research Internship II**, respectively.

INDV 360, a 2-credit course, introduces scholars to general research methods as well as methodology specific to their field. With guidance from their McNair faculty mentors, scholars propose a thesis and construct a viable research design for its analysis in addition to attending weekly seminars on professional writing, mandatory one-on-one consultations with instructors, and two library research workshops.

INDV 460, a 4-credit course, advances scholars’ understanding and practice of research through execution of their INDV 360 research proposal. With guidance from their McNair faculty research supervisors, scholars examine/collect and analyze data, the results of which are reported in a manuscript that will be submitted for publication consideration in Truman State University’s *McNair Scholarly Review*. Scholars also attend weekly seminars on research methods, professional writing, and GRE preparation, as well as one-on-one consultations with a statistics and computing instructor.

Additionally, the Program has increased its number of participants served while decreasing its cost per participant through in-kind collaboration with various Truman offices. The **STEM Talent Expansion Program (STEP) Office** will provide science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) scholars with increased skills in scientific research and proposal writing through their course IDSM 131: Integrative Inquiry Seminar, taken in lieu of INDV 360. The **School of Science and Mathematics** will promote scholarly discourse among INDV 460 interns, other summer student researchers, and their faculty supervisors by sponsoring weekly summer lunches, while the **Center for Academic Excellence** will enhance the McNair scholars’ academic skills through administration and interpretation of the Learning and Study Strategies Inventory assessment. Finally, the **Multicultural Affairs Center** will continue to provide invaluable program support through provision of additional supplies and mentoring for scholars.

The McNair Program wishes to thank these campus offices as well as the entire Truman community for their continued support of the Program.

McNair Scholarship Fund

**Junior Louise (Jones) Strickland** was awarded the 2012-2013 Dr. Emmanuel Nnadozie McNair Scholarship. Louise, a Communication Disorders major, became a McNair Scholar in January 2012 and plans to work in special education following the attainment of her PhD.

This scholarship would not be possible without the dedication of our donors. The McNair Program is pleased to acknowledge the generous support from the following benefactors from July 2011 to September 2012:

- Ms. Chanee Anderson
- Dr. Ranessa Cooper
- Dr. Roberta and Paul Donahue
- Dr. Tanner Edis

- Mr. Donivan Foster
- Dr. Bryan Huynh
- Dr. Christopher and Tracey Lantz
- Dr. Sally West

To learn more about the fund or make a donation, visit *giving.truman.edu/FundsList.asp*. 
2012 - 2017 McNair Program Performance Objectives

Objective 1: Participants served during the project year will complete appropriate research or scholarly activities during the McNair Program academic year.

Objective 2: Bachelor’s degree recipients will be accepted and enrolled in a postbaccalaureate program of study by the fall term of the academic year immediately following the completion of the bachelor’s degree.

Objective 3: First year graduate students will continue to be enrolled in graduate school at the beginning of the fall term of the next academic year.

Objective 4: Participants will attain a doctoral degree within 10 years of the attainment of the bachelor’s degree.

Give us an update!

The U.S. Department of Education requires all McNair Programs to track alumni until the attainment of a doctoral degree and to submit yearly updates on them in the Annual Performance Report. Alumni can help the McNair Program meet this requirement by going to the McNair website and clicking on “alumni update” to update their information. It takes less than two minutes to complete the form!

McNair Program Office

Truman Campus Location: Adair Building

Mailing Address:
McNair Program
Truman State University
100 East Normal Avenue
Kirksville, MO 63501

Phone: (660) 785-5393
Fax: (660) 785-7524
Email: mcnair@truman.edu
Web: http://mcnair.truman.edu

Staff:
Dr. Sylvia Macauley, Program Director
Dr. Heather Cianciola, Research Coordinator
Ms. Sarah Hass, Program Coordinator
Ms. Kelly Mourning-Byers, Administrative Assistant

The Truman McNair Program is funded by a U.S. Department of Education grant in the amount of $255,000 (56%) in addition to monetary and in-kind support from Truman State University valued at $198,127 (44%).