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Fall 2015

Winthrop University
**MCNAIR SCHOLARS
PROGRAM**
Newsletter

TRiO

RONALD E. MCNAIR
POST-BACCALAUREATE
ACHIEVEMENT PROGRAM

The Ronald E. McNair Postbaccalaureate Achievement Program is a federally-funded TRIO program that prepares first-generation, low-income, and underrepresented undergraduates to be successful in graduate school.

Winthrop's McNair Scholars Program includes, but is not limited to, a paid summer research experience, faculty mentoring, workshops, GRE and graduate school application preparation, and travel to present research and explore graduate programs.

Learn more at:

<http://www.mcnairscholars.com>



McNair Scholars Program

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Program Director:

Dr. Cheryl Fortner-Wood

Administrative Assistant:

Mrs. Barb Yeager

Graduate Associate:

Amanda Cavin



From the Director:

The picture above is the wallpaper on my office computer. Every time I start or finish a task, it reminds me of our purpose and why I love this work so much. We are beginning our 7th year and I feel more blessed than ever to work with such amazing students, faculty, and staff. Blessings include when alumni stop by or touch base as so many did this summer and watching Scholars graduate and go off to graduate school all over the country (this year to Winthrop, Duke, Temple, Virginia Tech, Wake Forest, Georgetown, the University of Maryland, and Oklahoma State). Another blessing is seeing our alumni earn national recognition as Destinee and Hannah have. Witnessing our summer Scholars' hard work pay off with excellent presentations and awards is also a blessing. The cycle of blessings starts anew this week. We just released the 2015-16 application and I am starting the rounds to recruit our next cohort of amazing students. I can't wait to meet them.

-Dr. FW

WHO'S YOUR PUPPY? Or pet?



1. Bentley



2. Carly and Lola



3. Stella aka Meowmeow



4. Pocky



5. Rosie



7. Skaro and Tiki



6. Paddy

Match the fur baby (or babies) with it's human.

- | | |
|----------------------|--------------------------|
| Ethan Hanner # _____ | Brittney Black # _____ |
| Joe Paramo # _____ | Amanda Cavin # _____ |
| | Dr. Fortner-Wood # _____ |

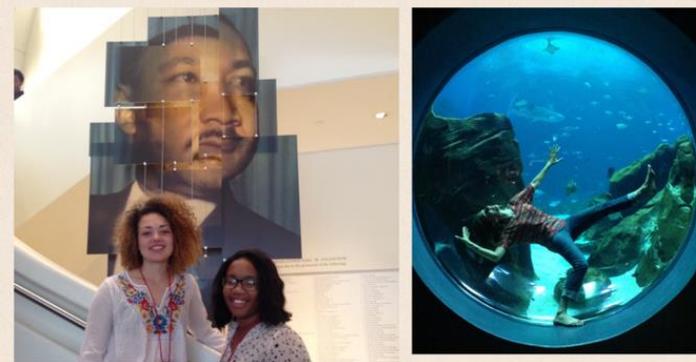


2015 SAEOPP McNair/SSS SCHOLARS RESEARCH CONFERENCE

HYATT REGENCY ATLANTA
JUNE 25-28, 2015
ATLANTA, GEORGIA



June 25 -28, scholars travelled to the 43rd annual SAEOPP McNair/SSS Scholars conference in Atlanta, Georgia, to present their summer research projects. Winthrop took 18 scholars to present and we are so proud of all they have accomplished this summer. Five of our scholars won awards:



Scholar	Presentation Title	Place
Ashley Causey	Beyond Whitewashing: Incorporating Multicultural Education in Teacher Preparation Programs	1 st – Education Oral
Lauren Green	Brain-Penetrating Histone Deacetylase Inhibitor RG2833: A Potential Malignant Melanoma Growth Suppressor	1 st – Poster
Jordan Lewis	Impacts of Beach Renourishment on the Distribution and Abundance of <i>Escherichia coli</i>	3 rd – Life Science Oral
Kyle McDaniel	A Genetic Confirmation of Temporary Meiofauna in the Miobenthic Food Web	2 nd – Life Science Oral
Malyn Pope	The Effect of Hairstyle on Perceptions of Black Women’s Personality and Earning Potential	2 nd - Poster



Words of Wisdom

One scholar's thoughts from
*In the spirit of Ronald E. McNair,
astronaut: an American hero.*

From Shannon Snelgrove: "Uhura, a beautiful black woman, was a citizen of the Bantu Nation of United Africa [on Star Trek]. She was also communications officer for the ship. As a black woman, she had two strikes against her in our twentieth-century world, but in the enlightened society of the twenty-third century she was a high-ranking and fully capable starship officer. The lovely Uhura saw the crew through more than one crisis with her impressive knowledge and cool head. In her off-duty time she dressed in traditional African garb, taking pride in her heritage....Dr. Mae Jemison, the first African-American woman in space, has unapologetically admitted that watching Lt. Uhura awakened in her the dream of someday becoming an astronaut." (pp. 60-61) This excerpt shows that the imagination and the alternate realities the show created have real-world results. It shows the importance of representation of black people in science fiction and in positive roles on television.

CONGRATS GRADS!

- **Chauntice Buck graduated May 2015 from UGA with a Master of Education in Professional Counseling**
- **Brittney Black graduated May 2015 from ECU with a Master of Science in Rehabilitation and Career Counseling**
- **Destinee Johnson graduated from Stanford University with a Master of Arts**

Destinee Johnson was also awarded a 2015 Teaching Fellowship from the Knowles Foundation and will join a 5-year cohort of other STEM teachers.

Scholar Among Scholars

Ashley Causey

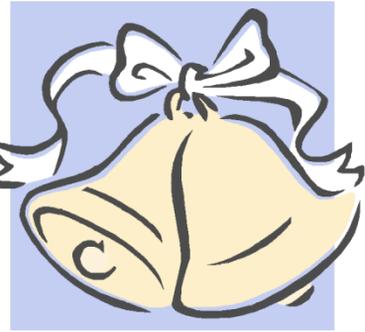


At the McNair Dinner (on 7/3), Ashley Causey (at left) was presented with the Scholar Among Scholars Award plaque which hangs in the Program office. The award was created last summer in honor of Lauren Green's exceptional work during the SRE. Lauren had the pleasure of awarding it to Ashley who was voted the scholar among scholars by the members of her cohort. Ashley said, "That was an honor because it is humbling to be around people who think highly of you as a scholar but more importantly it

reminded me of the quote that Maya Angelou said, "I've learned that people will forget what you said, people will forget what you did, but people will never forget how you made them feel." She also had the following to say about the McNair Experience. "McNair is truly an experience. McNair has helped me see what I am fully capable of doing because I sold myself short for a long time. I was comfortable in the box that I allowed myself to stay in. I was content with just completing the assignments that my professors asked me to do but McNair challenged me to do so much more. I was able to explore what I was interested in and that not only helped me to deepen my passion in education but helped me realize that grad school could be a reality for me."

Congratulations Ashley!

Points of Pride



*Congratulations to alum
Derion Reid and his brilliant
and beautiful new bride,
Heather Williams, who were
married on June 19.*

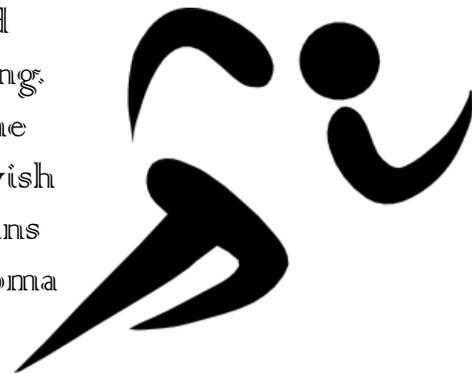
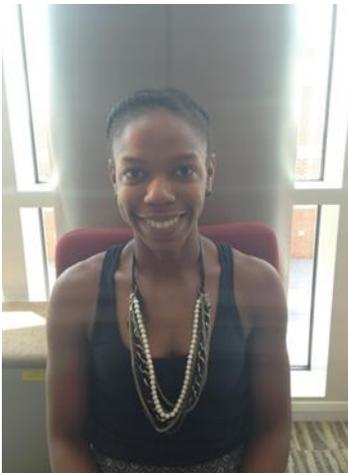


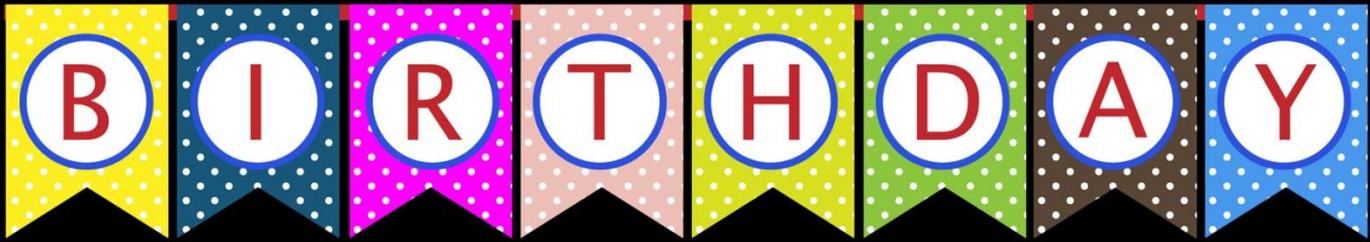
On August 1st, 2015, Brittany Stapleton-Livingston earned her Doctor of Physical Therapy degree from the University of Chapel Hill. She says, "I was so overwhelmed with different emotions because there were times when I thought I would not earn my degree. I have overcome many obstacles including being a first generation college student. The journey of obtaining my doctorate's degree has been a fun and priceless experience that I will always cherish. I have met some awesome individuals both in college and in graduate school that I will admire forever. It was definitely tough and challenging, but with hard work and determination I accomplished my dream. I am grateful for the people who have helped me along the way to make earning my degree a reality."

Congratulations to former scholar Hannah Swan who was awarded a National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship. She is currently pursuing a Ph.D. in computing at the University of Utah.



Scholar Shalace Rose was a vital member of the Winthrop women's relay team who had first and second place finishes this spring. Shalace also placed in both the 400m and the 200m dash. We wish Shalace much luck as she begins her masters program at Oklahoma State.





June

Jesse Grainger
Brittany Walker
Kristin Ramirez
Brittany Prioleau
Hannah Swan
Alexis Williamson
Symone Calhoun
Lauren Green
Ronald Nelson
Jasmin Sanders
Jordyn Kessler
Kendra Bufkin
Cera Crowe

July

Ashley Garrick
Ashley Causey
Brandi Jefferies

August

Muri Mata
Wendy Adams
Derion Reid

September

Theresa Melendez
Kia Smalls
Amanda Cavin
Katheryn Dixon
Danielle Giles



CONGRATS SCHOLARS!

Spring 2015

President's List

Malyn Pope

Shannon Snelgrove

Leigha Stahl

Dean's List

Kendra Bufkin

Ashley Causey

Jordan Lewis

Olivia Manley

Diamond Melendez

Justin Moore

Savannah Moritzky

Jesslyn Park

Kristin Ramirez

Alexis Williamson

Who's Your Puppy Answers

1. Bentley, English Bulldog belongs to Amanda Cavin
2. Carly and Lola, Pugs belong to Amanda Cavin
3. Stella belongs to Ethan Hanner
4. Pocky, Pugle (Pug/Beagle) belongs to Ethan Hanner
5. Rosie, lab mix belongs to Brittney Black
6. Paddy, Boston Terrier belongs to Jose Paramo
7. Skaro and Tiki belong to Dr. FW



Mrs. Yeager has been at it again! Dr. Who fans will recognize the T.A.R.D.I.S. Mrs. Yeager put her creative skills into action and created this beautiful Scholars Call Box. "It's bigger on the inside!"

