

THE MCNAIR SCHOLAR

Volume 17

TRUMAN STATE UNIVERSITY

Fall 2015—Spring 2016

CONGRATULATIONS, GRADUATES!

Seven McNair Scholars celebrated their graduation from Truman State University!

Brandi Jones completed a Bachelor of Science degree in Health Science on December 12, 2015. She is pursuing a Master's degree in Public Health at San Diego State University.



December 2015 Graduate: Brandi Jones

On May 7, 2016, **six** McNair Scholars graduated. **Angela Bunning** earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Biology. She accepted a full funding package to join the Interdepartmental Genetics and Genomics PhD program at Iowa State University. **Ronnia Estes** completed a Bachelor of Science degree in Sociology and Anthropology and is pursuing a Master of Education in Student Affairs degree at Iowa State University. She accepted a 2-year funding package. **Meghan Meyers** received a Bachelor of Science degree in Health Science. She is attending Missouri State University through attainment of a Master of Public Health degree. Her 2-year package includes a McNair Graduate Assistantship and a tuition scholarship. **Roberto**

Renteria completed a Bachelor of Science degree in Psychology and received a full funding package to join the Counseling Psychology PhD program at Arizona State University. **Ciera Utter** finished a Bachelor of Science Degree in Health Science. **Chelsie Yokum** earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Communication. She is pursuing a Master of Science in Early Childhood Education degree at Kansas State University with a 2-year funding package.



May and August 2016 Graduates

Angela Bunning, RaShaunda Fargo, Ciera Utter, Roberto Renteria, Meghan Meyers, Ronnia Estes

RaShaunda Fargo graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree in English on August 5, 2016. She accepted a 2-year funding package to join the Urban Teacher Education Program at the University of Chicago to pursue her Master of Arts in Teaching degree.

Way To Go!

Program Staff

Project Director: Dr. Heather Cianciola

Interim Research Coordinator: Dr. John Quinn

Program Coordinator: Janet Blohm-Pultz

Administrative Assistant: Ryan Miller

Phone: (660) 785-5393

Fax: (660) 785-7524

Email: mcnair@truman.edu

Web: <http://mcnair.truman.edu>

ALUMNI GRADUATIONS

Since our Last Newsletter...

12 McNair Alumni have earned Master's degrees!

Adrienne Anderson, *1996-1997 Graduating Cohort*

Master of Science in Electrical Engineering, University of Missouri – Kansas City, 12/18/2015

Kate Angulski, *2013-2014 Graduating Cohort*

Master of Arts in Criminal Justice & Criminology, Sam Houston State University, 12/12/2015

Brianna Bonner, *2013-2014 Graduating Cohort*

Master of Science in Occupational Therapy, University of Illinois – Chicago, 8/7/2016

Dwuana Bradley, *2011-2012 Graduating Cohort*

Master of Education in Educational Administration, University of Texas at Austin, 5/21/2016

Danielle Clemons, *2012-2013 Graduating Cohort*

Master of Arts in Sociology, Northern Illinois University, 5/14/2016

Kassi Crocker, *2012-2013 Graduating Cohort*

Master of Science in Genetics, University of Wisconsin - Madison, 8/28/2016

Jonathan Hamilton, *2012-2013 Graduating Cohort*

Master of Arts in Education in Secondary Education, University of Missouri – St. Louis, 8/6/2016

Megan Hohenstein, *2013-2014 Graduating Cohort*

Master of Education in Research & Evaluation Methodology, University of Florida, 8/9/2016

Louise Jones Strickland, *2013-2014 Graduating Cohort*

Master of Arts in Education in Curriculum & Instruction, University of Kansas, 12/31/2015

Rebecca Pursley, *2011-2012 Graduating Cohort*

Master of Arts in Art History & Archaeology, University of Missouri - Columbia, 12/18/2015

Kylie Warner, *2013-2014 Graduating Cohort*

Master of Science in Communication Disorders, Truman State University, 5/7/2016

Jonathan Whitfield, *2010-2011 Graduating Cohort*

Juris Doctorate, University of Missouri - Columbia, 12/18/2015

Master of Arts in Information Science & Learning Technologies, University of Missouri – Columbia, 12/18/2015

ALUMNI GRADUATIONS

Since our Last Newsletter...

Five more McNair Alumni have earned PhDs!

The Truman State University McNair Program proudly congratulates these Scholars for their outstanding achievements.

Dr. Ashley Adams

2006-2007 Graduating Cohort

Higher Education Administration

St. Louis University

December 19, 2015

Dr. Chanee Anderson

2007-2008 Graduating Cohort

**Educational Policy, Organization
& Leadership**

University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign

August 8, 2016

Dr. Courtney Carter

2004-2005 Graduating Cohort

Sociology

University of Illinois at Chicago

August 9, 2015

Dr. Amber Jones

2008-2009 Graduating Cohort

Educational Studies

Emory University

May 9, 2016

Dr. Lynn Ritter Redclay

2000-2001 Graduating Cohort

Social Work

Rutgers University, 5/1/2016

NEW SCHOLARS

Spring 2016 Cohort

Of 22 applicants, 13 were selected to join the McNair Program!

New Scholars by Major *

Art	2	Economics	1
Biology	2	English	2
Business	1	Health Sciences	1
Chemistry	1	History	1
Communication	1	Justice Systems	1
Communication Disorders	1	Psychology	2
Computer Science	1	Sociology/Anthropology	1

*Five new scholars are double majors!



*Front Row (L to R): Thomas Lona, Christina Elem, Nala Turner, Ama Idun, Anna Wang, Patricia Flanagan, Jonas Chang
Back Row (L to R): Elias Garcia, Johanna Burns, Rebecca Light, Julia Nguyen, Ari Vera, Sydney Matheis*

THANK YOU, MENTORS!

Fall 2015—Spring 2016 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.

Art

Professor James Jereb
Dr. Sara Orel

Biology

Dr. LaRoy Brandt
Dr. Brent Buckner
Dr. Laura Fielden-Rechav
Dr. Stephen Hudman
Dr. Sempertegui-Sosa
Dr. Ben Wodika

Chemistry

Dr. Barbara Kramer

Communication

Dr. Andrew Klyukovski
Dr. Jay Self

Communication Disorders

Dr. Ilene Elmlinger
Dr. Janet Gooch

Economics

Dr. David Gillette

Education

Dr. John Jones
Dr. Beverly Perrachione

English & Linguistics

Dr. Monica Barron
Dr. Heather Cianciola
Dr. Sarah Mohler
Dr. Gregory Richter

Health & Exercise Sciences

Dr. Janice Clark
Dr. Roberta Donahue
Dr. Alicia Wodika

History

Dr. Jason McDonald

Justice Systems

Dr. Curtis Blakely

Mathematics

Dr. David Garth
Dr. Pamela Ryan

Physics

Dr. Vayujeet Gokhale

Psychology

Dr. Yuna Ferguson
Dr. Sherri Palmer
Dr. Jeffrey Vittengl

Society & Environment

Dr. Anton Daughters
Dr. Amber Johnson

{special} **THANKS** to our mentors

RESEARCH ACTIVITY

Fall 2015—Spring 2016—Summer 2016

Research Experiences are one key element in the McNair Program. Scholars participate in research in a variety of ways, from identifying a research topic, to drafting a proposal...

Three McNair Scholars created research proposals in **STEM 105: Integrative Inquiry Seminar**: Thomas Lona, Julia Nguyen, and Sarahi “Ari” Vera

Twelve McNair Scholars completed and presented original research proposals in **INDV 360, McNair Research Internship I**: Johanna Burns, Jonas Chang, Christina Elem, Patricia Flanagan, Elias Garcia, Freda "Ama" Idun, Rebecca Light, Thomas Lona, Sydney Matheis, Sydney Ruffin, Nala Turner, and Anna Wang.

Seven McNair Scholars conducted research the ten week **INDV 460, McNair Research Internship II**:

Brandall Bond	“The Cognitive Symptomology of Post-Concussion Syndrome: A Neuropsychological Item-Analysis”
Chacity Cooper	“An Analysis of Geometry Curriculum, Modern Geometry Textbooks, and Common Core State Standards.”
Sebastián Maldonado-Vélez	“ <i>Chupa Mi Cabra</i> : A Creative Study of Queer Identity through Surrealist Poetry.”
Erica McBride	“Identity Development and Normalcy: An Analysis of the Goals and Methods of Occupational Therapists.”
Mackenzie Smith	“A Genre Criticism of Truman State University’s Vision Statement.”
Anastasia Steblina	“The Double and the Uncanny in the Writing of Poe and Dostoyevsky.”
Franchot Walker	“ Making a Team: Associations Among Athletes’ Perceptions of Coaching Styles and Psychological Needs, Enjoyment and Motivation.”

McNair Scholars also conducted research through external **Research Experiences for Undergraduates (REUs)**.

Mahliyah “Maple” Adkins-Threats, a Biology major, was invited to work with Dr. Linda McCarter at the University of Iowa Microbiology REU in a project titled “Investigating Surface Sensing Signal Transduction in *Vibrio Parahaemolyticus*.”

L. Sofia Gonzalez, a Biology major, joined a Biochemistry REU at Purdue University, where she worked with Dr. Andrew Mesecar’s research team on the “Effect of Allosteric Changes in MERS 3CLpro Enzymatic Activity and Dimerization.”

Morgan Grandon, a Chemistry major, was accepted to participate in an NSF-funded Chemistry REU at Texas A&M University working with the Batteas Research Groups and under the leadership of Dr. James Batteas. The title of the project was “Covalent Immobilization of Graphene on Patterned SAMs for Investigation of Frictional Properties.”

RESEARCH ACTIVITY

Fall 2015—Spring 2016—Summer 2016

...to presenting or publishing their findings.

Professional Research Conference Presentations

UMBC McNair Research Conference 2015: Baltimore, MD
RaShaunda Fargo, Brandi Jones, Meghan Meyers,
Roberto Renteria, Ciera Utter & Chelsie Yokum

MO-KAN-NE McNair Heartland Research Conference 2015:
Kansas City, MO
Angela Bunning, Ronnia Estes, RaShaunda Fargo, Brandi Jones,
Meghan Meyers & Roberto Renteria

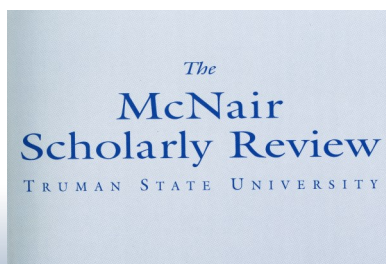
ATSU Interdisciplinary Biomedical Research Symposium 2015:
Kirkville, MO
Angela Bunning & Sofia Gonzalez

Truman Student Research Conference 2016: Kirkville, MO
Angela Bunning, Ronnia Estes, RaShaunda Fargo, Elias Garcia, Meghan Meyers, Roberto Renteria, Chelsie Yokum,
& Anna Wang

National Conference on Undergraduate Research: Asheville, NC
Sebastián G. Maldonado-Vélez

Publications

Seven Scholars from the 2015 McNair Research Internship II and one external research scholar had their manuscripts published in Volume 22 of Truman's *McNair Scholarly Review*, a refereed journal: Angela Bunning, Ronnia Estes, RaShaunda Fargo, Meghan Meyers, Roberto Renteria, Ciera Utter, & Chelsie Yokum.



(L to R): Dr. John Quinn, Chelsie Yokum, Meghan Meyers, Roberto Renteria, Brandi Jones, RaShaunda Fargo, & Ciera Utter

We had a great year!

