From the Director

This past program year has been an exciting one of many firsts for our young program. Amanda has included photos of some of the firsts throughout the newsletter and I want to highlight a few here. 2016 saw Dr. Ashton Brock earn the first Winthrop McNair Alumnus PhD. 100% of our graduating seniors applied to graduate programs and all of them received offers. Emily Hokett was the first graduating senior in our program to be awarded an NSF Graduate Research Fellowship.

This is also the first year Winthrop’s Scholars and staff have visited the hometown of the great Dr. Ronald E. McNair. This allowed all of us to personally connect with some of the locations we read about in Carl McNair’s inspiring biography of his brother.

2016-17 promises to be at least as exciting as 2015-16. Our largest cohort of graduating seniors (17) is preparing graduate applications. We anticipate selecting one of our largest cohorts of new Scholars (>14) this year (applications are due October 14). What’s more, Winthrop will apply for its third McNair grant from the U.S. Department Education (deadline TBA). The McNair staff anticipates being busier than ever this year. We’re looking forward to supporting our Scholars through their graduate admissions processes, publications, and presentations at national conferences. Please be on the lookout for more exciting updates from our program. And, alumni, please be sure we have updated addresses. I anticipate something special coming your way in the next few months.

-Dr. FW
Taco Tuesday continues to be an event each semester. These photos are from our Spring event where we had current scholars and our newly invited folks! Tacos were enjoyed by all – as usual! And of course we had Mrs. Yeager’s pumpkin rolls!
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<th>Summer McNair Experience Research Topic</th>
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<td>Collector’s Relationship to Access-Based Consumption: A Sneakerhead’s Perspective</td>
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<td>Cera Crowe, Dr. Padmini Patwardhan</td>
<td>Business Sustainability: An Analysis of Three Enterprises in Charlotte, North Carolina</td>
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<td>Maddie Diaz, Dr. Takita Sumter</td>
<td>Investigation of the HMGA1/EF25 Nexus in Colon Cancer</td>
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<td>Jesse Grainger, Dr. Brent Cagle</td>
<td>“I Don’t Fit in a Box, No One Does.” Intersectionality and Homeless Identity</td>
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<td>Elizabeth Lambert, Dr. Adriana Cordis</td>
<td>Whistleblower Laws and Corporate Fraud in the United States</td>
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<td>Controlling the Expression Levels of Oct4 Using Invitrogen’s Gene Switch™ System</td>
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<td>Nicole McMullen, Dr. Heather Evans-Anderson</td>
<td>Targeted Mutagenesis of FOX0 Transcription Factors in the Model Organism Ciona intestinalis Utilizing the CRISPR/Cas9 System</td>
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<td>Lesley Pena, Dr. Darren Ritzer</td>
<td>Mindfulness, Coping, and Stress Levels Among Different Races</td>
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<td>Savannah Pewett, Dr. Merry Sleigh</td>
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<td>Holly Rittenberry, Dr. Joni Boyd</td>
<td>The Relationship of Lower Body Flexibility and Stress on the Ulnar Collateral Ligament in High School Baseball Players</td>
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<td>Claudia Salazar, Dr. Merry Sleigh</td>
<td>Adults’ Cognitive and Emotional Effects of Self-Reported Stereotype Experiences</td>
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<td>Tollie Schultz, Dr. Tara Collins</td>
<td>Masculinity and Femininity as Predictors of Emotional Expressivity and Relational Attainment</td>
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<td>Jalen Smith, Dr. Brad Tripp</td>
<td>Examining Longitudinal Data of Juvenile Delinquents in Rock Hill, SC</td>
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<td>Shannon Snelgrove, Dr. Laura Gardner</td>
<td>Contemporary Black Women Artists’ Narratives</td>
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<td>Shayla Warren, Dr. Maria Aysa-Lastra</td>
<td>Associations Between Perceived Discrimination on Subjective Quality of Life Among Adults in the US</td>
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<td>Camerun Washington, Dr. Kathryn Kohl</td>
<td>Investigating X Chromosome Non-disjunction in Drosophila melanogaster su(var)3-9 mutants</td>
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<tr>
<td>Alexis Williamson, Dr. Brad Witzel</td>
<td>Implementation of Resilience in Children of Low Socio-Economic Status</td>
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Winthrop University McNair Scholars
Graduating Class of May 2016

Back Row L to R:
Ashley Causey – Columbia University
Taylor Toves – Gap year/Work
Shawn Hoskins – University of Minnesota
Malyn Pope – George Mason University
Ethan Hanner – University of Colorado

Front Row L to R:
Kristin Ramirez – University of Nebraska
Lauren Green – Notre Dame
Emily Hokett – Georgia Tech
Olivia Manley – University of South Carolina

Where Are We Going?

WE ARE SO PROUD OF ALL OF YOU AND
WISH YOU THE VERY BEST!
In a first for our program, we began our summer by visiting the birthplace of Dr. Ronald E. McNair. While the Life Center is small, it made a huge impact on our scholars. Scholars spoke several times over the course of the summer of how meaningful it was to make a connection with the man our program is named for.
In another first for our summer program, scholars were invited to learn from Aramark Chefs how to make healthy, affordable meals once they enter graduate school. The Aramark staff members made chicken quesadillas and corn on the cob and shared the recipes and cooking costs with scholars. We were then invited to stay and eat a yummy meal!
June 23 -26, scholars travelled to the annual SAEOPP McNair/SSS Scholars conference in Atlanta, Georgia, to present their summer research projects. Winthrop took 17 scholars to present and we are so proud of all they have accomplished this summer. Three of our scholars won awards:

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<tr>
<th>Scholar Name</th>
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<tr>
<td>Lesley Pena</td>
<td>Mindfulness, Coping, and Stress Levels Among Different Races</td>
<td>1st – Poster</td>
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<td>Mentor: Dr. Darren Ritzer</td>
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<td>Shayla Warren</td>
<td>Associations Between Perceived Discrimination on Subjective Quality of Life Among Adults in the US</td>
<td>2nd – Social Science Oral</td>
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Dr. Ashton Brock brought yet another first to our program this summer: our first PhD recipient! We are so proud and took time to celebrate Ashton’s achievements!!

Olivia Manley was awarded a GEM Fellowship to support her graduate study in Chemistry and Emily Hokett was awarded an NSF Graduate Research Fellowship to support her graduate study in Cognitive Neuroscience.

This summer’s Scholar Among Scholars recipient is Nicole McMullen.
**June**
Kendra Bufkin  
Symone Calhoun  
Cera Crowe  
Jesse Grainger  
Lauren Green  
Jordyn Kessler  
Nicole McMullen  
Ronald Nelson  
Savannah Pewett  
Brittany Prioleau  
Kristin Ramirez  
Jasmin Sanders  
Hannah Swan  
Brittany Walker  
Alexis Williamson

**July**
Ashley Garrick  
Ashley Causey Golden  
Brandi Jeffries

**August**
Wendy Adams  
Muri Mata  
Derion Reid  
Claudia Salazar  
Tollie Schultz

**September**
Ashton Brock  
Amanda Cavin  
Vitta Clawson  
Dwana David  
Katheryn Dixson  
Danielle Giles  
Theresa Melendez  
Jasmine Morgan  
Kia Smalls  
Jálen Smith  
Taylor Toves

**October**
Michael Capps  
Shawn Hoskins  
John Huffman  
Brittany Lawrence  
Robin Newsome  
Lesley Peña  
Cedric Williams
A few of Dr. FW’s favorite photos