

McNair Scholars Program

Fall 2015



“True courage comes in enduring...
persevering...
and believing in oneself.”

-Dr. Ronald E. McNair

The McNair Scholars Program has been preparing undergraduate students for graduate school since 2007. The McNair Scholars program is sponsored by the U.S. Department of Education and Cleveland State University. The program hosts conferences, graduate school visits, seminars and workshops that prepare the scholars for graduate education as well as GRE Prep courses, portfolio evaluation, one-on-one mentoring, textbook allowance and a writing course. In addition, the program sponsors a Summer Research Institute (SRI) where scholars work under faculty mentors for eight weeks on an extensive summer research project between their junior and senior years. Currently, there are several McNair Scholars that have graduated and are working towards obtaining Doctorate Degrees, MD /PhD's, and Master's Degrees.

It is a great pleasure that McNair Scholars are being accepted into graduate programs, most of them with full financial funding. We only hope that as the Fall semester continues, more of our scholars are accepted into graduate school and we wish them much success.

Current McNair Scholars

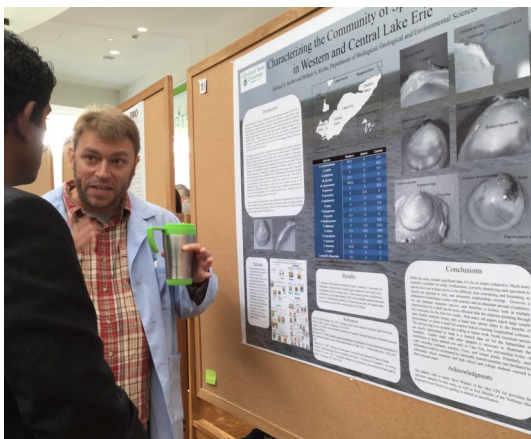
- Mishgan Abdullah—Health Sciences
- Brian Boccieri—Pre-Physical Therapy
- Brooke Burkhalter—Biology
- Carmen Caticchio—Biology
- Anita Isom—Psychology
- Michael Keller—Biology
- Daniel Kulman—Biology
- Khadeja Najjar—Psychology
- Christian Negrón-Rolon—Biology
- Teodora Nikova—Biology
- Uchechukwu Obiako—Chemical Engineering
- Mofetoluwa Oluwasanmi—Biology
- Maitri Patel—Biology
- David Pendleton—Electrical Engineering
- Aicha Quamine—Pharmaceutical Science
- Sokhna Seck—Chemistry
- Kia Smith—Chemistry
- Celeste Thomas—Speech and Hearing



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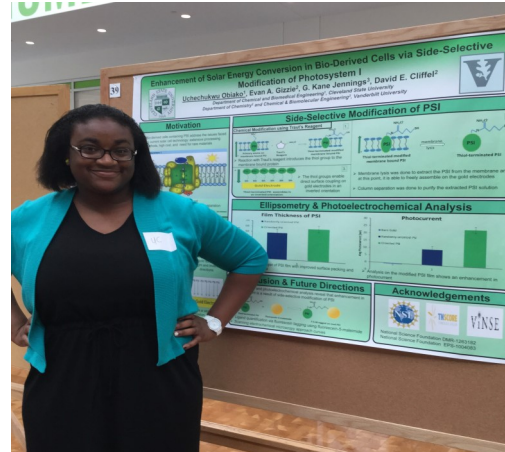
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RONALD E. McNAIR
POST-BACCALAUREATE
ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM



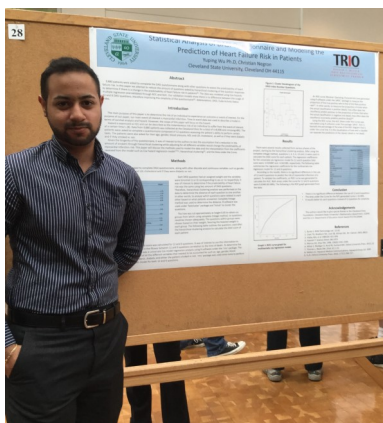
Scholar Michael Keller presents his research poster



Scholar Maitri Patel with her research team at Cleveland Clinic and faculty mentor, Dr. Shukla



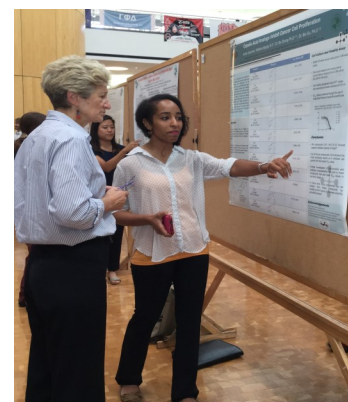
Scholar Uchekwku Obiako with her research poster from her summer research experience at Vanderbilt University



Scholar Christian Negrón-Rolon with his research poster



Scholar Brian Boccieri with his Non-Discipline faculty mentor, Dr. Woodside



Scholar Aicha Quamine presents her research to the Dean of the College of Science, Dr. Meredith Bond

Scholars Summer Research

Student	Faculty Mentor	Research Title
Najjar, Khadeja	Yaroslavsky, Ilya	Cultural differences in coping and depression between individuals of Arabic/Middle Eastern and Anglo American backgrounds.
Smith, Kia	Gogornea, Valentin	iNos & S100A8/A9 protein docking
Boccieri, Brian	Reinthal, Ann	Balance training application of a systematic framework for clinical decision making in therapeutic gaming for older adults.
Keller, Michael	Krebs, Robert	The Distribution of Corbiculacean clams in the Western Basin of Lake Erie.
Maitri, Patel	Shukla, Girish	Assaying the Splicing Activity of Novel Human Disease Variants of U4atac snRNA
Negrón Rolon, Christian	Wu, Yuping	Statistical Analysis of the Duke Activity Status Index and Myocardium Infarction
Quamine, Aicha	Su, Bin	Optimizing the design and potency of diterpenic acid derivatives to improve cell membrane permeability and Hsp27 targeting characteristics
Abdullah, Mishgan	Whitford, Maureen	Effects of accelerometer based feedback on the amount of use and the quality of movement
Burkhalter, Brooke	Sam-Yellowe, Tobili	Gene Conservation between Plasmodium yoelii and Plasmodium falciparum

In the Spotlight

As said by Marianne Williamson, "Our deepest fear is not that we are inadequate. Our deepest fear is that we are powerful beyond measure. It is our

light, not our darkness that most frightens us. We ask ourselves, 'Who am I to be brilliant, gorgeous, talented, fabulous?' Actually, who are you not to be?"

realize were a possibility. Through this, I can live to my full potential and understand my calling, which is to identify the relationship between poverty and minority health by analyzing healthcare disparities in order to serve individuals from underrepresented areas and to give back to deprived communities. Therefore, I urge each of you to take advantage of the abundance of resources that the McNair Scholars Program provides in order for you to shine bright.



And so to my fellow McNair Scholars and Alumni, I urge you to be powerful beyond measure through embracing goals that you have set for yourself. The McNair Scholars Program has given me the academic rigor, research experience, and service-orientated background to become an outstanding PhD student, which has shaped me into the young professional that I am today. The McNair Scholars Program has motivated and encouraged me to accomplish goals that I didn't even

Na'Tasha Evans, M.ED, B.S, B.A.

**Doctoral Student in Health Education
University of Toledo**

The McNair Scholar program at Cleveland State University advanced my academic, research, and professional skills while participating in research on campus and attending multiple conferences. I was able to complete summer research with Dr. Lisa Doane and we are currently working on developing a manuscript for publication. While attending research conferences, I networked with potential graduate school programs and discussed research within not only the field of psychology, but also other STEM fields. I am currently in the Clinical Psychology Master Thesis Program at Cleveland State University and will graduate Spring 2016. My research with Dr. Ilya Yaroslavsky involves psychophysiological

measures of typically developed adults and adults with Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD's) and/or ASD symptomatic features. Once I graduate with my Master's degree, I plan on taking a year off in order to complete more research and build my CV so as to apply to competitive Doctoral Clinical Psychology Programs. The McNair Scholar program is an important program that allows individuals like myself to experience otherwise unattainable opportunities that have and will continue to shape my academic and professional career.

Arielle Bowers, B.A.

**MA candidate in Clinical Psychology
Cleveland State University**



Congratulations to our Scholars!

Graduate Scholar	Degree	Post Graduation Plans
Andres Alberto	BS in Biology—Medical Technology	
Fernando Arias	BS in Electrical Engineering Technology	Electrical Service Information Development Engineer at the Warren Technical Center, General Mortors, Michigan
Sara Al-Nimer	BS in Mathematics/BA in Psychology	MS candidate in Biomedical Engineering at CSU
Leon Bykov	BS in Mathematics	Doctoral candidate in Mathematics at CWRU
Bethann Call	BS in Health Sciences	MS candidate in Occupational Therapy at CSU
Samantha Robinson	BS in Speech and Hearing	
April Waltonen	BA in Psychology and Organizational Leadership	MA candidate in Adult Learning and Development at ACSU



Congratulations to Scholar Leon Bykov and Scholar Bethann Call for receiving the 2015 Outstanding Senior Award!!!!



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