

THE MCNAIR SCHOLAR

Volume 15, Issue 2

TRUMAN STATE UNIVERSITY

Spring/Summer 2014

Congratulations 2013-2014 Graduates!



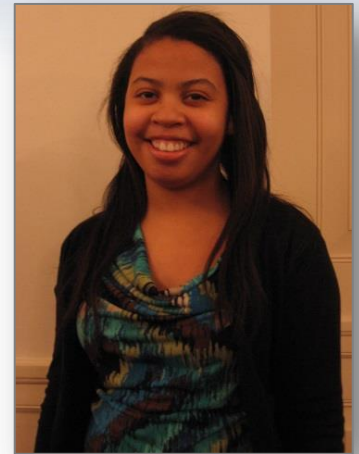
Kate Angulski graduated December 14, 2013, with a BS in Justice Systems. She began the Master of Arts in Criminal Justice and Criminology program, with funding, at Sam Houston State University in January 2014.

*Front (L to R): Analia Albuja, Miquela Taffa, Alexis Morris, Kylie Warner
Back (L to R): James Fisher, Louise Strickland, David Hutchinson, Briana Bonner,
Randall Miller; Not pictured: Megan Hohenstein*



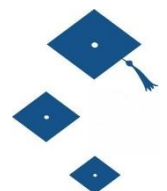
Nine McNair Scholars graduated on May 10, 2014. **Analia Albuja** earned a BS in Psychology and will begin the PhD program in Social Psychology, with full funding, at Rutgers University this fall. **Briana Bonner** received a BS in Health Science and will start the joint Master of Occupational Therapy/Master of Public Health program at the University of Illinois at Chicago. **Megan Hohenstein** earned a BS in Psychology and will begin the Master of Arts in Education program in Research and Evaluation Methodology, with funding, at the University of Florida. **David Hutchinson** received a BA in History and will start the PhD in History program, fully funded, at the University of Michigan. **Randall Miller** earned a BS in Psychology and is applying to graduate programs in Industrial/Organizational Psychology. **Louise Strickland** received a BA in Communication Disorders and will begin a master's program in Education at one of the four institutions to which she has been accepted. **Alexis Morris** earned a BS in Chemistry and will start the PhD program in Chemistry, with full funding, at the University of North Texas. **Miquela Taffa** earned a BA in English and will begin the joint Master of Social Work/Master of Public Health program, fully funded, at Washington University in St. Louis. **Kylie Warner** earned a BA in Communication Disorders and will begin the Master of Arts in Communications Disorders program at Truman State University in Fall 2014.

McNair Scholarship Awardee



Junior **Brandi Jones** was selected to receive the 2014-2015 Dr. Emmanuel Nnadozie McNair Scholarship. Brandi is a Health Science major who became a McNair Scholar in January 2014. Brandi hopes to get her PhD in Public Health, after which she plans to work in the non-profit sector addressing global health issues.

To learn more about the scholarship or to make a donation, visit giving.truman.edu/FundsList.asp



Megan Hohenstein

Faculty mentors are a vital part of the McNair Program, working closely with their mentees to ensure that each develops the skills necessary to become a competitive graduate school applicant and perseveres to PhD attainment.

Thank you to our 2013-2014 McNair Mentors!

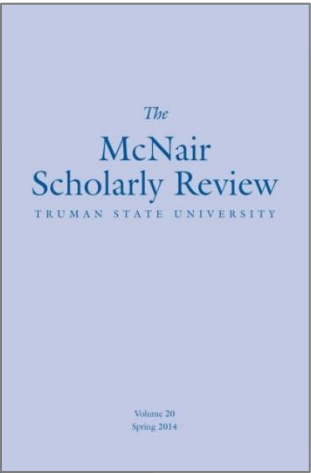
- Dr. Jon Beck, *Computer Science*
- Dr. Marc Becker, *History*
- Dr. Joseph Benevento, *English and Linguistics*
- Dr. Michael Bird, *Health and Exercise Sciences*
- Dr. Curtis Blakely, *Justice Systems*
- Dr. LaRoy Brandt, *Biology*
- Dr. Elizabeth Clark, *Communication*
- Dr. Janice Clark, *Health and Exercise Sciences*
- Dr. Carol Cox, *Health and Exercise Sciences*
- Dr. Roberta Donahue, *Health and Exercise Sciences*
- Dr. Janet Gooch, *Communication Disorders*
- Dr. Brian Lamp, *Chemistry*
- Dr. Julie Lochbaum, *Education*
- Dr. Elaine McDuff, *Society and Environment*
- Dr. Terry Olson, *Economics*
- Dr. Brent Orton, *English and Linguistics*
- Dr. Sherri Palmer, *Psychology*
- Dr. Terry Palmer, *Psychology*
- Dr. Mark Smith, *Communication*
- Dr. Timothy Walston, *Biology*
- Dr. Jeffrey Vittengl, *Psychology*
- Dr. Kelly Walter, *Agricultural Science*
- Dr. Torbjorn Wandel, *History*

2014 Summer Research

Six scholars completed Truman’s McNair Research Internship I from May 12 - 30. They attended seminars on research design and professional writing, as well as a seminar on advanced library research at Washington University’s Olin Library in St. Louis, where they also met with graduate school admissions personnel. At the conclusion of the internship, scholars submitted and presented an original research proposal.

Eight scholars are participating in Truman’s McNair Research Internship II from May 27 - August 1. They are conducting original research under the guidance of their faculty research supervisors. On July 30, they will present their findings to the campus community and will submit their manuscripts to Truman’s McNair Scholarly Review for publication consideration.

Scholar **Ryan Weber** is participating in a Research Experiences for Undergraduates (REU) program in biophysics at The University of Utah. From May 26 – August 2, he is researching the binding fractions of kinesin to microtubules. The REU provides a \$4,000 stipend, housing, and travel to and from Salt Lake City.



This spring, six Scholars from the 2013 McNair Research Internship II had their manuscripts published in Volume 20 of Truman State University’s *McNair Scholarly Review*, a refereed journal. Manuscripts encompassed research from the fields of Chemistry, Communication Disorders, Education, English Literature, Health Science, and Psychology. The journal can be accessed online at mcnair.truman.edu via the link on the left side of the page.

National Conference on Undergraduate Research

Five scholars represented both the McNair Program and Truman State University at the 2014 NCUR in Lexington, KY, April 3-5. Scholars and presentation titles are listed below.

- Analia Albuja**
Machismo and Marianismo Revisited: Language, Acculturation, and Gender Role Perceptions among Latinos
- Aaron Albrecht**
A Sociological Investigation into the American Government’s Use of Drones
- Briana Bonner**
Are You Satisfied?: An Evaluation of Participant Satisfaction of Adults with Developmental Disabilities Receiving Service from the People Achieving Connections Together (PACT) Center
- James Fisher**
Creation of a Video Game Genome: A Recommendation System Model
- Louise Strickland**
Relationship of African American Vernacular English to Disproportionate Representation of African American Students in Special Education: A Meta-Synthesis of Research

Truman’s Student Research Conference

Scholars **Aaron Albrecht, Analia Albuja, Brianna Bonner, James Fisher, Randall Miller, Alexis Morris, and Miquela Taffa**, gave oral presentations at the 2014 Student Research Conference on April 15. Aaron, Analia, Briana, and James presented the research found at left. In addition, Analia also presented on *The Impact of Structural Factors on the Health of Latinos*. Randall discussed memory and perception in *Is All Well that Ends Well?* Alexis presented a *Description of the Structure and Electron Correlation in LaNiO3 and NdNiO3 Through First Principles Theory* and Miquela discussed *The Liminal Indian: A Study of the Effects of Language on Culture*.

Josephine Foley, Megan Hohenstein, Louise Strickland, Kylie Warner, and Bing Zheng presented posters on research in agricultural science, psychology, communication disorders, and biology, respectively.

Since 1992, 37 Truman McNair alumni have earned doctoral degrees and 172 have earned master’s degrees. Congratulations to the following alumni!

Ph.D. Conferrals



Alexandria Lockett
[2003-2004 cohort]

English (Rhetoric and Composition)
The Pennsylvania State University, December 2013
Dissertation Title: *Leaked: A Grammar of Information in Surveillance Cultures*
Dr. Lockett works for the Graduate Writing Center at The Pennsylvania State University. She also actively supports Penn State’s McNair Program through volunteer and summer research program work.

Other Degree Conferrals

- Nohemi Alvarez-Landa**
Master of Science in Nursing, Graceland University, December 2013
- Tahamara Ibarra**
Master of Arts in Spanish, University of Arkansas at Fayetteville, May 2013
- Amber Jones**
Master of Arts in Educational Studies, Emory University, August 2013
- Gemmicka Piper**
Master of Arts in English, University of Iowa, May 2013
- Starr Skinner**
Master of Business Administration, Lindenwood University, June 2012
- Darius Taylor**
Master of Public Health in Epidemiology, University of North Texas Health Science Center, May 2014
- Clement Warr**
Juris Doctor, Indiana University Bloomington, May 2013

McNair Program Office

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. Janet Blohm-Pultz, Program Coordinator
Ms. Kelly Mourning-Byers, Administrative Assistant



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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.

ALUMNI UPDATES

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 just a minute to complete the form!

100 EAST NORMAL AVENUE
KIRKSVILLE, MO 63501-4221

