

McNair Scholars Program

Newsletter

Volume 3 Issue 1

April 2002

Welcome New McNair Scholars!!!

Congratulations to our 2002 McNair Summer Research Interns.

They will be participating in the six-week program from May 20 through June 28.

Student Name

Seema Aggarwal
Amisha Dean
Christa Dodd
Wenda Harris
Jodie Hoover
Clifford James
Teresa Jones
Lauren Pizza
Stefanie Puher
Angela Schaffer
Laura Steele
Gabriel Tapia
Gina Zirilli

Major

Liberal Arts & Sciences
Psychology/Sociology
Psychology
English
Geography
Computer Science/Comp.Engin.
Psychology
Finance
Biology
Nursing
Elementary Education
Math
Communication Studies

Hometown

Morgantown, WV
Charleston, WV
Ellenboro, WV
Hyde Park, MA
Brownsville, PA
Guyton, GA
Minden, WV
Ivydale, WV
Morgantown, WV
Parkersburg, WV
Moundsville, WV
Morgantown, WV
Richwood, WV

Congratulations to Jennis Taylor, a current scholar, who has recently received a Global Education Opportunities grant to study abroad in Italy in the Fall 2002.



Congratulations to Graduating Seniors



2000 Scholars:

Adriana Hardy – Graduating with a B.S. in Exercise Physiology. Attending WVU for the master's program in Exercise Physiology in Fall 2002.

Gmelyn Link – Graduating with a B.S.J. in Journalism. Plans to attend WVU for her master's in Public Administration.

Deidre Paige – Graduating with a B.S. in Marketing.

Matthew Smith – Graduating with a B.S. in Mechanical and Aerospace Engineering. Plans to attend WVU Medical School.

2001 Scholars:

Jamison Campbell – Graduating with a B.S. in Biology. Attending National University for a master's degree in Forensic Science in Fall 2002.

Brie Frey – Graduating with a B.S. in Geography. Plans to attend graduate school in South Africa.

Jonathan Glover – Graduating with a B.A. in History.

Eunice Rohrer – Graduating with a B.S.J. in Journalism. Attending WVU in the Fall 2002 for a master's in Journalism.



Director's Corner

Anita G. Mayer
Director, McNair Scholars Program

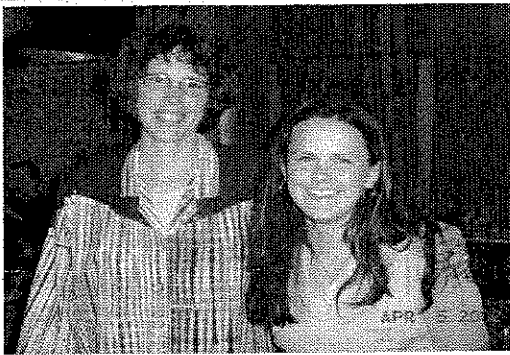
TRIO

RONALD E. McNAIR
POST-BACCALAUREATE
ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM

The Higher Education Act of 1965 established a *TRIO* of programs to help students overcome barriers to higher education. The initial three programs funded under Title IV were Upward Bound, Talent Search and Student Support Services. Building upon the success of these programs, and to further ensure that all Americans were afforded the opportunities that higher education provides, additional *TRIO* programs were developed and funded. Currently, seven programs are housed under the name of *TRIO* – Talent Search; Classic Upward Bound; Upward Bound Math Science; Veterans Upward Bound; Student Support Services; McNair Scholars; and Educational Opportunity Centers. *TRIO* currently serves over 820,000 students in over 2,600 programs on over 1,300 campuses, with over 7000 served in the state of West Virginia alone.

TRIO professionals often hear that their students would never have succeeded in attaining their degrees had it not been for the programs. In fact, since 1965 an estimated two million students have graduated from college with the special assistance and support of our nation's *TRIO* Programs. One *TRIO* program in particular, the Ronald E. McNair Postbaccalaureate Achievement Program, is one of only a few programs in America that encourages income eligible, first generation, and minority undergraduates to prepare for doctoral study. Ronald E. McNair Post-Baccalaureate Achievement programs are designed to encourage participating students to consider careers in college teaching as well as prepare for doctoral study. Students who participate in this program are provided with research opportunities and faculty mentors. This program was named in honor of the Dr. Ronald E. McNair who tragically died in the 1986 space-shuttle Challenger explosion. Currently there are 156 McNair programs, serving 3,641 students across the country.

I hope this little history lesson is helpful in defining the programs and students served by *TRIO*. West Virginia University is proud to serve Upward Bound (50 students), Student Support Services (200 students) and McNair Scholars (20 students) with a particular goal in mind – to increase the skills, abilities and opportunities of deserving students and ensure their success in attaining degrees of higher education.



Brie Frey with faculty mentor Dr. Ann Oberhauser at the graduation dinner.



Georgia Mullens, administrative assistant, and Scholars Anna Stasick and Jennis Taylor having fun at the graduation dinner.



From left: Dr. Mei and graduating seniors: Matt Smith, Gmelyn Link, Adriana Hardy, Brie Frey, and Eunice Rohrer

NIH Visit

By Eunice Rohrer

On March 14, 2002 four of the McNair Scholars, Adrianna Hardy, Gabrielle Frey, Nicole Johnson and Eunice Rohrer, along with our program director, Anita Mayer, were given a tour of the National Institute of Health (NIH) in Bethesda, Md.

Public Affairs Specialist Paula Cohen, who met us in the lobby after we went through two interesting security checks, devoted the next four hours to assuring we would learn as much as possible about what the NIH is and the research that occurs in some of the 50 plus buildings on their campus.

First, we were given a tour of the Warren Grant Magnuson Clinical Center, followed by a presentation by LaShawn Drew, Ph.D. concerning opportunities in the NIH Academy Fellowship Program and several other post baccalaureate research and training opportunities they offer.

Participants in the NIH Academy gain valuable research experience prior to graduate or medical school, while staying in their residential program and receiving a stipend of \$21,800. In addition, there are several different Summer Internship opportunities.

However, the highlight of the day took place when we visited one of the scientists at work in her lab. Denise Simmons, Ph.D., gave us her undivided time and attention to speak about her work with Vitamin A as a possible cure for Melanoma skin cancer. We also met her supervisor, Luigi De Luca, Ph.D., while we were at the Laboratory of Cellular Carcinogenesis and Tumor Promotion.

All of the scientists and doctors we met were very passionate about their projects, with a sincere interest in mentoring students. They seemed assured that their contributions to knowledge would make a difference to the world of medicine and the future of healthcare. For a full listing of positions NIH offers students visit <http://www.training.nih.gov>.



“The Maryland trip was a trip that I found to be very interesting. The National Institute of Health visit was the most beneficial part of this entire trip for me. From talking with one of the chemists working there, I actually decided on my area of study for graduate school, which will be computational biology. The McNair Conference at the University of Maryland, College Park, was very nice as well. The food was excellent along with the speakers and musical selections that accompanied our dining experience. Presenting at the conference was also very simple. With the exception of the unexpected technical difficulties, this was definitely a trip that showed me the value of being prepared for things going wrong. My presentation went well and I feel that after all the practice that I have had up to that point has made me a better presenter.” *Nicole Johnson*

McNair Scholars Program Summer and Fall 2002 Schedule

2002-2003 Summer Research Internship May 20 – June 28

Classes and seminars are held from 1-3 pm:

MW	Research Methodology	Instructor: Dr. Justin Boyce	Allen Hall 712
TTh	Research Writing	Instructor: Dr. Cheryl Torsney	Woodburn G16
F	McNair Seminars		Allen Hall 712

June 20-22 Washington D.C. area school visits
Cultural Enrichment Activity – Smithsonian Museums

June 27 Summer Research Symposium Place: TBA
Time: 9 am to 4 pm

June 27 Closing Program Place: Pine's Country Club
6-9 pm

McNair Conferences:

July 11-14 University of Tennessee, Knoxville
August 2-4 Penn State, State College

Campus visit:

November 3-5 Ohio State University

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