The Scholar Voyageur

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Message from the Director

Greetings and welcome to another semester at IUP! I want to begin my message by congratulating all McNair scholars who graduated this past Sping and Summer. Scholars who graduated include: Brittany Allman, Jessica Beere, Alisia Drew, Matt Gemberling, Danielle Graves, Anthony LeDonne, Tyrone Peace, Rosamaria Ponciano, Becki Santi, Kim Siverling, Jarred Smith, Brams Theodore, Zach Walker, and Jon Yuhas. Certainly I want to extend our well wishes to scholars and alumni entering graduate programs. Please see page 3 for details. I also want to extend a warm welcome to 2011 McNair scholars. They are depicted on page 2. Another impressive round of applicants who deserve to be commended for their selection into the McNair program. We are indeed delighted to have had one of the most competitive applicant pools to date. Welcome aboard!

That said, I think it is important to note the tremendous pressure TRIO programs in general are facing due to rising federal deficits. During the 2011-12 fiscal year, Congress cut TRIO appropriations by over $26 million, resulting in a 3.1% reduction to each TRIO program budget. FY 2012 could see further reductions and/or the elimination of some programs. These trends do not bode well for Great Society programs that ensure access and opportunity to disadvantaged students. So as we hunker down to re-write grant proposals for both our TRIO programs, the future is uncertain.

That said, there is still much to celebrate. As the McNair program enters the 8th year at IUP, its contribution to the university culture has steadfastly grown. One of the ways in which we have been able to partner with university initiatives has been through our support and assistance in the implementation of the Undergraduate Scholars Forum. Since 2005, the McNair Scholars Program has served as co-sponsor, and all McNair students in each cohort have participated by presenting their research. I am proud to note that once again this past year, three McNair students were awarded with Best Presentation nods: Brittany Allman, Alisia Drew, and Ainyae Stratton.

Furthermore, for the past several years the McNair Scholars Program has partnered with the Honors College in hosting Mr. Donald Asher, a career coach and graduate admissions expert, to provide a 3 day workshop for our scholars and Honors College students. This workshop has been remarkably successful and well-received, and has been instrumental in helping students to understand the graduate application process and to write competitive personal goal statements as part of their graduate applications.

Additionally, the contribution of the McNair program to the IUP university culture is reflected in university campaigns such as the publicity homepage "Get My Story" series. To date, four IUP McNair scholars have been featured.

Prof. Masilela, Director, IUP TRIO Programs

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Scholar Spotlight

Sultan Magruder has been selected to attend the Annual Compact for Faculty Diversity's Institute on Teaching and Mentoring in Washington, D.C. Oct. 20-23. The Institute gathers approximately 1200 minority doctoral scholars from all disciplines and from across the country to share knowledge about research and academia and to link them to faculty mentors in a variety of disciplines. The forum also presents fertile ground for the recruitment of minority faculty. Only 100 McNair students nationwide are selected each year to attend this mentoring forum. To date, 8 IUP McNair Scholars have been selected to participate in this prestigious program. Sultan is a senior psychology major. He is in the process of completing his McNair research titled, "Social Value Orientation and Cooperation:The Mediating Role of Dispositional Empathy and Reading the Mind in the Eyes Ability" which is guided by faculty mentor Dr. Jay Mills. *Congratulations Sultan!*

Scholars Present Research

In July, six scholars were selected to present their research proposal at the 17th Annual National McNair Research Conference sponsored by the University at Buffalo and held in Niagara Falls, NY. Mallory Clark, a senior psychology major, presented her proposal titled "Overcoming Stereotype Threat: The Effects of I-sharing on Women's Test Performance", a project directed by her faculty mentor, Dr. Anson Long. Scholar Daniel Cuevas gave a lively presentation on his topic titled "The Effect of Heavy Rope Training on College-Aged Individuals who Have been Inactive for a Period of 6 Months" which he developed under the guidance of Dr. Robert Alman. A senior English education major, scholar Laurin Jefferson presented her research "New Standards are Still Leaving Students Behind: The Struggle with Standardized Testing", a project guided by Dr. Judith Villa. Dr. Melissa Swauger serves as AnnaMarie Lydic's mentor, and has guided her efforts to develop her proposal titled "Outcomes of Post Treatment Services for Chemically Dependent Young Males in Indiana County", which she presented at the conference. Further, psychology major and McNair scholar Sultan Magruder presented "Social Value Orientation and Cooperation: The Mediating Role of Dispositional Empathy and Reading the Mind in the Eyes Ability", a project he developed under the direction of faculty mentor, Dr. Jay Mills.

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Upcoming Events

- *Council for Opportunity in Education 30th Annual Conference, Washington, D.C., Sept. 25-28, 2011*
- *2011 Institute for Teaching & Mentoring, Oct. 20-23, 2011, Washington, D.C.*

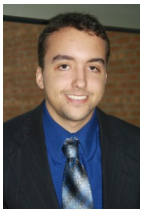
Introducing the 2011 Cohort of McNair Scholars…

Joining '10 continuing scholars: ***Daniel Cuevas*** *(Physical Education & Sport)*, ***Nasia Flood*** *(Communications Media)*, ***Melkia Green*** *(Finance)*, ***Rosamaria Ponciano*** *(Regional Planning)*, ***Eboni Ramsey*** *(Natural Science)*, ***Naeemah Smith*** *(Disabilities Services)*, ***and Teresa Stage*** *(History/Antropology)* we are pleased to present the 2011 cohort of McNairians! Congratulations on your

Mallory Clary, Psychology

Michelle Dufford, Anthropology

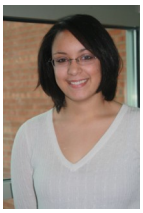
Jessica Edwards, Biology/Pre-Engineering



Jed Fetterman, Philosophy

Amber Fishel, Criminology

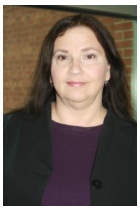
Jawanda Jackson, Regional Planning



Laurin Jefferson, English Education

AnnaMarie Lydic, Sociology

Sultan Magruder, Psychology



Lisa McCann, Operations Management

Dustin Mendus, Geography

Kyle Novak, Criminology

Hannah Senft, Music Education/Music Performance

Sarah Stone, Operations Management

Michelle Troutman, Anthropology

Moncure Vaden, Business Management

Naporje Washington, Sociology

Iryna Yavorska, Psychology

Congratulations to Scholars Accepted to Graduate School . . .

To date, the following Scholars & McNair Alumni have enrolled in graduate programs this fall:

Brittany Allman '11	*M.S., Exercise Physiology*	*University of Delaware*
Vernon Brundage '09	*M.A., Economics '11* *Ph.D., Urban Economics*	 *Howard University*
Jennifer Casanova '10	*M.S./Ph.D., Public Health*	*University of North Carolina Chapel Hill*
Alisia Drew '11	*M.Ed., Student Affairs in Higher Ed.*	*IUP*
Jerrod Foster '11	*M.A., Criminology*	*IUP*
Matthew Gemberling '11	*MPA, GSPIA*	*University of Pittsburgh*
Danielle Graves '10	*M.A., Criminology*	*IUP*
Kalin McDannell '08	*M.S., Geology '11* *Ph.D., Earth & Environmental Sciences*	*WVU* *Lehigh University*
Rebecca Santi '11	*M.S./Psy.D., Counseling Psychology*	*Carlow University*
Brams Theodore '11	*M.S., Safety Science*	*IUP*
Aubree Webb '08	*Ph.D., Educational & School Psychology*	*Pennsylvania State University*
Jon Yuhas '10	*M.S., Nutritional Sciences*	*Oklahoma State University*

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We're on the Web!
www.iup.edu/mcnair

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

TRiO
RONALD E. McNAIR POST-BACCALAUREATE ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM

The 2011 McNair Summer Research Institute concluded the six week program with a banquet honoring the achievements of the 2011 cohort of McNairians. This year, we graciously welcomed back to IUP campus Dr. Samuel Heastie, to provide the keynote address. Dr. Heastie was the speaker at the inaugural banquet for the McNair Scholars Program in April, 2004, and provided the keynote address at the 2006 Closing Banquet of the Summer Research Institute. Also during these past few years, Dr. Heastie was invited by university administrators to address IUP freshmen at the 2007 Freshmen Convocation ceremony. As always, Dr. Heastie fails to disappoint. At the request of our scholars and many other banquet attendees, here is the re-print of Dr. Heastie's memorable poem:

Drive the nail the right boy,
Hit it on the head;
Strike with all your might boy.
While the iron is red;
When you have work to do boy,
Do it with a will;
He who reaches the top,
First must climb the hill.
Though you stumble off boy,
Never be downcast;
Try and try again boy,
You will succeed at last. - *Author Unknown*

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Scholars Present Research

Finally, scholar Hannah Senft presented her research project focusing on "A Wind Band Arrangement of Jean Françaix's L'Horloge de Flore", which she developed under mentor Dr. Stephanie Caulder. *Congratulations to all scholars on their selection and representation at the SUNY-Buffalo McNair Conference!*

In addition, one scholar was selected to present her work at Penn State University's Annual National McNair Research Conference held July 8-10, 2011. Amber Fishel, a senior criminology major, presented her proposal titled "The Neuroscience Debate: Does Education Impact How Students Feel About Juveniles Serving Life in Prison" which she developed under the mentorship of Dr. John Lewis.

Message from the Director, con't..

These initiatives are important to point out as we embark on a new academic year in the McNair program. This year, we are gearing up to re-write to re-fund both TRIO programs at IUP: McNair and UBMS for another five years. Institution support for these programs is critical in this endeavor. I thank all university units for their continued support. In particular, we are most grateful for the support that the Provost's Office has committed in the form of independent study credits for McNair scholars to complete their research. Additionally, we thank the School of Graduate Studies & Research who support a graduate assistantship within the Office of TRIO programs. Further, we are deeply indebted to the Office of Administration & Finance for diligent support for the IUP TRIO programs, as well as the Research Institute for logistical support. Last, but certainly not least I extend my thanks to all faculty who volunteer their time to mentor, encourage, and support our students. They truly make a transformative difference in the lives of McNair scholars in a such a way that it is difficult to measure. I look forward to continuing this work with all of you.