Before you can make a dream come true, you must first have one.

Ronald E. McNair

Messages from McNair
McNair Scholars Program
University of North Dakota

Issue 51

Upcoming Events

August 21
Orientation to the Graduate School Process class begins

August 29
McNair Scholars Monthly Meeting Scholars will informally discuss their summer research projects 5-8 pm, Swanson Hall Rooms 10-12

Saturdays in September & October
GRE Prep, 9am-12noon 340 McCannel Hall

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Congratulations, Graduates!!!

Autumn Arch graduated in May with a Bachelor of Science in Psychology and minor in Biology. She will begin graduate school in the Clinical Psychology Program at the University of North Dakota, Fall 2012.

My name is Matthew McCleary and I am from Bismarck, North Dakota. I have just graduated with a Bachelors of Arts in History. I have also earned my minors in Political Science and Special Education as well as a Secondary Education license. I will be a master’s student at the University of North Dakota where I will be a concentrating on United States History, with an emphasis on 20th century American political history, intellectual history, and disability studies. My goal is to obtain a Ph.D. in American History and to be a professor at a university as well as continue to support organizations that help families with special needs. I believe that the McNair scholarship program has given me a wonderful opportunity to accomplish my future career goals.

Tyrone Grandstrand graduated in December with a Bachelor of Art with majors in Political Science and Economics, and a minor in Public Administration. He is applying for the graduate program in Economics at the University of North Dakota.

Janie Schroeder graduated in May with a Bachelor of Art in Indian Studies and a Bachelor of Science in Public Administration. She was accepted into the University of North Dakota joint MPA/JD Graduate Program and started working on her MPA this summer. She will begin at the UND Law School in the fall 2012.
As a part of the McNair program I am required to provide an update on my current status and what my future goals and plans are. So in light of this on December 16th 2011 I graduated from UND with honors and a degree in General Studies. While my plan was to graduate with a double major in Early Childhood and Elementary Education, I had to make some adjustments. I decided to enroll in Graduate school at UND, majoring in Special Education with an emphasis in Emotional Disturbances. I will receive my Master’s degree in August of 2013. My plan is to eventually teach in a high risk/need area. However, I do have an opportunity to learn and teach with one of my best friends in Clarkston, Washington. I believe this will give me a chance to learn from someone who is an exceptional teacher. I feel that these kinds of opportunities do not come around often so they should be taken when they arise. Once I get a few years under me I will move on to the inner city schools, and then go for my PhD, and secure a position as a professor at a large university in the northwestern United States.

Desireé Bernal

My name is John Neis and I am graduating with a B.S. in Physics and Mathematics. I have been hired temporarily as a research assistant by professor Yen Lee Loh in the Physics department at UND. Following my time working at UND, I hope to continue on to other positions that will use the many things I learned in my studies. I hope to continue my education in the future, and I don’t really expect to ever be satisfied with what I know. I have come to cherish my time with the McNair program and the wonderful people who work there, I never could have made it without them.

Corey Bowers graduated in May 2012 with a Bachelor of Science in Computer Science and a minor in Criminal Justice. He will be getting married this summer and will consider graduate school at a later date.

Corey Bowers

My name is Alexis Sherman, and I am from Lonsdale, Minnesota. I am a senior at the University of North Dakota studying anthropology and statistics, and I will be graduating in May. I plan on attending graduate school in anthropology and having a career in forensic anthropology or museum studies. With the support of the McNair program the past two years, I have traveled to Washington, D.C. with my advisor, Dr. Phoebe Stubblefield, to work with an amazing skeletal collection, completed and presented two research posters including an original research project, and visited two graduate programs.

Alexis Sherman

Korey Southerland will graduate in August 2012 with a Bachelor of Science in Geography and Bachelor of Art in Political Science. She was accepted into the Engineering Science Ph.D. program at Washington University in Pullman, WA and will be conducting Atmospheric Policy research. Korey received an IGERT fellowship which consists of a $30,000/year stipend, tuition waiver for two years; funding for travel to conferences, support for research equipment and/or computing needs, and support for a national or international 3 month policy internship.

Korey Southerland
Special Thanks to McNair Mentors

A special thanks to those who served as McNair mentors during 2011-2012:

Christopher Atkinson—Geography….Scholar—Garrett Jepsen
Wayne Barkhouse—Physics and Astro Physics….Scholar—John Neis
Victoria Beard—Business and Public Admin…..Scholar—Margaret "Emmy" Scott
Paula Carter—Center for Rural Health….Scholar—Janie Schroeder
Ric Ferraro—Psychology….Scholar—Autumn Arch
Jacque Gray—Center for Rural Health….Scholar—Janie Schroeder
Birgit Hans—Indian Studies….Scholar—Janie Schroeder
Dana Harsell—Political Science….Scholar—Logan Stundal
Wendelin Hume—Criminal Justice….Scholars—LaShann Wilkerson & Cory Bowers
Dheeshana Jayasundara—Social Work….Scholar—Karen Borgen
Jason Jensen—Political Science….Scholar—Tyrone Grandstrand
Patti Maher—Education….Scholar—Jennifer Hayes
Jim Mochoruk—History….Scholar—Matt McCleary
Gretchen Mullendore—Atmospheric Sciences….Scholar—Korey Southerland
Doug Munski—Geography….Scholar—Garrett Jepsen
Melanie Sage—Social Work….Scholar—Nichole Nelson
Michelle Sauer—English….Scholar—Rae Piwarski
Jill Shafer—Education….Scholar—Desiree Bernal
Tom Stokke—Computer Science….Scholar—Andy Erickson
Phoebe Stubblefield—Anthropology….Scholars—Alexis Sherman & Melissa Gibson
Heather Terrell—Psychology….Scholars—Kayla Ford
Cheryl Terrance—Psychology….Scholar—Jodie Houle
Brian Urlacher—Political Science….Scholar—Logan Stundal
Tim Young—Physics….Scholar—Shelly Davis
Kathryn Yurkonis—Biology….Scholar—Leslie Yellow Hammer
Welcome New Scholars

My name is **Jodie Houle** and I am from Grand Forks, North Dakota. I transferred from Lake Region State College in the fall of 2010. While at the University of North Dakota, Psychology peaked my interest, and I was eager to learn more to help others. During the spring of 2014, I plan to earn my bachelor's degree in Psychology, with a minor in Women's Studies. Afterwards, my goal is to obtain a Ph.D in Clinical Psychology at the University of North Dakota. My long term goal is to work as a Clinical Psychologist, in a mental health facility. I want to help those who seek treatment, and also reach out to the public through the continuance of my research.

My name is **Ilse Marielle Coleman** I am from El Paso, Texas and currently I am working towards my Master's degree in Occupational Therapy here at UND. I enjoy school immensely, and love learning every day. I speak Spanish fluently, and English is my second language. I am involved in various organizations around campus, as well as in the community. My research interests are many hence my love for learning, however, I am extremely interested in researching many aspects of Autism Spectrum Disorders, and neuromuscular junction rehabilitation. Ultimately, I aspire to pursue my PH.D in Occupational Science. I am ecstatic to be a part of the McNair program; I cannot wait to begin research, as well as working with all the wonderful people at TRIO!

**Shelley J. Davis** is currently fulfilling a dream. She has returned to school to pursue a bachelor's degree and is planning on going on to get a Ph.D. After finishing two years since returning, she has decided that Physics is the field she would like to pursue and is enjoying her time doing that. Prior to returning to the University of North Dakota, Shelley worked at the Fort Berthold Housing Authority in New Town, ND for over twenty years working in development and modernization. While she enjoyed her work, it was not what she wanted to do for the rest of her life. She had been in school previously at UND and had taken various classes at Fort Berthold Community College and knew she enjoyed learning. That being the case, with the blessings of her family, she returned to UND. Shelley is married to Vincent Compeau and they reside in New Town, ND. She has one step-daughter, Amber and one grandchild, Maylee. Vince and Shelley are also raising their nephew David Davis, Jr. Her mother and “Pops” live nearby as do two older brothers. She also has a sister living in South Dakota and another brother in the Marines.

My name is **Heather K. Annis**. I am Mnicoujour/lItazipco Lakota and German from Russia as well as English. I was born on the Cheyenne River reservation in South Dakota. I am currently in my junior year at the University of North Dakota and am pursuing a double major in Indian Studies and Social Work. I plan to continue my education after I graduate and eventually work with other social workers to improve culturally competent helping practices when working with American Indians.

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My name is **Danielle Thomas**. I was born in Grand Forks, North Dakota, but I was raised on the Turtle Mountain reservation in Belcourt, ND. I attended the Turtle Mountain Community Schools from grades K-8, and moved to Grand Forks for high school. Ever since I was in sixth grade, I had to take care of my mother. She grew more sickly with each passing year, eventually losing her ability to walk and becoming permanently wheelchair bound by the time I was in eighth grade. A week into my freshman year my mother passed away and I was raised by an uncle for the rest of my time in high school. Now that I have overcome the obstacles that go along with losing a parent and being raised by a bachelor who doesn’t understand teenage girls, I’m attending UND. My major is Psychology with a minor in Biology. I hope to study neuroscience in graduate school so that I am able to help people who struggle with issues like alcoholism and addiction, or depression and anxiety. These are conditions that were suffered by my family members and which are also developed in youth who grow up in the red tape of the foster care system like I did.

My name is **Nichole Katherine Nelson**, but most of my friends and family call me Nicki. I am a divorced mother of three daughters, Sarah, 13, Emily, 9, and Callie, 3. I grew up in Grafton, North Dakota, but also lived in the Los Angeles, California area for about eight years. I have two siblings, Shane who is older and married with four children and my younger brother Jon who is recently married and is also a junior high teacher and a basketball and football coach. My parents are Mickey and Kerry Burns, and Kande and Pat Koehmstedt. I am currently a student at UND entering my junior year majoring in Social Work with a minor in chemical dependency. I am studying to become a Licensed Addiction Counselor. When I finish my bachelor’s degree I plan on getting my Master’s in Counseling and also my Doctorate in Counseling Psychology. I would like to work in a clinical mental health setting, and also teach at the University level. I am very excited to be a student at UND. I came back to college as an older student. I was very nervous, but so far things have been going very well. I was so excited to learn about the McNair program, and was even more excited when I was accepted into the program. I am so grateful for the opportunities that McNair has opened up for me. I am looking forward to my remaining years in school and I will be very happy when it is finally time to start my career.

Joan Jorde from Student Support Services presented, “Learning Modalities” at June’s monthly meeting. Karina Wittmann from the Wellness Center presented, “7 Dimensions of Wellness” at the July meeting.
Alumni News

My name is Andrea Estling. Last May I got my Masters Degree from the University of Northern Iowa. This experience allowed me to have an open view about languages and cultures. My next goal is to pursue a Ph.d. in Spanish. I am in process of seeking information from different universities. One the fields I would like to get a PhD in it is Latin America studies. I am considering studying in this field because I have a strong connection with my culture and history.

I moved to Ellensburg, Washington when I graduated from UW with my Masters Degree. I entered AmeriCorps for a year of service and just completed it. I was teaching energy efficiency workshops, performing home energy assessments, and creating community partnerships to increase awareness about how to save energy and more critical these days, money. It was a great year and I really like Ellensburg. It has a very small town feel with it's own college — very similar to Grand Forks, but with less strip malls (which I love!) Now I am looking for a new job, hoping to get in with some sort of teaching or mentoring position. I would have loved to get in with the TRIO program here but the position was filled internally. Still looking. I also joined Ellensburg's roller derby team, The Rodeo City Roller Girls. It’s a great way to exercise and meet wonderful women- we share a strong bond. You can even check out our bios at www.rodeocityrollergirls.com. Jonna Kalar

If you have any information to share, please email it to us (patrice.giese@und.edu or jill.teters@und.edu) and we will include it in our next newsletter.

Scholarships & Awards

Heather Annis received a $500 scholarship from the Indian Studies Department. The generous donor designated the award for a student with strong critical thinking and writing skills.

Karen Borgen received the 2012 Family Leadership Award from Family Voices of North Dakota in recognition of the many valuable contributions she has made through mentoring, advocacy efforts and volunteering as a Family Leader on behalf of children and youth with special health care needs for the State of North Dakota. Karen also received a William and Janet McSparron Scholarship ($700) for 2012-2013.

Rae Piwarski received the Donald J. Robertson Memorial Award. The award is presented to a student majoring in English whose primary interest is in English or American Literature.
McNair Banquet
April 19, 2012
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Words for Wits

Improve your GRE vocabulary by matching the following words and definitions:

1) Bildungsroman
a. A natural covering; a skin shell; or end. 2. Any covering; coating; endo-

2) Nubilous
b. A quality, as bitterness, regarded as an independent object.

3) Integument
c. To lay waste; devastate. 2. To deprive of inhabitable; depopulate. 3. To for-

4) Desolate
d. Cloudy or foggy. 2. Obscure or vague; indefinite.

5) Nary
e. Not any; no; never.

6) Qualia
f. A type of novel concerned with the education, development, and maturing of a young protagonist.

Answers: 1.e; 2.d; 3.a; 4.b; 5.f; 6.c.