The McNair Scholars Program extends a heart-felt congratulations to our graduates. May they soar in their endeavors as they pursue their graduate education. The 2009 - 2010 graduates are:

- Temperance Acquistapace
- Danielle Andrews
- Diane Brown
- Christina Eaves
- Kristal McGhee
- Gigi Phan
- Shannon Ray
- Joshua Rosales
- Berenice Soto-Frias
- Darnell Webb
- Danille Lewis ~ MSW ~ (Alum)

Meet Rebecca Rawls:
Research Coordinator

Rebecca Rawls is a native of South Carolina, where she lived for her entire life before relocating to Wichita to pursue graduate school. She holds a Bachelor’s of Fine Arts in Creative and Professional Writing, which she earned at Converse College, a small, liberal arts women's college located in Spartanburg, South Carolina. Currently she is pursuing a Masters of Fine Arts with a concentration in fiction writing at Wichita State University. Her most recent creative work is focused on the development of a novel, which has yet to be titled. Listing Raymond Carver, Kate Braverman, and David Foster Wallace as her primary literary influences, she enjoys reading both experimental and meta-fiction, as well as more traditional literary fare. Her work is not limited to creative pursuits, however, as she also enjoys literary theory. Her research interests focus primarily on post-structuralism and gender theory, and she recently presented her paper “Pay No Attention to the Man on the Screen (He isn’t Real Anyway): Deconstruction in V for Vendetta” at the American Comparative Literature Association’s 2010 annual conference. In the fall she will present another paper, “Romancing the Buccaneer: Eighteenth Century Scoundrels and the Culture of the Anti-Hero,” at the annual conference of the Midwest American Society for Eighteenth Century Studies. When she is not working with or thinking about language, she spends a great deal of time in the kitchen, experimenting with new recipes. She is an avid baker and is currently obsessed with making cupcakes and learning how to make the perfect pie crust. She is thrilled to be working with the McNair Scholars Program and hopes that she will become a true resource for the men and women with whom she is working.

15th Annual Closing Symposium

On July 30, 2010, 15 McNair Scholars and two EPScor Scholars will showcase their research findings. Students will put in 200 plus research hours with a Wichita State faculty mentor in preparation for the 15th Annual Closing Symposium. The symposium will take place at the Rhatigan Student Center Regents Room 203, from 8:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m., with students presenting before family, friends, faculty and administration. This is in preparation for graduate study and the pursuit of a doctoral degree.

GRE Summer Workshop
June 21, 23 & 25, 2010
9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Room 106 Devlin Hall
Grammatically Speaking
Undergoing Editing: Helpful Hints

Now that many students are in the process of writing their summer research projects, it is important to address one of the most essential elements of writing: editing. In order to produce a truly polished work, one must examine and revise one’s paper many times; thus, editing is not a one-time activity but an ongoing process. The following suggestions will aid in the revision and editing stages:

Check spelling and grammar:

Be sure to have a dictionary and thesaurus available. DO NOT rely solely on spell check.

Check verb tense:

Do not switch back and forth between several tenses. Select one tense (preferably past or present perfect), and make sure to stay within the chosen tense.

Check the organization of your paper:

Make certain that each paragraph examines a specific topic and that the information you include in your paper is not too broad. Additionally, make sure sentence and paragraph fluency is established.

Check the format of your paper:

All disciplines have a specific writing style to which they adhere. Regardless of the writing style you use, be sure to have a copy of the style guide available as a reference.

Avoid wordiness:

Make certain that your ideas and sentences are concise and to the point. If you find yourself getting lost in a sentence, remember simplicity is the key.

Avoid overusing the passive voice:

Frequently using “be” verbs, such as “is” and “are,” creates passiveness that detracts from your paper. When possible, try to replace the passive “be” verbs with active verbs, which will add variety to your sentences.

Happy Birthday!

The staff would like to wish a Happy Birthday to those celebrating during the months of June, July & August.

Yolanda Byers - 6/6
Shukura Bakari-Cozart - 6/19
Shannon Ray - 6/30
LaWanda Holt-Fields - 7/2
Elka Garcia - 7/11
Sheila Cubbage - 8/5
Sarah Cummings - 8/5
Jeanette De La Torre - 8/30

The IRB and Student Research

The Office of Human Research Protections (OHRP) Guidelines defines the Principal Investigator (PI) as “the scientist or scholar with the primary responsibility for the design and conduct of a research project.” This includes student’s research projects.

It is the responsibility of the faculty member (PI) to ensure submissions follow guidelines and have been proofread for clarity of procedures, grammar, spelling errors; they are acting as a liaison between the IRB and the student. The faculty member is expected to review the IRB application prior to submission. Not doing so only delays the approval process.

Students need to do their part by completing the IRB application in a timely manner so the faculty member (PI) can sign it for approval.

Back to Basics: Transitions

As students complete their research and begin writing, it is important to make sure their ideas, sentences and paragraphs are clear and move smoothly from one idea to another. Transitional words and phrases are used to bridge the gap between ideas, sentences and paragraphs. Below are examples of transitional words and phrases:

For continuing a common line of reasoning:
- consequently
- furthermore
- and
- moreover
- besides that
- following this further
- pursuing this further

To change the line of reasoning (contrast):
- however
- but
- nevertheless

For opening a paragraph initially or general use:
- admittedly
- certainly
- no doubt
- obviously
- to be sure
- undoubtedly
- generally speaking
- at this level

For the final points of a paragraph or essay:
- finally
- lastly

Sequence or time
- after
- as soon as
- at last
- before long
- first... second... third
- in the meantime or later
- next
- then

To signal conclusion:
- therefore
- hence
- in conclusion
- indeed

If you view all the things that happen to you, both good and bad, as opportunities, then you operate out of a higher level of consciousness.

~ Les Brown
Meet the 2009 - 2010 McNair and EPSCoR Scholars

Yolanda Byers
Carolyn Shaw, Ph.D. - Political Science
Digging Beneath the Surface: Analyzing Urban Concentrated Poverty Among African Americans in Kansas

Sheila Cubbage
Rodney Boehme, Ph.D. - Finance, Real Estate & Management
How and Why the Structural Lending Market Failed

Jeanette De La Torre
James Snyder, Ph.D. - Psychology
Cultural Differences in Parenting Among Hispanic Families and Non-Hispanic Families

Veronica Ealey Pyles
Orren Dale, Ph.D. - Social Work
Eye Movement Desensitization and Reprocessing: An Eye Moving Exploration

Sara Gomez
Dorothy Billings, Ph.D. - Anthropology
Lenca Tribe: Their Culture and Traditions

Rachel Jacobs
Francis D’Souza, Ph.D. - Chemistry
Supramolecular Magnesium Phthalocyanine - Fullerene and Magnesium Naphthalocyanine - Fullerene Dyads: Formation and Photochemical Studies

Sophia Johnson
Alan D’Souza, Ph.D. - Adult Education
McNair Scholars Program Past and Current Participants

Cierra King
Ruth Bohlken, Ph.D. - Human Performance Studies
The Benefits of Regular Exercise Training and Multiple Sclerosis - A Case Report

Carla Lee
Gina Lee-Olukoya, Ph.D. - Higher Education Administration
The Lack of African American Involvement in Black Greek Organizations on Predominately White College Campuses

Philip Levy
Angela Demovic, Ph.D. - Anthropology
An Understanding of Death Rituals and How Economic Conditions Affect Their Use

Kristal McGhee
Marche Fleming-Randle, Ph.D. - Adult Education
The Causes of Divorce in the African American Community Versus the Caucasian Community

Shannon Ray
Holger Meyer, Ph.D. - Physics
Improved Cross Sections Using MIIIP Detector

Cornell Roberts
Deborah Gordon, Ph.D. - Women's Studies
Men's Perceptions of Women Studies Courses at a Midwest College

Tayoni Scott
Clyde Stoltenberg, Ph.D. - International Business
Trade in Services: Engineering and the BRIC Countries

Berenice Soto-Frias
Rhonda L. Lewis-Moss, Ph.D - Psychology
Examining the Goals and Aspirations of Young Women

EPSCoR Scholars:

Samantha Hallman
Chuck Koeber, Ph.D. - Sociology
Old Greensburg: The Economic Development of Greensburg, Kansas Before the Tornado of May 4, 2007

Dominique Holt
Chuck Koeber, Ph.D. - Sociology
New Greensburg: How Did Greensburg Kansas Decide to Rebuild the Town Green After the Tornado of May 4, 2007
Preparing Presentations for the Closing Symposium

McNair/EPSCoR Scholars, as you make those final preparations for presenting your research at the symposium, one word of advice: practice, practice, practice and practice some more. Remember, your presentation should be 10 minutes in length with an additional five minutes for questions. The following is a list of items to consider as you prepare your presentation.

**Sound:** How softly or loudly are you speaking? Will the audience be able to hear you?

**Diction:** How clearly are you speaking? Are you pronouncing words correctly?

**Speed:** Are you speaking too fast or too slow?

**Use of Presentation Tools:** How well do you know your PowerPoint presentation or how to use a laser pointer? Are you using note cards?

**Knowledge of Topic:** How well do you know your topic and the information you have about your topic?

**Eye Contact:** Are you connecting with the audience? Does it appear that you are reading either your PowerPoint verbatim or reading your paper? You should not be!

**Time Management:** Is your presentation too short or too long? Time yourself.

**Enthusiasm:** Are you passionate about your research? Do you have confidence in your topic? (passion/confidence) in your ability to relay the information?

**Closing:** How strong is your closing?

**Other Things to Watch for:** Saying “ah”, “uhm”, “so”, “you know” and “like”. Watch for fidgetting with hair, clothing, presentation props (clicking of pens) or other tools.

**Mock Presentations are mandatory and will be held July 12 - 23 to “refine” your presentation skills.**

**See Shukura Bakari-Cozart to schedule times.**

Things to Consider When Creating A PowerPoint Presentation

Before creating a PowerPoint presentation, keep in mind the format that will best aid in presenting research findings and conclusions. The following are items to consider when creating a slide show presentation:

- Consider how the overall appearance of the slide show will look in terms of color, font choice and graphics.
- When using colored text, make sure that the color can been seen clearly.
- Font color should contrast with background color.
- Font size should be no smaller than 32 point and the font style should stay consistent throughout the slide show.
- Each slide should contain main points, not the entire research paper. You should be able to elaborate on each point (bullet) during your presentation.
- Make limited use of clip art and animation unless it is specifically related to the topic.
- Make graphs clear and easy to read.
- Check for grammar and spelling.

**Research Assembly Meeting**

**July 9, 2:00 - 3:00 P.M.**

**Devlin Hall, Room 106**

**Topic: Presentation Skills**
In 1978, Ronald E. McNair was one of 35 applicants selected for the astronaut program from a pool of ten thousand.

He was also nationally known for his work in the field of laser physics.