STARTING RESEARCH EARLY

My name is Mai. I am a junior and am majoring in biochemistry with a minor in computer information and technology. I applied for McNair during the spring of my freshman year and have been a part of McNair since then. I started working on my first research project during my sophomore year, and with the help of McNair, I learned to write a proposal. I carried out my research during the summer of 2008 and just completed my research. McNair has also given me opportunities to visit colleges and attend conferences. Since I started doing research early, I will be able to attend more conferences and possibly be able to visit more institutions. Attending conferences helps me build a better resume and also improved my public speaking and presentation skills.

Looking back at the experiences that McNair has provided me, I feel fortunate to be a part of McNair. I feel even more fortunate to be a part of McNair earlier than most of my summer research peers who were a year ahead of me. I got a head start and was able to experience research at an earlier stage during my undergraduate education. Now, I have more opportunities to participate in other programs at UNH and outside of UNH. I will have an extra year of research experience than most senior McNair scholars. I was prepared for the GRE earlier and thus have more time to prepare for the exam and decide if I want to take it multiple times. I learned about the Ph. D application process early and have more time to search for a program that fits my interests. I also learned that getting into a Ph. D program requires networking. Knowing this earlier has given me an opportunity to network with the people in my fields. McNair has also given me opportunities to visit colleges and attend conferences. Since I started doing research early, I will be able to attend more conferences and possibly be able to visit more institutions. Attending conferences helps me build a better resume and also improved my public speaking and presentation skills.

I know that I am lucky to be apart of McNair early. I was also thankful when my senior McNair scholars were complaining about everything they had to complete during their senior year of college. Such as, writing their personal statement and researching and applying to graduate programs. I feel lucky that I have a whole year to prepare for that! Possibly, by the time that I apply to graduate programs, I will know exactly what institutions I want to apply to and will also have a finished personal statement.

If you are thinking of doing research, I advise you to get involved early. It does not hurt to try, and the earlier you start the more time you have to prepare. In my case, this was true and I believe that it will be true for everyone that grabs on to every opportunity that is provided to him/her as soon as possible.

We are now accepting applications for the 2009-2010 school year. If you are interested or know someone who is interested in applying to the McNair program please contact Tammy Gewehr at tammy.gewehr@unh.edu or 603-862-0002.

Congratulations 2009 Summer Fellowship Recipients!

John Cross
Keene State College
Anh Tu Duong
Bates College
Minh Mai
Clark University
Mary Muyia
Clark University
CELEBRATING OUR SENIORS

Eman Akam
Howard University

Gessie Belizaire

Earl Brewley Jr.
Howard University

Sarah Gormady
Howard University Medical School

Monterey Institute of International Studies

Nicholas Guidice
Ball State University

Joseph Hayes

Hayley Haywood
University of Maryland, College Park

Alice Kirega

Stephen Morgan
M.I.T.

Grace Rivera
University of New Hampshire

Ana (Gabby) Tirado
DC Internship

Samantha Zoller

Seniors —

Strive for success, always!

Go hard and do good!

Congratulations and the best of luck!

Nick Wong
University of New Hampshire

The McNair Program Staff
MCNAIR SCHOLAR PROFILE: STEPHEN MORGAN

Born in Hawaii, Steve moved to New Hampshire when he was very young and now lives in the Lakes Region of central New Hampshire. An aptitude for math and science led him to choose civil engineering as a major and his desire to attend graduate school prompted his application to the University of New Hampshire’s McNair Program. Steve credits the McNair program with helping him to develop stronger relationships with professors who he describes as some of the, “best in … civil engineering.” McNair’s summer program, which provides students with a range of research and classroom experiences along with a stipend, furthered these connections while allowing Steve to develop, “a great range of perspectives and backgrounds ... as well as some life-long friends.” Steve also conducted independent research which he hopes will open doors in the area of geotechnical engineering. Steve describes the McNair program as “one of the best things any potential graduate students can do during undergraduate school,” but thinks it is important for people to understand that, “a lot of work and dedication is required.” While Steve would like to stay in the Northeast, his top priority is going to a school with a premier engineering graduate program such as those at Northwestern, Stanford, and MIT.

Faculty Profile: Cesar Rebellon

The McNair Program celebrates the greatness of their students, but we also celebrate the greatness exhibited by the UNH faculty who are active in the McNair Program.

Dr. Cesar Rebellon, professor of sociology, has served the McNair program in many capacities over the last six years. Cesar began his work with McNair as a faculty mentor in 2002 and once again in 2003. He has been the instructor of our Introduction to Research Methods course since its inception in the summer of 2003. He has also been a member of the McNair advisory committee since the 2004-05 academic year and has served as senior faculty advisor and advisory committee co-chair since the 2005-06 academic year.

Professor Rebellon has provided McNair with many years of service. We greatly appreciate all of the time and effort that he has put into his many roles at McNair.

We are always looking for faculty who are interested in participating in the McNair program. If you would like to know more about faculty participation please contact our office at 603-862-0088.

UNH 2009 Summer Fellowship Recipients!

Tobiloba Afolayan
Joshua Albair
Samantha Benton
Joseph Cheslock
Ashley Doukas
Katie Fitzgerald
Cassie Guerra
Sarah Leonard
Tsion Mamo
Hoan Nguyen
Amadin Osagiede

Look for upcoming student profiles at www.unh.edu/mcnair/profile.html

Check out Stephen’s research article abstract at http://www.unh.edu/mcnair/fellows/2008/
UPCOMING EVENTS AND DEADLINES

May 13th, 2009 - Senior Celebration, UNH Alumni Center, Rm 1925, 5:30pm

June 3rd, 2009 - Faculty and Staff Summer Orientation

June 7th, 2009 - Official Summer Session Begins

August 1st, 2009 - Official Summer Session Ends