



# MCNAIR NEWSLETTER

FALL 2012

## *From the director*

Greetings Everyone!

As the fall semester at Cleveland State is unraveling, things are looking great at the McNair Scholars Program. I am happy to announce that our program has recently been refunded for another five years! This means five more years of helping students prepare for graduate school, and providing them with valuable resources to ensure further achievements.

The excitement of this wonderful news continues with the endeavors of our scholars whom have gone on to advance their education. Congratulations to all of the McNair Scholar Graduates from this past summer and spring!

The McNair Scholars Program has been successful in developing well-prepared students as they enter graduate

school. Since 2007, 80% of the McNair scholars have obtained bachelor's degrees, with 61% of those scholars enrolling into graduate programs. One scholar has completed her masters degree, one scholar is in the process of earning her PhD, another scholar is presently in Medical School, two scholars are working towards obtaining Doctorates in Physical Therapy, and twelve scholars are currently in master's programs, eight of whom are here at CSU.

It is a great joy to witness the accomplishments of all of our outstanding alumni. Furthermore, I anticipate many more successes as we enter this year with new scholars and upcoming graduates. Best wishes to all of you!

Valli Sarveswaran

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McNair Scholars at the Wax Museum in San Francisco

## *Meet the McNair Scholars*



2012 McNair Research Exposition and Banquet

- ◆ **Dominique Brooks**  
-Electrical Engineering
- ◆ **Anecia Chatmon**  
-Biology/Chemistry
- ◆ **Jermaine Clark**  
-Business Economics
- ◆ **Sherry Cucci**  
-Biology
- ◆ **Tracy Grimes**  
-Criminology
- ◆ **Tenia Harris**  
-Biology
- ◆ **Astrid Hernandez**  
-Psychology
- ◆ **Alexander Kariotakis**  
-Biology
- ◆ **Jayleen Melendez**  
-Psychology
- ◆ **Angela Mesenburg**  
-Social Work
- ◆ **Brittany Percy**  
-Linguistics
- ◆ **Audrianna Rodriguez**  
-Psychology
- ◆ **Monique Russell**  
-Environmental Science
- ◆ **Pedro Sarsama**  
-Economics

## *Congratulations to the Spring & Summer 2012 Graduates*

In order from left to right:

- ◆ Gurpreet Dhillon
- ◆ Na'Tasha Evans
- ◆ Vikki Tabb-Lyons
- ◆ Symone Robinson
- ◆ Keisha Gonzalez
- ◆ Jessica Jones
- ◆ Andrei Bialevich (not pictured)



## *Upcoming graduates in Fall 2012*

- ◆ Anecia Chatmon
- ◆ Sherry Cucci
- ◆ Tracy Grimes

## *McNair Scholars Attending National McNair Scholars Conferences*

*(clockwise from the top left University of Maryland College Park, MD; University of Wisconsin Milwaukee, WI; University of Berkeley, CA; University of Buffalo, NY; SAEOPP Conference Atlanta, GA)*



## *McNair Alumni in Graduate School*

"This first day of graduate school was like reliving the first day of high school all over again, except this time the concern was, will I compare intellectually with my colleagues? As time progressed I began to realize that I was applying the professional skills that I developed and exercised through McNair Scholars events. This included research, public speaking and networking. McNair has surely molded me into the young professional that I am today."

**-Keisha Gonzalez**

***Candidate for MA Historic Preservation***

***University of Delaware, DE***



"The McNair Scholars Program has encouraged me to accomplish goals that as an undergraduate I didn't realize were even a possibility such as publishing articles and conducting research. The McNair Scholars Program has provided various opportunities to enhance and develop who I am as a professional. Through the abundance of resources such as cultural events, work shops, and conferences, I was adequately prepared for graduate school and what graduate school had to offer."

**-Na'Tasha Evans**

***Candidate for MA in Community Health Education***

***Cleveland State University, OH***

## Key events of this semester:

- Aug. 28th– Welcome back meeting
- Sept. 6th– Research Day
- Sept. 26th– Funding graduate education & Dorothy Spurlock session on graduate programs at University of Toledo
- Oct. 3rd– Celebration to mark new McNair grant
- Oct. 24th, 26th, & Nov. 28th- “Preparing Your Professional Portfolio” workshop & Scholar meetings
- Nov. 3rd– Winter’s Tale– Show at Playhouse Square
- Nov. 9th-11th– University of Wisconsin McNair Conference
- Nov. 12th– Beauty & the Beast– Show at Playhouse Square

Astrid presenting her research at the 21st Annual National McNair Research Conference, 2012



Pedro and Tenia celebrating the renewal of the McNair grant



Ronald E. McNair

## Become a McNair Scholar

The CSU TRIO McNair Scholars Program assists undergraduate students with their academic development and prepares them for doctoral studies. In order to help the students achieve their goals, the program supports and sponsors undergraduate experiences to produce highly competitive students who have all of the necessary skills for graduate school. These experiences include attending seminars, advising, preparation for the Graduate Record Examination (GRE), and involvement in research. Students who participate in the program come from disadvantaged backgrounds, show strong academic potential in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, or Mathematics) disciplines, and are committed to pursuing a Ph.D. degree. This program is sponsored by the U.S. Department of Education and named after Dr. Ronald E. McNair, an African American physicist and NASA astronaut who died in the Challenger explosion in 1986.



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