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What is McNair?

The McNair Post-Baccalaureate Achievement Program is a federally-funded program dedicated to increasing the ranks of under-represented groups in graduate study. The McNair Program provides a select number of promising scholars with mentoring and fellowships to improve their chances of being admitted to PhD programs nationwide.



On Our Campus

The McNair Scholars Program is housed within the Office of Graduate Studies at the University of California Davis. We are located on the second floor of the Student Community Center within the Undergraduate Research Center. Please share the news of this unique program with others in the UCD community. We begin accepting applications in the spring!

Where Are They Now?

As we approach spring and graduation, we find ourselves remembering McNair Scholars from years ago. Did you know that UC Davis has graduated ten cohorts, almost two hundred McNair Scholars, since 1996? There are a whole lot of success stories out there and we want to share some of them with you! In this installation of **Where Are They Now?** we present UC Davis McNair Scholar, **Nessy Tania!**



Professor Tania was accepted into the UC Davis McNair Program in the fall of 2000. Soon after, she began a research project later titled *Parameter studies on the Unsteady Flow in the Rabbit Aorto-celiac Bifurcation*. She replied to our email with the following update:

"After graduating from UC Davis in 2002, I went to pursue a Ph.D. in Mathematics from the University of Utah. That was followed by a postdoctoral fellowship at the University of British Columbia, and I am now an Assistant Professor in the Department of Mathematics and

Statistics at Smith College. As an applied mathematician, I work on a wide range of biologically motivated problems for my research, from the generation of cardiac arrhythmia to cancer cell metastasis and nervous system development. I am also having a lot of fun working with an enthusiastic group of women undergraduates and amazing colleagues here at Smith. I still often reminisce about my time in Davis. I am grateful to the McNair Program and my undergraduate research advisor, Professor Angela Cheer, for investing and believing in me back then. Best wishes to the current staff and all the McNair scholars!"



Thank you, Professor Tania, for reminding us of the various directions Ph.D. study can take. We are proud to include you among the successes of the UC Davis McNair Scholars Program!



How to Grab Your Education by the Horns in Spring Quarter!

~ Have a big project? Break it down into small steps and calendar each action item. Plan this as soon as you get your class syllabus!

~ Keep a schedule for everything. The UCD bookstore has calendars and many smartphones have great calendar apps.

~ Prioritize and number your goals. Make sure every day has balance: class time, work time and YOU time.

~ If at first you don't succeed then go for round two! Perfection is a process.

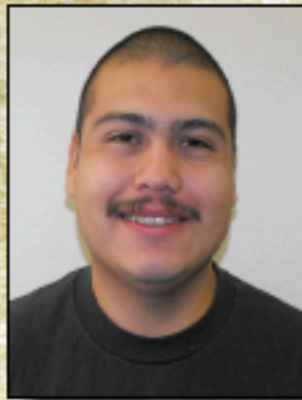
~ Utilize faculty office hours BEFORE a crisis strikes, and get to know the TA's availability.

~ Write drafts early enough so that your final class project is actually the 3rd or 4th revision. Your professor will be beyond impressed by the extra effort!

~ Classmates are resources. Share email addresses and assemble study groups.

~ We all get sick from time to time. Think ahead about what it will take to catch up. Working ahead means you don't get behind.

~ If class seems too hard on the first day, consider speaking with an advisor and replacing it or adding it later in your studies. Be strategic and take on challenges when you are at your best.



Jesus
Banderas



Antonio
Cuevas



Jorge
Gonzalez

2013 UC DAVIS MCNA



Ciara
Main



Stephanie
Myers



Everardo
Olide



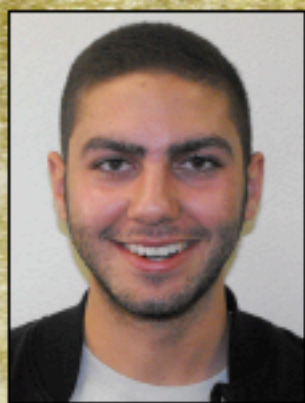
Elias
Rivera



Lisa
Truong



Sarita
Hernandez



Karem
Jarada

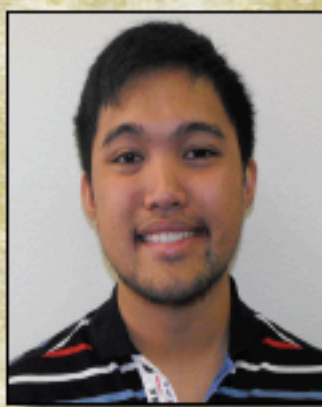


Ahmed
Khan

AIR JUNIOR SCHOLARS



Fay
Pao



Justin
Phan



Nancy
Villalpando



Rahwa
Woldeyesus



Zi
Yao

Seniors are Taking Off!

Aaron Alvarado accepted into UCR Ph.D. program in Ethnic Studies (Eugene Cota Robles Award) and UC Davis Ph.D. program in Cultural Studies (McNair Fellowship).

Rebecca Beloso accepted into the UC Davis Master of Public Health program and a \$12,500 fellowship.

Patricia Chavez accepted into the UC Davis M.S. program in Civil and Enviro Engineering and CSR and TA appointments.

Jhamere Howard accepted into the U of Arizona Summer Research Institute.

An Nguyen accepted into UCSF TETRAD Ph.D. program in Biochemistry and Molecular Biology and the UC San Diego Ph.D. program in Biomedical Sciences.

Obdulio Ochoa accepted into the Rensselaer Institute's M.E. program in Aeronautical Engineering and UCR Ph.D. programs in Mechanical & Aerospace Engineering and a Dean's Distinguished Fellowship.

John Tran accepted into Michigan State, Washington State and University of Georgia Ph.D. programs in Plant Biology.

Raymond Tsao accepted into University of Michigan Ph.D. program in Biological Science.

Destiny Garcia accepted into UC Davis Ph.D. program in Mechanical Engineering.

Excellent work, seniors!

Watch this space for more wonderful announcements like these!

A Farewell From Miki Mori



Dear McNair Scholars Program,



This spring, I have decided to journey on to where the sidewalk ends. As it turns out, it ends on a tiny island off the coast of Madagascar: Mayotte.

My decision has created many bittersweet thoughts and feelings, especially regarding the McNair scholars, staff and colleagues. Aiming for concision, in sum my thoughts are: What an impressive group of individuals to get to know and spend time with. Your enthusiasm, drive and intellect inspire me to continue working toward my goals, including the fundamental ability to put "Dr." in front of my name.

I will finish writing my dissertation on the island, which is in dire need of earnest, educated help for development, and for now plan to teach English at the university.

For the McNair juniors scholars, I wish I could have followed you along through the summer, but for now please heed my advice to stay curious and stay focused. I have chosen my adventure. Be sure to choose your own.

One final note: Study your vocabulary sets.

Au revoir,
Miki



Ronald E. McNair, PhD

10/21/50 - 01/28/86
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Musician, Parent and
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UC Davis McNair Scholars Program
The McNair Program at UC Davis is part of the Office of Graduate Studies. We are located on the second floor of the Student Community Center in Suite 2300 with the Undergraduate Research Center. Please share the news of this unique program. We are now accepting applications!

Program Benefits:

- Academic Counseling
- GRE Preparation Seminars
- Assistance with Graduate School Applications
- Independent study with a faculty mentor
- \$2,800 Summer Research Stipend

Program Requirements:

- UCD GPA of 3.0 or higher
- US citizenship or Permanent Resident
- 90 quarter units or 60 semester units
- Low-income and first generation college student, or member of a group underrepresented in graduate study (e.g. Chicano/Latino, African American, Native American or Asian Pacific Islander)