Congratulations and welcome to the McNair Scholars Program, “Triangle of Success.” I am very excited to share this journey with you as you explore the graduate school process, work to improve your test-takings skills, develop your writing abilities, engage faculty to expand your knowledge base, and strive for your ultimate goal of attaining a doctorate degree.

The staff and I want to encourage you to take full advantage of the privilege of being a part of this elite group, the McNair Scholars. It is our intention to challenge, push, and guide you on this great journey. We have confidence that you are more than capable of being successful. We are here to support you and provide the tools you need to do so.

It is important that along this journey, you set goals (Goal Selection Worksheet) for yourself and periodically revisit them to make sure that you are staying on track. The McNair Program is merely a stepping-stone that provides you with resources to help you get to where you want to be, attaining a doctorate degree (PhD/EdD).

Take this opportunity to use your Triangle of Success: Assess your skills so that you will be able to take action, check your attitude as it can and will affect your results, and lastly build your knowledge and use it as your inspiration.

It is my pleasure to serve as your director. The staff and I are here to assist you in any way that we can. I have one request for you as we start on this path together, put your best foot forward and do all that you can, and we will meet you where you are to assist you in getting to where you want to be.

I am looking forward to a great year and hope you are too.
A literature review can be just a simple summary of the sources, but it usually has an organizational pattern and combines both summary and synthesis.

A summary is a recap of the important information in a source, but a synthesis is a re-organization, or a reshuffling, of that information. It might give a new interpretation of old material or combine new with old interpretations. Or it might trace the intellectual progression of the field, including major debates.

2. How does a literature review relate to my research question?
A review of the literature is an essential part of your academic research project. In a research paper, you use the literature as a foundation and as support for a new insight that you contribute. The review is a careful examination of a body of literature pointing toward the answer to your research question.

3. Why do we write literature reviews?
Literature reviews provide a solid background for a research paper’s investigation. Comprehensive knowledge of the literature of the field is essential to most research papers. Through the literature review you will discover whether your research question already has been answered by someone else. If it has, you must change or modify your question.

1. Find a focus
A literature review is usually organized around ideas, not the sources themselves like an annotated bibliography. You will not simply list your sources and go into detail about each, one at a time. As you read widely but selectively in your topic area, consider what themes or issues connect your sources together. Do they present one or different solutions? Is there an aspect of the field that is missing? Do they reveal a trend in the field or a raging debate? Pick one of these themes to focus the organization of your review.

2. Read with a Purpose
You should summarize the work you read, but you must decide which ideas or information you want to add to your research (so you can emphasize them).

3. Additional Considerations:
- Use evidence - Your interpretations must be backed up by evidence to show that what you are saying is valid.
- Use quotes sparingly - A few short quotes here and there are okay, though only if what the author said just cannot be rewritten in your own words.
- Keep your own voice - While a literature review presents others’ ideas, your voice (the writer’s) should remain front and center.
- Use caution when paraphrasing - When paraphrasing a source, be sure to represent the author’s information or opinions accurately and in your own words.

Summary: Your Literature Review should:
- Demonstrate why your research should be conducted
- Explain how your work relates to previous research
- Summarize important information, but remember to synthesize that information as well.
  1. Interpret information in a new way
  2. Trace progression of ideas/debates related to your topic
- Provide a foundation for your research
- Be focused around one central theme or issue
- Include the most important ideas from each source
- Provide evidence to support your interpretations
- Employ a limited use of quotes
- Paraphrase accurately and in your own words

FlasCoR Scholar Mai Hunyh answers questions about her research during a special presentation to Upward Bound Math Science students.

**Fall 2014 Faculty Led Seminars**

*Time and Stress Management*, LaWanda Holt-Fields  
**Date:** Saturday, September 6 (DH 105)  
**Time:** 10 a.m. - noon

*Personal Statement Writing*, Mike Heppler  
**Dates:** October 25 (DH 106)  
**Day/Time:** Saturday, 10 a.m. - noon

Logan Gisick, Paris Cunningham (EPSCoR), Kevontrez Jones, and Anna Wray learn about research methods during the 2014 Summer Research Seminar Series facilitated by Marlene Schommer-Aikins.

**Happy Birthday! to those celebrating during the months of September, October, and November:**

Anna Wray • Sept. 23  
Lindsey Stillwell • Oct. 4  
Ashley Cervantes • Oct. 12  
Jose Esquivel • Nov. 13

**Events to Come**

5 **Grad Prep** (2 - 3 p.m.)  
Jan Mead, “Vitae Writing”  
Devlin Hall, Rm. 105

5 **Research Assembly Meeting** (3 - 4 p.m.)  
McNair Staff, “Intro to Research/ Writing a Proposal”  
Devlin Hall, Rm. 105

6 **Faculty Led Seminar** (10 a.m. - noon)  
McNair Staff, “Time and Stress Management”  
Devlin Hall, Rm. 105

26 **Grad Prep** (2 - 3 p.m.)  
McNair Staff, “Graduate School Applications/ Funding”  
Devlin Hall, Rm. 106

3 **Grad Seminar** (2 - 3 p.m.)  
McNair Staff, “Grad School Bingo”  
Devlin Hall, Rm. 106

3 **Research Assembly Meeting** (3 - 4 p.m.)  
Angela Paul, “Library Database Tour”  
Ablah Library

17 **McWrite** (2 - 3 p.m.)  
McNair Staff, “Intro to Writing Styles”  
Devlin Hall, Rm. 106

18 **Faculty Led Seminar** (10 a.m. - noon)  
Mike Heppler, “Personal Statement Writing”  
Devlin Hall, Rm. 106

24 **Grad Seminar** (2 - 3 p.m.)  
Dr. Michael Birzer, “Selecting a Mentor/ Professionalism”  
Devlin Hall, Rm. 106

7 **Research Assembly Meeting/McWrite** (2 - 3 p.m.)  
McNair Staff, “Literature Review”  
Devlin Hall, Rm. 104

7 **Research Assembly Meeting** (3 - 4 p.m.)  
Janet Brown, “EndNote Training”  
Library

14 **Grad Seminar** (1 - 5 p.m.)  
“Leadership Discovery Summit”  
Rhatigan Student Center  
Registration opens October 1

21 **Closing Semester/Holiday Feast** (11:30 a.m. - 1 p.m.)  
McNair Office
Dr. Christopher Emdin holds a Ph.D in Urban Education with a concentration in Mathematics, Science, and Technology; Master's degrees in both Natural Sciences and Education Administration, and Bachelor degrees in Physical Anthropology, Biology, and Chemistry.

Emdin is an associate professor in the Department of Mathematics, Science and Technology at Teachers College, Columbia University; where he also serves as Director of Science Education at the Center for Health Equity and Urban Science Education.

Emdin is a Caperton Fellow and Hip-Hop Archive Fellow at the WEB DuBois Institute at Harvard University.

Emdin is a social critic, public intellectual and science advocate whose commentary on issues of race, culture, inequality and education have appeared in dozens of influential periodicals including the New York Times, Wall Street Journal, and Washington Post.

He is the co-creator of the #HipHopEd social media movement, and a much sought-after public speaker on a number of topics including hip-hop education, STEM education, politics, race, class, diversity, and youth empowerment. He is also an advisor to numerous international organizations, school districts, and schools where he delivers speeches, and holds workshops/professional development sessions for students, teachers, policy makers, and other education stakeholders within the public and private sector.

Source: http://chrisemdin.com

Jacek Kraszewski, University of Wisconsin-Madison McNair Alum, traveled to Washington, D.C. recently to speak with Democrats in the U.S. Senate about access and affordability in higher education.

Kraszewski, who is a doctoral candidate with the School of Education’s Department of Educational Leadership and Policy Analysis, was among three students and several college affordability advocacy leaders who met with the Democratic Steering and Outreach Committee.

Concerns about student loan debt continue to garner attention, as such a financial burden is viewed as being a significant barrier to helping graduates move forward in life.

This topic is personal to Kraszewski, who studies the impact student debt has on family issues, such as home ownership. He notes that his own student debt effects many decisions that his family makes.

Kraszewski shared his story with Wisconsin Sen. Tammy Baldwin earlier this year, which ultimately led to his invitation to the roundtable discussion in Washington. At the July 30 event, senators discussed many solutions, including creating a more robust Pell Grant system and reducing the interest rates for students.

During the roundtable discussion, Kraszewski spoke with Sen. Tom Harkin of Iowa, who has proposed a Higher Education Affordability Act in an effort to make college more affordable and accessible.

“Americans who worked hard to move ahead with their lives are now finding themselves with overwhelming student debt payments in an unsteady economy. This is an issue that won't go away and we need the government to step in and work with us to resolve it,” says Kraszewski.

Finding library resources is easy! Locate the McNair Scholars Library Guide on the McNair homepage or use the URL http://libresources.wichita.edu/mcnair.

A few of the resources available include:
- Links to online citation guides
- Register for upcoming library workshops:
  - Finding Data Online
  - Identifying Appropriate Sources
  - Developing Research Questions
- Links to graduate school resources, career information, and test preparation sites

**Grad-Connect: McNair Scholars Library Guide**

**McNair Events**

Students participated in an ice breaker activity during the August 23 Program Orientation.

**Pictured above left:** Alissa Bey, Julie Mohamed, Nicholas Cox

**Pictured above right:** Jose Esquivel and Wesley Alexis

**Pictured right:** Kevontrez Jones, Logan Gisick, and Rosa Palacio

Program Director, LaWanda Holt-Fields explains program components and expectations for the new year.

**Pictured above:** Back row: Joshua Palacios, Joy Foster, Danielle Bryant, Francesca Chavira, Mai Hyunh, Kendra Stewart, Tuyet Ha, Olivia Graves, Front Row: Stan Saiz Jr., Janelle Petrisor, Lydia Ibarra, Arlene Raymundo, Shar Cox, Paris Cunningham, Rosa Palacio

Winners of the 2014 Bradley Cole poster contest (from left) Stan Saiz Jr. (2nd Place), Danielle Bryant (3rd Place), and Rosa Palacio (1st Place) at the 19th Annual Closing Symposium.
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McNair Facts Did You Know?

Dr. McNair logged a total of 119 hours in space and participated in the first flight of the Manned Maneuvering Unit.