LET’S CELEBRATE: UNH 20TH ANNIVERSARY EVENT!

- Come join us in celebrating the McNair Scholars Program’s 20th year on the UNH campus! The celebration will be held April 21st-22nd 2012. With 20 years being a huge milestone, we have a lot to celebrate! To do so, we are hosting our own Research Symposium in conjunction with UNH’s URC (Undergraduate Research Conference) - which is already the biggest undergraduate research conference in the United States. McNair students from all over the country will be coming to UNH to join in the conference to present their research and to celebrate with us.

- In addition to the Research Symposium, there will also be a Reunion Gala, Saturday April 21st from 6-9:30pm in the Huddleston Ballroom. Along with an awards banquet, we will be joined by UNH McNair Alums from the earliest of McNair’s scholar cohorts and our Keynote Speaker, Dr. Charles Robinson, Vice-Provost of Diversity at the University of Arkansas. The collective history of our program is in our alumni as well as our current & future scholars! The McNair staff is thrilled to be able to have all of us in one room to share the many success stories that have come from 20 years of being on campus. I encourage all of you to join us in being a part of this weekend celebration-it’s truly going to be a special event!

Best Wishes and Happy New Year!

-Victoria Adewumi (Graduate Peer Advisor & 20th Anniversary Conference Chair)

Gala Registration Deadline: February 15th, 2012
Hotel Rooms Available at the Holiday Inn Express-Durham.
Call (603-868-1234) to make reservations

Contact us:
Phone: (603)862-0088
Email: mcnair.program@unh.edu
20TH ANNIVERSARY KEYNOTE SPEAKER: DR. CHARLES ROBINSON

The University of New Hampshire’s McNair Scholars Program is proud to welcome Dr. Charles Robinson as our keynote speaker for our 20th Anniversary McNair Scholars Reunion Gala. Dr. Robinson serves as the Vice Provost for Diversity at the University of Arkansas and has been teaching at the college level for over 19 years. He received his Bachelor of Arts in history at the University of Houston and his Ph.D. in history there 10 years later. He also earned a M.A. in history at Rice University. He is currently an Associate Professor of history and the Director of the African American Studies Program at the University of Arkansas at Fayetteville.

Dr. Robinson has been teaching and doing research in African American Studies, race relations, gender studies, and sex and sexuality in history for the last decade. Some of his key publications include Forsaking All Others: Interracial Love, Violence, Betrayal and Revenge in the Post Civil War South; Remembrances in Black: Personal Perspectives of the African American Experience at the University of Arkansas, 1940s-2000; and his 2003 book Liaisons: Sex and Love in the Segregated South. He has received numerous awards over the length of his career in academia, including the Fulbright College Master Teacher Award, the Arkansas Alumni Distinguished Teacher Award, and the Student Alumni Board Teacher of the Year Award. We are honored to have Provost Robinson join us.

SCHOLAR INTERNSHIPS: TOBI AFOLAYAN’S SEMESTER IN WASHINGTON D.C.

Sitting here at my internship site at the beginning of my last day, I’m left to wonder how an experience here in the Nation’s Capital, in my shared office at The Protection Project, will change me. Working at a research institute on human rights and human trafficking, I was exposed to a world of prominent scholars and legal practitioners in the field of human rights. I met prominent scholars from elite schools such as George Washington and Georgetown, and I set up conferences for them to interact with others in their field and further their advocacy and research efforts.

The help I received from the McNair Scholars Program encouraged me to go to conferences, visit graduate schools and meet with professors from those graduate schools at which I planned to apply. It is so important to meet people and make integral connections and that is what I did here in Washington, DC. Meeting people and exchanging business cards, and following up on those meetings is how one can make the most out of any experience. Your return on investment after a semester in Washington, DC, in conjunction with being a McNair Scholar is simply unquantifiable.

McNair Scholars Arisbel Henriquez & Jessica Giguere also participated in D.C. internships during the 2011 Fall Semester
Interested in a D.C. Internship with the Washington Center? Contact Paula DiNardo at (603) 862-3485
**WHERE ARE THEY NOW?**

**MCNAIR GRADUATE UPDATE: DR. CHRISTOPHER CAMERON**

Name: Christopher Cameron  
Degree: Ph.D. 2010 History  
University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill  
Graduated from McNair: 2006  
Current Position: Assistant Professor at UNC-Charlotte

What have you been up to? Are you conducting research? If so, briefly describe.  
I am an assistant professor of colonial/revolutionary American history at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte. I am currently working on two books. In general, my research focuses on slavery, abolitionism, and the religious and intellectual history of early America.

How has McNair made an impact on your life in terms of going onto graduate school?  
While in McNair I was introduced to the culture of academia and put in a position to decide if being a professor was really something I wanted to do with my life. McNair also provided practical resources to assist in the process, including an excellent GRE preparation course, assistance with graduate school applications and the ability to present my work in scholarly forums.

What piece of advice would you give others looking to go onto graduate school?  
In my short time as a professor I have encountered students in graduate school who are really not sure what they want to do afterward. College is a great place to find yourself and figure out what you want to do with your life, but if you try to do that in a graduate program you are probably wasting your time. I strongly suggest people go to graduate school with a specific career objective in mind.

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**MCNAIR GRADUATE UPDATE: DR. GIAO T. HUYNH**

Name: Giao T. Huynh  
Degree: Ph.D. 2010  
Mathematical Biology  
University of Utah  
Graduated from McNair: 2004  
Current Position: Post-Doc at Oakland University, Rochester, MI

What have you been up to? Are you conducting research? If so, briefly describe.  
I am currently a Post-Doc, working at Oakland University in Rochester, MI. My research area is in mathematical biology. I apply mathematics in learning the dynamics of virus and bacteria infections inducing cancers. My Ph.D. thesis was on mathematical models of Epstein-Barr virus infection and associated diseases. Currently, I am working on modeling the HIV dynamics with multiple infection of target cells.

How has McNair made an impact on your life in terms of going onto graduate school?  
I did plan to go onto graduate school when I decided to join McNair. The program helped me tremendously in meeting people, understanding about life in graduate school, and especially in the application process. I felt that I was very well prepared and ready for graduate school after the program.

What is one thing you appreciated most about being involved  
The summer program was very helpful. Beside a great opportunity for summer research, I had the chance to meet and get to know other students in the program. We had a very supportive environment to work, to learn, and have fun.

What piece of advice would you give others looking to go onto graduate school?  
Finding a great advisor to work with is very important. Students should spend time to carefully search for a good fit by talking to faculty members and graduate students.
For summer 2012, the UNH McNair Scholars Program plans to head to Ghana, Africa once again, where at least five students will travel and stay at the University of Ghana for an eight week intensive research program. While there, students will conduct research and explore the issues and challenges surrounding upcoming developments in a developing country. McNair students will be accompanied by a faculty member who will supervise their research.

This is a unique opportunity, as it is the first time the McNair study abroad program will be open to non-McNair students such as those involved in the Rising Scholars Program or Student Support Services (SSS).

In addition McNair students from other colleges and universities are eligible to join the trip. The research experience will be the same, but the pricing model is different.

If you would like to learn more about this exciting opportunity, please contact Tammy Gewehr at tammy.gewehr@unh.edu.

An addition to our Ghana trip we plan to return to the UK for summer 2012 as part of the research abroad program. Students will spend three weeks in Northern Ireland and two weeks in Cambridge, England for a total of five weeks. Students will collect data around the issues of accessibility to higher education in the United Kingdom.

This program is open to non-McNair students and students involved in McNair programs across the nation who do not attend the University of New Hampshire. UNH McNair staff/faculty will be supervising this trip.

A hope for this particular research abroad option is that in addition to being able to study in multiple locations within the United Kingdom, students may even be able to attend the Olympic games being held in London!

Contact Dr. Antonio Henley for trip costs and information at mcnair.director@unh.edu.
Since the UNH McNair Scholars Program began in 1991, it has served over 275 students. Of those 92 alumni have gone on to receive masters degree’s and 24 have earned academic doctoral degrees. 14 alumni have gone on to earn other professional doctorates. There are currently 34 UNH McNair scholars enrolled in the program and 22 first year students are currently on their way to become McNair scholars next year!

**MCNAIR CURRENT STATS**

The hurdle that I faced doing this project was definitely time management. This was the first time where I was given such a long period of time to complete a task. Because this is the type of work where you as an individual divide up the research project week by week, it is so easy to push it back when you are so busy with other schoolwork. It is not so structured, therefore you have to be responsible for your own priorities and stay alert for the deadline.

—Quote from a McNair Scholar taken from an end of research evaluation—

**UNH McNair Alums: We want to hear from YOU!**

Please let us know where you are in the world and the last degree you completed.

Contact us at mcnair.program@unh.edu or (603) 862-0088

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**TriO Ronald E. McNair Post-Baccalaureate Achievement Program**

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**Schedule of Events**

- **1/26:** INCO 610-1st Seminar Meeting (Murkland 116, 4:30-6:00p)
- **2/7:** Research Luncheon (MUB 336, 12:40-2p)
- **3/8:** Research Luncheon (MUB 336, 12:40-2p)
- **4/7:** Cultural Event-UNH Observatory (Spinney Lane, 9:00-11:00p)
- **4/10:** Research Luncheon (MUB 336, 12:40-2p)
- **4/20 & 4/21:** McNair 20th Anniversary Research Symposium & Reunion Gala (UNH Campus)