

THE MCNAIR SCHOLAR

Volume 18

TRUMAN STATE UNIVERSITY

Fall 2016—Summer 2018

CONGRATULATIONS, GRADUATES!

Thirteen McNair Scholars celebrated their graduation from Truman State University during the 2017-2018 academic year!

Deja Bolton completed a BS in Sociology.

Johanna Burns completed a BA in Communication.

Jonas Chang completed a BA in Anthropology.

Christina Elem completed a BA in Art and a BA in Business Administration. She is pursuing an MPA/MAAA at Indiana University Bloomington.

Patricia Flanagan completed a BS in Psychology. She is pursuing a PhD in Psychology at Texas A&M University.

Eber Gibby completed a BA in Romance Language.

Morgan Grandon completed a BS in Chemistry. She is pursuing a PhD in Material Chemistry at University of Colorado Boulder.

Ama Idun completed a BS in Communication Disorders. She is pursuing a PhD in Communication Disorders at University of Wisconsin Madison.

Charlie Ortmann completed a BS in Physics.



Angela Sas completed a BS in Health Science.

Dave Smithson completed a BFA in Creative Writing. He is pursuing an MFA in Creative Writing at University of Central Florida.

Nala Turner completed a BFA in Studio Art and a BA in Psychology. She is pursuing an MPS in Art Therapy and Creativity Development at Pratt Institute.

Jessie Wooldridge completed a BA in English. They are pursuing an MA in Higher Education and Student Affairs Leadership at University of Northern Colorado.

The Truman McNair Program is funded by a U.S. Department of Education grant in the amount of \$269,216 (58%) in addition to monetary and in-kind support from Truman State University valued at \$198,565 (42%).



CONGRATULATIONS, GRADUATES!

Ten McNair Scholars celebrated their graduation from Truman State University during the 2016-2017 academic year!

Mahliyah (Maple) Adkins-Threats completed a BS in Biology. She is pursuing a PhD in Developmental, Regenerative, and Stem Cell Biology at Washington University in St. Louis.

Brandall Bond completed a BA in Communication Disorders. He is pursuing an MA in Speech-Language Pathology at University of Kansas.

Chacity Cooper completed a BS in Mathematics.

L. Sofia Gonzalez completed a BS in Biology.

Sebastian Maldonado-Velez completed a BFA in Creative Writing. He is pursuing an MA in English at University of Illinois.

Erica McBride completed a BS in Health Science.

Sydney Ruffin completed a BS in Health Science.

Mac Smith completed a BA in Communication. He is pursuing an MA in Communication at University of Wisconsin Milwaukee.

Anastasia Steblina completed a BA in Russian.

Franchot Walker completed a BS in Psychology. He is pursuing an MEd in Counseling Psychology at University of Missouri Columbia.



ALUMNI GRADUATIONS

Since our last newsletter...

Nineteen McNair Alumni have earned Master's degrees!

Julie Seeley DeVries, *1993-1994 Graduating Cohort*
Master of Science in Counseling, Drake University, 2016

Gemmicka Piper, *2008-2009 Graduating Cohort*
Master of Science in Library and Information Sciences, University of Iowa, 2016

Brooke Lickey, *2010-2011 Graduating Cohort*
Master of Arts in Organizational Leadership, Baker University, 2016

Analia Albuja, *2013-2014 Graduating Cohort*
Master of Science in Psychology, Rutgers University, 2016

Charles Thurman, *1993-1994 Graduating Cohort*
Master of Business Administration, Ball State University, 2017

Laura Muhlenbruck Laramore, *1993-1994 Graduating Cohort*
Master of Science in Library and Information Services, University of Central Missouri, 2017

Benjamin Stewart, *2004-2005 Graduating Cohort*
Master of Arts in Ethnomusicology, Hunter College, 2017

Megan Robison Bowlin, *2007-2008 Graduating Cohort*
Master of Science in Nursing, Chamberlain University, 2017

Sonia Mejia Ray, *2008-2009 Graduating Cohort*
Master of Science in Nursing, Maryville University, 2017

Robert Williamson, *2012-2013 Graduating Cohort*
Master of Fine Arts in Creative Writing and Media Arts, University of Missouri Kansas City, 2017

ALUMNI GRADUATIONS

Jourdan Howard, *2014-2015 Graduating Cohort*

Master of Public Health in Epidemiology, St. Louis University, 2017

Miquela Ibrao, *2013-2014 Graduating Cohort*

Master of Social Work and **Master of Public Health** in American Indian and Alaska Native Health, Washington University in St. Louis, 2017

Aaron Albrecht, *2014-2015 Graduating Cohort*

Master of Public Policy, College of William and Mary, 2017

Teri Ford, *2014-2015 Graduating Cohort*

Master of Arts in Criminal Justice and Criminology, Sam Houston State University, 2017

Miranda McMahon, *2014-2015 Graduating Cohort*

Master of Science in Deaf Education, Washington University in St. Louis, 2017

Ronnia Estes, *2015-2016 Graduating Cohort*

Master of Education in Education and Student Affairs, Iowa State University, 2018

RaShaunda Fargo, *2015-2016 Graduating Cohort*

Master of Arts in Teaching in Urban Teacher Education, The University of Chicago, 2018

Brandi Jones, *2015-2016 Graduating Cohort*

Master of Public Health, San Diego State University, 2018

Roberto Renteria, *2015-2016 Graduating Cohort*

Master of Arts in Counseling Psychology, Arizona State University, 2018

ALUMNI GRADUATIONS

Since our last newsletter...

Six McNair Alumni have earned PhDs!

Dr. Logan Casey

2007-2008 Graduating Cohort

Political Science

University of Michigan

2016

Dr. Kenneth Wallen

2007-2008 Graduating Cohort

Recreation, Park, and Tourism Sciences

Texas A&M University

2017

Dr. Ta'janette Sconyers

2009-2010 Graduating Cohort

Educational and Counseling Psychology

University of Missouri Columbia

2017

Dr. Leia Penina Wilson

2009-2010 Graduating Cohort

English

University of Nevada Las Vegas

2017

Dr. Michael Jones

2011-2012 Graduating Cohort

Chemistry

Michigan State University

2017

Dr. Shureka Cannon Nyawalo

2003-2004 Graduating Cohort

Linguistics

Université Bordeaux Montaigne

2017

DR. EMMANUEL NNADOZIE MCNAIR SCHOLARSHIP

This scholarship was established in honor of Dr. Emmanuel Nnadozie, founding director of the Ronald E. McNair Post-Baccalaureate Achievement Program at Truman State University. Truman received its first McNair grant in 1992. The program was directed by Dr. Nnadozie until he left the University in 2004. The goal of the scholarship is to assist current Truman McNair Scholars.



2017 Recipient

Christina Elem, Art and Business
Administration



2018 Recipient

Nguyen Luong, Economics

NEW SCHOLARS

Spring 2018 Cohort

Ariell Bertrand, Political Science
Myranda Billington, Psychology
Azeeza Eagal, Computer Science and Classics
Yu Xuan Lin, Chemistry
Nguyen Luong, Economics
Marissa Pina, Chemistry
Sydney Shank, Biology
Ray Stewart, Sociology



NEW SCHOLARS

Spring 2017 Cohort



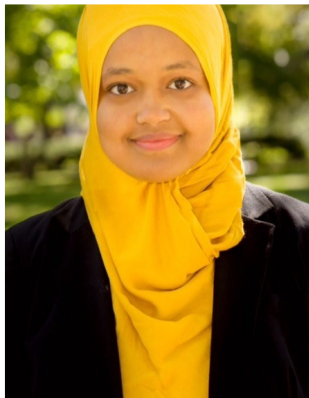
Deja Bolton, Sociology



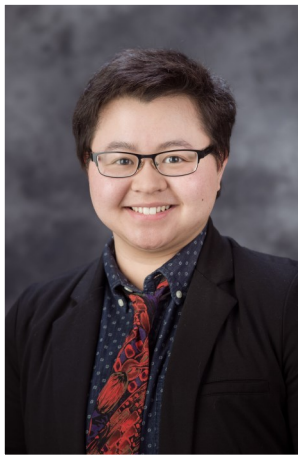
Marquita Cooper, Psychology



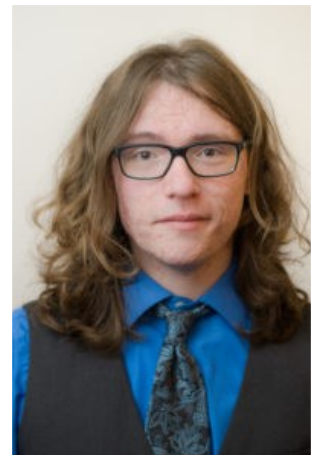
Monique Maxwell, Psychology



Maha Mohamed, Health Science



Jay Nguyen, Political Science



Weston Reidt, Biology



Angela Sas, Health Science



Dave Smithson, Creative Writing

NEW STAFF

Spring 2018



Stephanie Raymond joined the McNair staff in January 2018 as the Program & Evaluation Coordinator. She holds a Master of Science in Sociology from the University of Oregon. Prior to moving to Missouri with her family, she worked in the field of international adoption and child welfare. She enjoys working with the Truman State University McNair Program, as there are always new challenges and administrative tasks needing organization. In her free time, she enjoys reading, cooking, and trying new food.



Meghan Jones joined the McNair staff in January of 2018 as the TRIO Program Assistant, working for both the McNair and Upward Bound programs on campus. She has her Bachelor of Science in Health Science from Truman State University and will finish her Masters in Public Health in December 2019 at A.T. Still University. Meghan wears various hats as she attends to the many needs of the two programs including booking student travel to graduate school visits and maintaining the budget. In her free time, she enjoys binge watching Netflix with her dog and going on bargain hunting adventures with her sister.

NEW STAFF

Spring 2018



Amanda Turnbull joined the McNair program staff in March 2018. Amanda earned a Bachelor of Arts in Music from Truman State University in 2010 and a Master of Music Education - Music Therapy in 2015 from the University of Kansas. Amanda has a background as a board certified music therapist and has spent several years working in mental health and private practice. As a Truman State McNair program alumna, Amanda is happy to be back home in Northeast Missouri and knows that #TRIOworks! In her free time, Amanda loves spending time with her husband and two children. She also enjoys Marvel movies, singing, performing with community theater, and directing a church choir.



THANK YOU, MENTORS!

Fall 2016—Summer 2018 Faculty Mentors

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 persevere to PhD attainment.

Agricultural Science

Dr. Jessica Colpoys

Art

Dr. Sara Orel

Biology

Dr. Brent Buckner

Dr. Laura Fielden-Rechav

Dr. Stephen Hudman

Dr. Stephanie Maiden

Dr. William Sexton

Dr. Ben Wodika

Business Administration

Dr. Jeff Lingwall

Chemistry

Dr. Barbara Kramer

Dr. Bill Miller

Dr. Brittany Hagenhoff

Classical & Modern Languages

Dr. Stacy Bryant

Communication

Dr. Andrew Klyukovski

Communication Disorders

Dr. Ilene Elmlinger

Dr. Janet Gooch

Computer Science

Dr. Jon Beck

Economics

Dr. David Gillette

Dr. Justin Jarvis

English & Linguistics

Dr. Monica Barron

Dr. Joseph Benevento

Dr. Heather Cianciola

Dr. James D'Agostino

Dr. Summer Pennell

Dr. Gregory Richter

Health & Exercise Sciences

Dr. Janice Clark

Dr. Roberta Donahue

Dr. Alicia Wodika

History

Dr. Jason McDonald

Justice Systems

Dr. Curtis Blakely

Dr. Arlen Egley

Mathematics

Dr. David Garth

Dr. Pamela Ryan

Physics

Dr. Vayujeet Gokhale

Political Science

Dr. Margaret Edwards

Dr. John Quinn

Psychology

Dr. Yuna Ferguson

Dr. Sherri Palmer

Dr. Jeffrey Vittengl

Sociology/Anthropology

Dr. Amber Johnson

Dr. Victoria Mayer

RESEARCH ACTIVITY

Fall 2016—Summer 2018

Research experiences are required of all McNair scholars each year. Scholars develop an original research topic and proposal, and they have the opportunity to apply for summer internship funding through the Program as well as through external research internships. Students funded through the Truman McNair Research Internship in the summer after junior year complete and present a full-length research project and have their final manuscript evaluated in a blind review process.

2017 INDV 360 McNair Research Internship I: Deja Bolton, Marquita Cooper, Monique Maxwell, Maha Mohamed, Jay Nguyen, Weston Reidt

2018 INDV 360 McNair Research Internship I: Ariell Bertrand, Myranda Billington, Azeeza Eagal, Yu Xuan Lin, Marissa Pina, Sydney Shank, Ray Stewart

2017 INDV 460 McNair Research Internship II:

Johanna Burns	“Truth as Experience: Exploring Narrative Nonfiction and the Story of Rural Mental Health”
Christina Elem	“Paper and Sugar: Addressing Black Female Identity with Kara Walker”
Patricia Flanagan	“Not So Scary After All: Reducing Death Anxiety and Anti-Atheist Prejudice”
Eber Gibby	“Family Feuds: Complications in the Categorization of Catalan”
Ama Idun	“The Secret to Smooth Talk: Exploring the Link Between Pragmatic Behavior and Perceived Social Competence”
Becca Light	“Perceptions of Crime and Immigration: Does Education Make a Difference?”
Thomas Lona	“Unearthed: An Analysis of Earthworm Abundance in Relation to Fire Frequency and Slope Position in the Midwest”
Julia Nguyen	“Does Increased Temperature Result in a Metabolic Trade-Off When Energy Resources Are Fixed for <i>Poecilia Latipinna</i> ?”
Dave Smithson	“Frog Legs”
Nala Turner	“Do Expressive Activities Improve Mood and Subjective Well-Being?”
Anna Wang	“The True Cost of Labor: An Analysis of Maternal Mortality in the Mid-Twentieth Century United States”
Jessie Wooldridge	“How Cultural Capital Presents Itself Among First-Generation College Students”

RESEARCH ACTIVITY

Fall 2016—Summer 2018

2018 INDV 460 McNair Research Internship II:

Marquita Cooper	“Personality, Social Belongingness, and Coping in Relation to Academic Success in African American College Students”
Nguyen Luong	“Family Law and Household Outcomes: The Impacts of Intra-Household Bargaining Dynamics in Mozambique”
Sydney Matheis	“Finding Black Diamond”
Monique Maxwell	“Perceptions of Animal Assisted Interventions and Those with Physical and Mental Impairments”
Maha Mohamed	“Contraceptive Knowledge, Attitudes, and Usage among Women Ages 18-24 in the United States and Rwanda”
Weston Reidt	“Zinc Transcription Factor Gene ZK686.5 Has a Role in <i>C. elegans</i> Male and Hermaphrodite Development”
Ari Vera	“Determining the Viability of Calpain Inhibitors as Potential Drugs for Alzheimer’s Disease Using Computational Simulations”



RESEARCH ACTIVITY

Fall 2016—Summer 2018

Professional Research Conference Presentations

MO-KAN-NE McNair Heartland Research Conference 2016: Kansas City, MO

Mahliyah Adkins-Threats, Brandall Bond, Chacity Cooper, L. Sofia Gonzalez, Morgan Grandon, Sebastián Maldonado-Vélez, Erica McBride, Mackenzie Smith, Anastasia Steblina, Franchot Walker

Truman Student Research Conference 2017: Kirksville, MO

L. Sofia Gonzalez, Elias Garcia, Ari Vera, Morgan Grandon, Brandall Bond, Charlie Ortmann, Sebastián Maldonado-Vélez, Mackenzie Smith, Sydney Ruffin, Jonas Chang, Nala Turner

American Society for Biochemistry and Molecular Biology 2017 Annual Meeting: Chicago, IL
L. Sofia Gonzalez

Midwestern Psychological Association Annual Meeting 2017: Chicago, IL
Franchot Walker

MO-KAN-NE McNair Heartland Research Conference 2017: Kansas City, MO

Deja Bolton, Marquita Cooper, Elias Garcia, Eber Gibby, Ama Idun, Becca Light, Monique Maxwell, Maha Mohamed, Jay Nguyen, Julia Nguyen, Weston Reidt, Jessie Wooldridge, Ari Vera

American School Health Association 2017 Annual Conference: St. Louis, MO
Angela Sas, Anna Wang

Truman Student Research Conference 2018: Kirksville, MO

Azeeza Eagal, Nguyen Luong, Yu Xuan Lin, Ari Vera, Becca Light, Charlie Ortmann, Christina El-em, Jay Nguyen, Jonas Chang, Weston Reidt, Monique Maxwell, Marquita Cooper, Maha Mohamed, Nala Turner, Patricia Flanagan, Deja Bolton



RESEARCH ACTIVITY

Fall 2016—Summer 2018

Publications

The McNair Scholarly Review, Volume 23, Spring 2017:

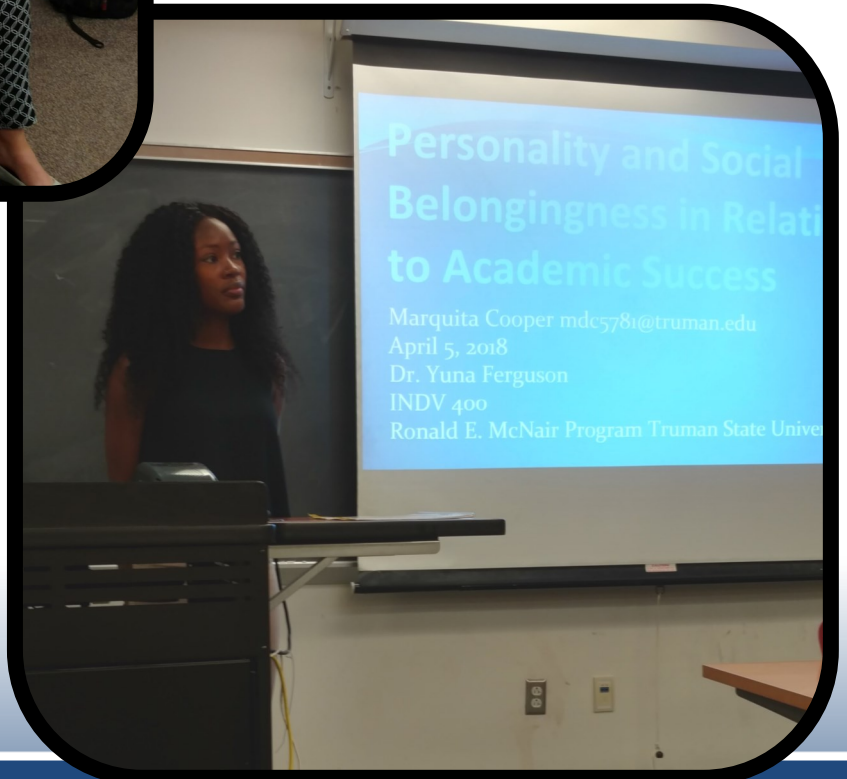
Brandall Bond, Erica McBride, Mackenzie Smith, Anastasia Steblina, Franchot Walker

The McNair Scholarly Review, Volume 24, Spring 2018:

Christina Elem, Patricia Flanagan, Eber Gibby, Ama Idun, Becca Light, Julia Nguyen, Nala Turner, Anna Wang, Jessie Wooldridge







Program Staff

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 Advising Specialist: Amanda Turnbull
 Program & Evaluation Coordinator: Stephanie Raymond
 TRIO Program Assistant: Meghan Jones

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