

# THE CHALLENGER



## Upcoming Events

**McNair Senior Retreat** is September 30 – October 2, 2011, at the Abbey Resort in Fontana, Wisconsin. This event is designed to jump start McNair students in preparing their graduate school application materials. In addition, students will receive hands-on assistance preparing their personal statements and letters of recommendation.

**McNair Birthday Breakfast Celebration** is set for Wednesday, October 19 on the 4<sup>th</sup> Floor of Marquette Hall, 9am to 11am. McNair Scholars, mentors, and alumni are invited to attend. Ronald E. McNair was born on October 21, 1950, in Lake City, South Carolina.

**20<sup>th</sup> Annual National McNair Research Conference and Graduate Fair** is set for Friday, November 11 to Sunday, November 13 at the Grand Geneva Resort in Lake Geneva, Wisconsin. Workshops, panel discussions, and activities will introduce McNair scholars to the nature of graduate study as well as provide helpful tips and suggestions for writing an effective graduate admissions essay.

**Interested in becoming a McNair Scholar?** Attend the McNair Program Overview on November 10 to learn more about the application process. Contact the McNair Office for more information at 288-1771.

## SCHOLARS PRESENT RESEARCH AT 21ST ANNUAL MCNAIR SYMPOSIUM

Twenty undergraduate students participating in this summer's Ronald E. McNair Program presented their research at the 21st Annual Undergraduate Research Symposium held July 27-28.

The event kicked off with poster presentations on Wednesday in the Alumni Memorial Union. Students displayed their research and were on hand to discuss their projects with the MU campus community.

On Thursday, Dr. Joseph Green, Director of the Educational Opportunity Program, presided over the Opening Session, introducing Dr. William Welburn, Associate Provost, who gave the opening remarks. "Your accomplishments are a tremendous source of pride for us here at Marquette," Dr. Welburn stated. "More importantly, I believe that you have made Dr. McNair proud as you have fulfilled what he has been often quoted as saying 'Whether or not you reach your goals in life depends entirely on how well you prepared for them and how badly you want them.'"

On Friday, the students attended the Ethnic Alumni Association 10th Anniversary Celebration, held as part of the Alumni Reunion Weekend. "Overall, the evening was fantastic," commented junior Toby Baker. "The speakers were interesting, humorous, and inspiring, and the attendees gave off the feeling of 'family', despite [my] still being an undergraduate. I hope to give back to the EAA upon graduating."



*MU McNair Scholars attending the 10th Anniversary Ethnic Alumni Association Celebration partied with emcee Rondell Sheridan (center), alums Vincent Stevenson and Arnitta Holliman, and McNair staffperson Mary Jennings. (Photo courtesy of MU Alumni Relations.)*

# MU MCNAIR SUMMER 2011 RESEARCH

***Bucking The Trend: An Exploration of the First Generation College Graduate's Experience***

Toby D. Baker (Dr. Sara Bonewits Feldner), Communication Studies

***Identity at the Crossroads: Having Both Mexican and Sexual Minority Status in the United States***

Marisa Curley (Dr. Ed de St. Aubin), Psychology

***Drug Development In Schizophrenia: Efficacy In Preclinical And Clinical Trials To Show Role Of Antipsychotic Drugs***

Eduardo de la Cruz (Dr. M. Behnam Ghasemzadeh), Biomedical Sciences

***Shooting for the Stars: A Study of African American Men and Sports***

Monique N. Driver (Dr. Richard Jones), Sociology

***Neighborhood Educational Opportunities Zones: School-Community Collaborations in Urban Settings***

LaTasha P. Ellis (Dr. Martin Scanlan), Educational Policy And Leadership

***The Budget Repair Bill: How it will Affect Wisconsin and Milwaukee Public Schools***

Anthony J. Gaines (Dr. John McAdams), Political Science

***Race and Identity: The Case of the Igbo People in the Americas***

Cicely Bianca Hunter (Dr. Chima Korie), History

***The Impact of the Death of Oscar Romero on the U.S.***

Casimir E. Korducki (Dr. Michael Donoghue), History

***Two-Way Dual Language Education Holds Promise for Narrowing the Achievement Gap Between Bilingual Spanish Speaking Children and Children that Speak Standard American English (SAE)***

Erica N. Mallett (Dr. Brenda Gorman), Speech Pathology and Audiology

***'Big Boys Don't Cry': A Qualitative Study of African American Men's Construction of Themselves as Victims of Violence While Seeking Protection Orders Against Female Respondents in Milwaukee, WI***

Jazmynn L. McCain (Dr. Sameena Mulla), Anthropology

***Nurturing our Roots: An Investigation of How Linguistically Diverse Students are Educated in Catholic Elementary Schools***

Irma L. Muñoz (Dr. Martin Scanlan), Educational Policy and Leadership

***Transcultural Nursing: A Comparative Analysis of Middle Eastern and American CAM Practices***

Majidah Murrar (Dr. Lesley Boaz), Nursing

***Understanding the Rwandan Genocide: Comparative Studies on the Causes of Ethnic Conflict and its Intensification into Genocide***

Emmanuel Julius Niyonsaba (Dr. Michael Fleet), Political Science

***Are There Differences in the Neurological Adaptations to Resistance Training***

Jason D. Raymond (Dr. Alexander Ng), Exercise Science

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*MU McNair Scholars who presented at the 21st Annual Ronald E. McNair Undergraduate Research Symposium. Left to Right/First Row: Emily Shackleton, 2nd Row: Steven Snowden, Toby Baker, Cicely Hunter, Anthony Gaines. 3rd Row: Khan Tran, Jason Raymond, Marisa Curley, Majidah Murrar, Samantha Whaley, Eduardo de la Cruz. 4th Row: Jazmynn McCain, Devonique Small, Monique Driver, Irma Muñoz, Erica Mallet. Top Row: Casey Korducki, LaTasha Ellis, Larry Whitley, Emmanuel Niyonsaba.*

*McNair Scholars presenting at the 2011 National Conference on Undergraduate Research, held at Ithaca College in Ithaca, New York in April, 2011. Pictured clockwise from the left: Vincent Dang, Ivy Awino, Gabrielle Gray, LaTasha Ellis, Jaimee Crape, Monai Myles, Maly Lor, and Christopher Powell.*



## McNair Summer 2011 Research/Continued

***The Writing Center Gone Digital: Options, Perceptions, and Conversion Analysis of Tutoring Practices in the University of Wisconsin-Madison Writing Center***

Emily A. Shackleton (Dr. Rebecca Nowacek), English

***Pepper in a Sea of Salt: Description of College Life by Black Undergraduate EOP Students at a Predominately White Private University***

Devonique N. Small (Dr. Marcia Williams), Sociology

***Time Course of Emotional Response to Positive Images***

Steven J. Snowden (Dr. Nakia Gordon), Psychology

***Urban Gang Recruitment and Early Puberty: Effects of Early Puberty on 6th Grade Boys and Their Likelihood of Gang Membership***

Khanh H. Tran (Mr. Robert Rondini), Criminology and Law Studies

***The Turkish Question: How the AKP's Islamic Orientation has Affected Turkish Politics***

Samantha G. Whaley (Dr. Susan Giaimo and Dr. Michael Fleet), Political Science

***The \$12 Billion Question: A Case Study Regarding the Impact of Celebrity Endorsers on Brand Performance***

Larry A. Whitley (Dr. Dennis Garrett), Marketing

## SCHOLARS ON THE MOVE

**Christopher E. Powell** participated in the Summer Research Opportunity Program at the University of Illinois-Chicago this summer.

**Shona Hang** participated in MU's Biomedical Sciences Summer Research Program this summer.

**Valencia D. Lynch** has been accepted to the Latin American, Caribbean and Iberian Studies program at the University of Wisconsin. She is the recipient of the Advanced Opportunity Fellowship.

**Geysa P. Gonzalez** has been accepted to the London School of Economics

**Leticia Vallejo (Galindo)** has been accepted to the doctoral program in clinical psychology at Marquette University.

**Angela Melchor** has been accepted into the doctoral program in nursing at the University of Illinois Chicago.

**Vladimir Bjelic** has been accepted to the masters program in speech pathology and audiology at Oklahoma State University.

**Ewune Ewane** has been accepted to the masters program in counseling psychology at Loyola University in Chicago.

**Vincent Stevenson, Jr.** has been accepted to the Master of Social Work program at Fordham University in New York.

**Desiree Valentine** has been admitted to the Ph.D. program in philosophy at Penn State University.

## McNair Scholars Program

Marquette University  
P.O. Box 1881  
Milwaukee, WI 53201-1881

Phone: 414 288-1771  
Fax: 414 288-1769

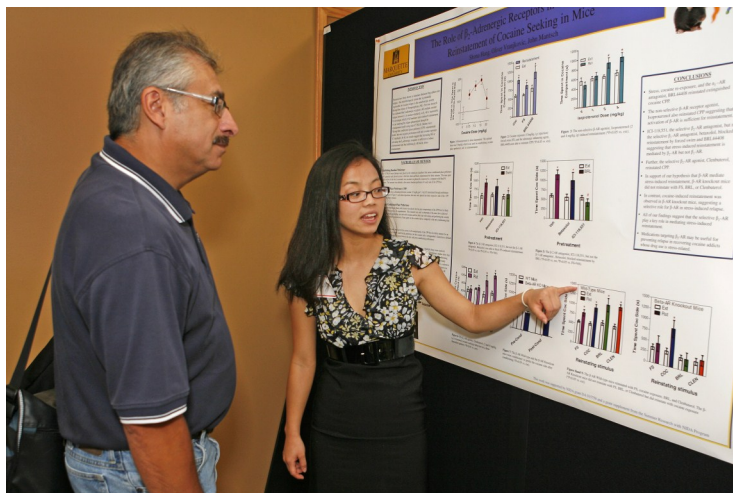
Director: Eddie M. Guzmán  
Admin Secretary: Mary L. Jennings

*Preparing Students for  
Graduate School*

The McNair Scholars Program is an Educational Opportunity Program at Marquette University. Funding for the program is provided through a grant from the United States Department of Education.

# TRIO

RONALD E. MCNAIR  
POST-BACCALAUREATE  
ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM



Shona Hang, senior in Health Sciences, presents her research at the Student Research Day, sponsored by the College of Biomedical Sciences (Photo by Dan Johnson).

## MCNAIR ALUMNI DEGREE UPDATE

### Bachelor Degrees

Vladimir Bjelic, Bachelor of Sciences, College of Health Sciences  
Jaimee L. Crape, Bachelor of Arts, College of Arts & Sciences  
Ewune Ewane, Bachelor of Arts, College of Arts & Sciences  
Geysa P. Gonzalez, Bachelor of Arts, College of Arts & Sciences  
Tasha L. Hefter, Bachelor of Sciences, College of Health Sciences  
Valencia D. Lynch, Bachelor of Arts, College of Arts & Sciences  
Karen N. Pagán-Vera Martínez, Bachelor of Sciences, College of Business Administration  
Domonique S. Miller, Bachelor of Arts, College of Communication  
Affnan M. Mohammad, Honors Bachelor of Arts, Magna cum laude, College of Arts and Sciences  
Francisco R. Nava, Bachelor of Arts, College of Arts & Sciences  
Alexandra C. Villalaz, Bachelor of Sciences, College of Health Sciences

### Master Degrees

Tiffany L. Brantley, Masters of Science in Human Resources, Marquette University  
Arnitta R. Holliman, Master of Science, Marquette University  
Vincent J. Stevenson, Jr., Master of Arts, Marquette University

### Other Professional Degrees

Janice K. Blades, Doctor of Physical Therapy, Marquette University

### Ph.D.

Phu Nguyen Tran, Doctor of Philosophy, Marquette University