

The Scholar Voyageur

McNair Scholars Program Newsletter
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Scholar Spotlight



Aaron Seidel, a senior geoscience major at Indiana University of Pennsylvania, has been awarded the Goldwater Scholarship, becoming the eighth IUP student to win the award. Aaron is the third IUP McNair Scholar in the past 5 years to earn the honor. Aaron joins McNair scholars Kara McClain, '17, and Dan O'Hara, '15 with this distinction.

The Goldwater Scholarship, which was first awarded in 1989, honors Senator Barry Goldwater and was designed to foster and encourage outstanding students to pursue careers in the fields of mathematics, the natural sciences, and engineering. It is the preeminent undergraduate award of its type in these fields.

The award will cover Seidel's expenses for the 2018-19 school year. He is the only winner among the 22 Pennsylvania recipients who is a student at a school in Pennsylvania's State System of Higher Education.

"I worked very hard and I gave my best effort to the application process," Seidel said. "It feels good to be recognized for my hard work."

Seidel, a native of Cleveland, Ohio, is a member of the Cook Honors College at IUP. He is mentored by faculty members Greg Mount, Department of Geoscience, and John Benhart, chair of the Department of Geography and Regional Planning.

Congratulations Aaron!

Message from the Director....

Congratulations to **2018 McNair graduates**.....Anastasia Clayton, La'Nier Corbett, Laura DeJesus, Nick Dzuricky, Kiera Estes, Josh Garcia, Jason Goulding, Jordan Gwinn, Danielle Knight, Lauren LaMar, Megan Lydic, John Mihalek, Madinah Mubarak, Brandon Rager, Cynthia Rodriguez, Marina Seamans, Jakyra Simpson, Elecia Smith, and Samantha Soto. We are thrilled with your success and wish you all the best in your future endeavors. Doubly proud of those continuing on in graduate school. See page 4 for details.

As many are aware, sadly, we lost the McNair program in the 2017 competition. As we close out the grant, I wanted to celebrate the many successes of our current McNair scholars, congratulate them on their graduation, and bid them a fond farewell. As this edition of the McNair program reflects, the program, it's staff and faculty mentors, and all the wonderful 240 students we have served over the past 15 years remains in the minds of many a successful and rewarding experience. I invite you to enjoy this final edition of the *Scholar Voyageur*. In the foreseeable future I will remain at IUP as I have been re-assigned as UBMS Math & Science Coordinator following the unexpected departure of Joanna Harrington. I look forward to collaborating with Dr. Masilela to seek funding for a Student Support Services (SSS) TRIO program in the upcoming 2019 competition. SSS focuses on college retention for low income, first generation, and/or disabled undergraduates. Our score in the last competition for this program was highly competitive, and we feel confident in submitting a new proposal next year. Being a part of the TRIO culture at IUP, I will forever be proud of the work we have done in McNair, and will dearly miss the program and our students. Thank you to all who have supported the McNair program over the years!

Congratulations Scholars!



Dr. Hilary Staples, Program Director

McNair Celebrates 2 More Ph.D.'s!



Michael Lynch, '10, has earned his Ph.D. in Sociology & Rural Studies from South Dakota State University. Dr. Lynch defended his dissertation titled "*The Assessment of the Impacts of Marijuana Legalization in Sioux Falls, South Dakota*". At IUP, Michael was mentored by Dr. Sarah Tourtelotte. *Congratulations Dr. Lynch!*



Brittany Allman, '11, recently defended her dissertation titled "*The Effect of Resistance Exercise and Protein Timing Lipolysis on Fat Oxidation in Resistance-Trained Women*" at Florida State University's Department of Food, Nutrition and Exercise Science. Dr. Allman has accepted a post-doctoral position with the Arkansas Children's Nutrition Center at the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences in Little Rock. Brittany was mentored at IUP by Dr. Madeline Bayles. *Congratulations Dr. Allman!*

Tribute to Faculty Mentors 2004-2018 . . .

In addition to several faculty mentors who have since retired or otherwise left IUP, this provides the most comprehensive list of faculty who have mentored one or more McNair scholars since the program's inception in 2004. We offer our deepest gratitude for their efforts and recognize the significant impact mentoring has had in the success of McNair scholars' graduate school preparation over the years. *Thank you for supporting our students and the McNair Scholars Program!!*

Art

Irene Kabala

Anthropology

Francis Allard
Abigail Adams
Ben Ford
Victor Garcia

Biology

N. Bharathan
Bob Hinrichson
Vida Irani
Megan Knoch
Josiah Townsend
Holly Travis

Chemistry

Anne Kondo
Wendy Elcesser
John Ford
Avijita Jain
Jaeju Ko
Keith Kyler
Charles Lake
Nathan McElroy
Jonathan Southard

Child Development & Family

Relations

Sarah Brown
Kalani Palmer
Daniel Puhlman

Communications Media

Zachary Stiegler

Criminology

Jonathan Cooper
Jennifer Gossett
Kate Hanrahan
Bitna Kim
Daniel Lee
John Lewis
Alida Merlo
Daniel Scott

Developmental Studies

Melvin Jenkins

Economics

Chris Jeffords
James Jozefowicz
David Yerger

English

Chauna Craig
Anthony Farrington
Chris Kuipers
Ben Rafoth
Judith Villa
Veronica Watson

Food & Nutrition

Nicole Clark

Foreign Language

Shijuan Laurel Liu
Marveta Ryan-Sams

Geography & Regional Planning

Donald Buckwalter
John Benhart
Sudeshna Ghosh
Richard Hoch
Calvin Masilela

Geoscience

Katie Farnsworth
Steven Hovan
Jon Lewis
Greg Mount

History

Sharon Franklin-Rahkonen
Soo Chun Lu
Joseph Mannard
R. Scott Moore
Elizabeth Ricketts
Wang Xi
Tamara Whited

Information Systems & Decision Sciences

Pankaj Chaudhary
Scott Mensch
James Rodger

Journalism

Michele Papakie

Kinesiology, Health & Sport Science

Robert Alman
Richard Hsiao
Madeline Paternostro Bayles
Jose Rivera
Joshua Castle
Michael Kostick
James Racchini

Management

Michael Kosicek
Fred Slack
Joette Wisnieski

Marketing

Parimal Bhagat

Music

Matthew Baumer
Stephanie Caulder
Zach Collins
Chris Dickinson
Kevin Eisensmith
Michael Kingan

Nursing & Allied Health

Professions

Michele Gerwick
Mary Sadler
Joyce Shanty
Teresa Shellenbarger

Philosophy

Mary Macleod

Physics

John Bradshaw
Greg Kenning

Political Science

Dighton Fiddner
Steven Jackson
Gwendolyn Torges

Professional Studies in Education

Beatrice Fennimore
Shirley Johnson
Kelli Paquette
Meghan Twiest

Psychology

Pearl Berman
Stephanie Davis
Beverly Goodwin
Tara Johnson
Laura Knight
Anson Long
Maureen McHugh
John "Jay" Mills
Christine Newell
Raymond Pavloski
Anthony Perillo
Mark Palumbo
Cora Lou Sherburne

Religious Studies

Alison Downie

Sociology

Susan Boser
Kathryn Bonach
Melanie Hildebrandt
Beth Mabry
Hilario Molina
Michelle Sandhoff
Diane Shinberg
Melissa Swauger

Theater & Dance

Holly Boda-Sutton



Congratulations to Student Researchers! . . .

Two IUP McNair Scholars were selected to present their research at the annual Undergraduate at the Capitol Pennsylvania poster competition held April 17, 2018 in the East Wing Rotunda in the Capitol Complex in Harrisburg. Aaron Seidel, a senior geoscience/applied mathematics major, made history by becoming the first IUP student to win third place for his project titled "application of Ground Penetrating Radar and the Complex Refractive Index Model to Estimate Methane Dynamics of Semi-Natural Environments", which he presented in the STEM Division. Aaron is mentored by Dr. Greg Mount, Geoscience. Kiera Estes, a chemistry major, presented "Design, Synthesis, and Spectroscopic Studies of a Ru(II) Polypyridyl Complex Containing Bulky Ligands" a project overseen by her mentor, Dr. Avijita Jain. Aaron's accomplishment comes on the heels of news of his Goldwater Scholarship, while Kiera celebrates a full funding package to attend Purdue University's Ph.D. program in Chemistry this coming fall. *Congrats to both on their achievements!*



IUP McNair Program Staff

Dr. Hilary Staples, Director
hstaples@iup.edu

Dr. Calvin Masilela, Research
Methods Professor/Program
Advisor; Professor of Geogra-
phy & Regional Planning
cmasilel@iup.edu

Ms. Olushola Kaffo
Program Assistant
O.J.Kaffo@iup.edu

**"Before you can make a dream
come true, you must first have one"
Dr. Ronald E. McNair, 1950-1986**



“Whether or not you reach your goals in life depends entirely on how well you prepare for them and how badly you want them. You're eagles! Stretch your wings and fly to the sky...”



~ Ronald E. McNair ~
1950-1986

Congratulations to Scholars Accepted to Graduate School . . .

To date, the following 2018 McNair Graduates and Alumni have been accepted in graduate programs this upcoming Fall!

Kelsey Durham (McNair Class of 2017)	M.Ed., Counseling	Clemson University
Nick Dzuricky	Ph.D., Materials Science & Engineering	University of Maryland, College Park
Kiera Estes	Ph.D., Chemistry	Purdue University
Jason Goulding	D.P.T., Physical Therapy	Gannon University
Lauren LaMar	M.Ed., Educational Leadership	Florida Gulf Coast University
Megan Lydic	M.A., Clinical Mental Health Counseling	Indiana University of Pennsylvania
John Mihalek	M.A., Psychology	Springfield College
Briana Richardson-Jones (McNair Class of 2016)	Ph.D., Sociology	Howard University
Hali Santiago (McNair Class of 2016)	Ph.D., Forensic Psychology	University of Nebraska-Lincoln
Marina Seamans	Ph.D., TESOL	University of Maryland, College Park
Jakya Simpson	M.D., Natural Medicine	Southwest College of Naturopathic Medicine
Elecia Smith	M.A., Marriage & Family Therapy	Pfeiffer University
Samantha Soto	M.S., Environmental Science & Policy	Clark University
Cody Stewart (McNair Class of 2016)	Ph.D., Environmental Sustainability	University of Southern Florida