

McNair Scholars Program

UNIVERSITY OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

SPRING 2018

SUMMER COHORT 2017



Front Row: Left to Right: Maria Akiki ('19), Emily Berry ('19), Athena Ryan ('18), Kim Ip ('18'), Bethanny Cooper ('18), Zoe Grenier ('18), Anna Harbor ('19), Nhen Hunter ('19)

Back Row Left to Right: Rezwan Ali ('19), Hayden Proborowski ('19), Amanda Gould ('18), Juandiago Carmona ('18), Sala Risby ('18)

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR SENIORS



Cohort 2016

Name: Sherlee Alvarez

Major: Biochemistry, Molecular, and Cellular Biology

Mentor: Dr. Kevin Culligan

Sherlee's research is titled, "Understanding the Role of Replication Protein A 1E in the Immune Response of *Arabidopsis Thaliana* Against a Microbial Pathogen"

Future Plans: She plans to work for a biotech company or attend a Post-Baccalaureate Program, and then pursue a doctorate degree after a couple years of experience.



Cohort 2016

Name: Lorena Cruz

Major: Spanish and International Affairs

Mentor: Dr. John Chaston

Lorena's research is titled, "I basically Speak Arabic. NOT!"

Future Plan: She will pursue her master's in Latin in America at the University of California, San Diego, fully-funded with a Teacher's Assistantship and Summer Fellowship.



Cohort 2016

Name: Yamilex Bencosme

Major: Sociology and Women's studies

Mentor: Dr. Victoria Banyard

Yamilex's research titled, "Our Way to Ending Sexual Violence: Engaging Bystanders and Building Awareness"

Future Plans: She will pursue her PhD in Education with a focus in Languages, Literacy and Cultures at the University of California, Davis on a full fellowship.



Cohort 2017

Name: Juandiego Carmona

Major: Psychology

Mentor: Dr. Michelle D.Lleichtman

Juandiego's research is titled, "Cultural Variations In Narrative Discourse Style Between American and Colombian"

Future Plans: He is currently applying for research coordinator positions in his field. After 1-2 years, he plans to pursue a graduate degree.



Cohort 2017

Name: Bethany Cooper

Major: English

Mentor: Dr. Deborah Kinghorn and Dr. David Richman

Bethany's research titled, "Testing the Uniqueness of Black Acting Methodology"

Future Plans: She will continue to train as an actor. She will also start auditioning for local plays and Christian films around the country before pursuing a MFA.



Cohort 2017

Name: Amanda Gould

Major: Biomedical Science: Medical Microbiology

Mentor: Dr. Rosemary Caron

Amanda's research titled, "Community Dentistry and Dental Public Health Program's Influence on Diminishing the Amount of Dental Professional Shortage Areas (DPSAs)"

Future Plans: She plans to move to Boston after graduation, taking some time off to work in her field and gain professional skills before she pursues a Master's in Public Health degree. After her master's, she will apply to dental schools.



Cohort 2016

Name: Beau Garcia

Major: Zoology

Mentor: Dr. Matt Tarr

Beau's research titled, "Quantifying the reproductive success of a declining shrubland-obligate songbird, the prairie warbler (*Setophaga discolor*), breeding in an active gravel pit in southeastern New Hampshire."

Future Plans: He plans to work with NH Fish and Game, tracking blanding turtles during the summer. He also plans to travel and do field work before he pursues a graduate degree.



Cohort 2016

Name: Alexandria Hidrovo

Major: Environmental Engineering

Mentor: Dr. James Malley

Alexanria's research is titled, "Applying MP UV Disinfection with Low Wavelength Monitoring to Achieve Sustainable Public Health Protection"

Future Plans: She will be pursuing her Master's in Environmental Engineering at the University of New Hampshire on a full fellowship.

GRADUATING SENIOR CONTINUES



Name: Ryan Howe
Major: Mathematics
Mentor: Dr. Mark Lyons
Ryan's research is titled, "Application of Fast Randomized Algorithms to Predictive Modeling"
Future Plans: He is currently looking for a job as an analyst or a junior quantitative developer and has plans to go to graduate school after few years working in his field.

Cohort 2011,2017



Name: Athena Ryan
Major: Marine, Estuarine, and Freshwater Biology
Mentor: Dr. Michael Chambers
Athena's research is titled: "A Comparative Analysis on Various Feed Types on the Reproductive Success of Ornamental Clownfish"
Future Plan: She will pursue her Master's in Marine Biology at the University of New Hampshire. She was awarded a \$24,000 fellowship for a Research Assistantship and Teacher's Assistantship.

Cohort 2017



Name: Salimah Hussien
Major: Bioengineering
Mentor: Dr. Kyung Jae Jeong
Salimah's research is titled, "Light-Triggered Differentiation of Human Neural Stem Cells to Neurons"
Future Plan: She will pursue her Master's in Integrated Biomedical Engineering with Business at Drexel University on a Deans Fellowship.

Cohort 2016



Name: Rory Wilson
Major: Philosophy
Mentor: Dr. Charlotte Witt
Rory's research is titled, "Who We Are and How We Say It: An Exploration of Pronouns and Transgender Identities"
Future Plans: He will pursue his Master's in Philosophy at the University of Sheffield in the United Kingdom on a Fulbright grant.

Cohort 2016



Name: Kim IP
Major: History
Mentor: Dr. Dante Scala
Kim's research is titled, "Understanding Immigrants' Trust in Public Institutions"
Future Plans: She will pursue her Master's in Public Policy at the University of New Hampshire on a Carsey Fellowship.

Cohort 2017



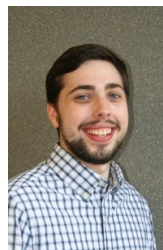
Name: Charlie DiMeco
Major: Genetics
Mentor: Dr. Rick Cote
Charlie's research is titled, "Comparison of the Effects of PDE Inhibitors on the Catalytic Domains of Human and *C. elegans* Phosphodiesterases"
Future Plans: She will take a gap year to work in her field.

Cohort 2017/18

McNair Scholars Program Staff

Tammy J. Gewehr, Director
 Selina Taylor, Associate Director
 Helen Lonek, Program Assistant
 Salimah Hussien, Undergraduate Peer Advisor
 Beau Garcia, Undergraduate Peer Advisor

McNair Scholars Program, University of New Hampshire
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 Durham, NH 03824
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Name: Christopher Leipold
Major: Mathematics
Mentor: Dr. John Gibson
Chris's research is titled, "Patterns in Chaos: Periodic Solutions to Turbulent Flow"
Future Plans: He will pursue his Master's in Pure Mathematics at the University of New Hampshire

Cohort 2015

#TRIOWorks

UNH McNair Backbones!



Randy Schroeder, is an Associate Director for TRIO, Student Support Service (SSS). Randy's focus is on academic and personal support and major/career decision-making with undergraduates, and preparing for the Graduate Record Exam (GRE) and graduate school. Randy teaches his "GRE Preparation" course for McNair Scholars during the summer research fellowship at UNH. We would like to thank Randy for his continued support of the McNair Scholars Program.

Dr. Barbara White, also known by many as "Barb," is an Associate Professor of Occupational Therapy and the Executive Director of Undergraduate Academic programs. She teaches her 4-credit "Intro. to McNair Research" course for McNair Scholars during their summer fellowship experience at UNH. Barb has also served as a faculty mentor for McNair Scholars throughout the years. We would like to thank Barb for her many contributions to the McNair Scholars Program.



The McNair Scholars Program wishes to acknowledge the McNair Advisory Committee for their service and continued support of our program and scholars

Faculty:

Dr. Carmela Amato-Wierda, PhD
Dr. Per Berglund, PhD
Dr. John Collins, PhD
Dr. Michelle Leichtman, PhD
Dr. Gonghu Li, PhD
Dr. Ricardo Medina, PhD
Dr. Lawrence (Chris) Reardon, PhD
Dr. Arturo Andrade, PhD

Staff:

Sean McGhee, Director of the Office of Multicultural Student Affairs
Andres Mejia, Coordinator of Connect Program
Randy Schroeder, Associate Director of TRIO/SSS
Jeanne Sokolowski, Director of the Office of National Fellowship

PhD Candidate:

Danielle Lavendier, PhD Candidate, English

Gilman Recipients



Emily Berry '19, received the Gilman Award to conduct research at the University of Zurich in Switzerland this spring.



Athena Ryan '18, received the Gilman Award to study abroad at CIEE Bonaire in the fall of 2017.

McNair Current Statistics

Since the UNH McNair Scholars Program began in 1991, it has served **366** students. Of those, **158** alumni have gone on to receive a master's degree, **53** have earned a doctorate degree, and **19** alumni are currently in a graduate program (14 for PhD).

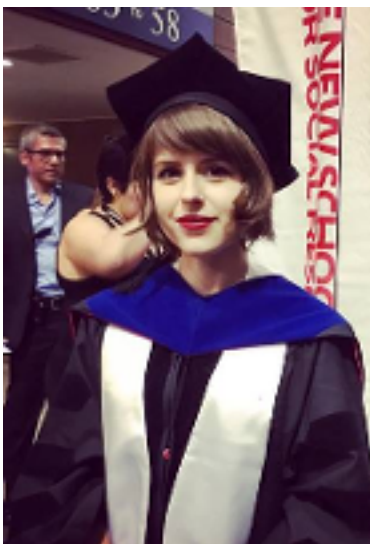
There are currently **34** UNH McNair Scholars enrolled in the program and **11** Pre-McNair students are currently on their way to become McNair Scholars next year!

Fulbright Recipient



Rory Wilson '18, is a philosophy major who received the prestigious Fulbright Award to study in the UK at the University of Sheffield, starting in Fall 2018. At UNH , Rory was involved in the Socratic Society, the UNH Fencing team, Safe Zones Program, and served as the Chair of Alliance and the Diversity Support Coalition. He was the 2018 Undergraduate Kidder Award recipient for his ongoing advocacy for the LGBTQ+ community and for being an amazing social justice activist at UNH. Congratulations Rory!

Alumni Spotlight



Dr. Ashley Doukas is a proud TRiO and UNH alumna. During her undergraduate years, she was honored as a dean's fellow, served as class marshal, and received the Edmund G. Miller award for outstanding senior in psychology.

After graduating at the top of her class in 2010, she moved to New York City, where she began a doctoral program in clinical psychology at the New School for Social Research. Under the guidance of Dr. Wendy D'Andrea, who also happens to be an outstanding McNair alum, she researched the psychophysiology of trauma among adult survivors of childhood abuse. She served as project coordinator for a NIMH-funded grant study examining trans-diagnostic symptoms associated with trauma in diverse clinical populations. She completed her predoctoral internship training at the Manhattan Va, where she gained experience treating veterans with combat and military sexual trauma

She graduated with her PhD in Clinical Psychology in May of 2017, and is now on a postdoctoral fellowship at NYU Langone Hospital's World Trade Center Health Program. There, she provides mental health screenings, diagnostic assessments, and individual trauma-focused treatment to first responders to the World Trade Center attacks on September 11, 2001. She's committed to continuing her work in the trauma field as both a therapist and researcher.

Upcoming Events

May 9th

UNH McNair Scholars Program

De-stress social, 8 am-4 pm,

McNair Office, Stoke G50

June 3th

UNH McNair Summer Session Begins

June 28th-July 1st

SAEOPP Conference

Atlanta, GA

July 25th

**UNH McNair Scholars Research
Symposium**

9:30 am-12 pm, Alumni Center

**Open to the UNH Community. Please mark your
calendars**

July 26th-29th

**25th Anniversary Annual Ronald E.
McNair Scholars Symposium
University of California at Berkeley**

Summer 2018 Research Fellowships and Internships



Maria Akiki, '19

Biomedical Sciences: Medical and Veterinarian Science

Marie received a Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship (SURF) to conduct research in Dr. Arturo Andrade's lab.



Rezwan Ali, '19

Civil Engineering

Rezwan is applying for a McNair Summer Research Fellowship to conduct research in Dr. Majid Ghayoomi's lab.



Emily berry, '19

Genetics

Emily is applying for a McNair Summer Research Fellowship to conduct research in Dr. Kevin Culligan's lab.



Anna Haber, '19

Genetics

Anna received a Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship (SURF) to conduct research in Dr. Subhash Minocha's lab.



Nhen Hunter, '19

Genetics

Nhen is applying for a McNair Summer Research Fellowship to conduct research in Dr. Matthew McManes' lab.



Hayden Proborowski, '19

Genetics

Hayden will study abroad for 8-weeks in Dijon, France at the Centre International d'Etudes Françaises.