McNair Research Scholars

2016 GRADUATING SENIOR RECOGNITION AND FACULTY MENTOR APPRECIATION

April 11, 2016 | 5:30 p.m.
LSU Roger Hadfield Ogden Honors College
French House
HOSTED BY JOSEPH GIVENS, Director, Ronald E. McNair Postbaccalaureate Achievement Program

Reception

Opening Remarks and Welcome

2016 Graduating Seniors Recognition

McNair Research Scholars Faculty Mentor Appreciation

Adjournment

A Special Thank You to the McNair Research Scholars Staff

Julie Michal and Derrick Lathan

LSU University College is dedicated to students achieving excellence at LSU. Academic and personal success is the hallmark of a well-rounded student, and University College provides a foundation of support services for students beginning their academic careers at LSU. Our two enrollment divisions are the Center for Freshman Year and the Center for Advising & Counseling. In addition, a variety of retention-specific programs that focus on particular student populations are a significant part of the role and mission of University College, including McNair Research Scholars, Student Support Services, and Summer Scholars.

The Ronald E. McNair Postbaccalaureate Achievement Program promotes a new cohort of scholars that more accurately reflects the emergent diversity in life experiences, cultures, and perspectives represented in academia by preparing students who are first-generation, low-income, and underrepresented in graduate education for doctoral studies. McNair Research Scholars provides thirty sophomore, junior, and senior college students from Louisiana State University with information and experiences to prepare them to be competitive graduate school applicants and successful graduate students.
CHRISTINA BASTIEN
Major: Biological Sciences
Research mentor: Jerome La Peyre, PhD,
School of Animal Sciences
Comparison of the growth, mortality, Perkinsus marinus infection intensity, protein concentration, and plasma protease inhibitory activity between the progeny of oysters with different plasma inhibitory activity

JUDE BUMGARDNER
Major: Anthropology
Research mentor: Mary Jill Brody, PhD,
Department of Geography & Anthropology
South Korean women in Baton Rouge, Louisiana: A case study of work within and outside the home

HEATHER BUZBEE
Major: English, Writing & Culture
Research mentor: Chris Barrett, PhD,
Department of English
The violence and pleasure of persuasion in Gorgias’s “Encomium of Helen”

ATIANNA CORDOVA
Major: Architecture
Safe place: Designers learning from the informal community developments of homeless individuals

YOEL GEBRAI
Major: Petroleum Engineering
Research mentor: Frank Tsai, PhD, Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering
Geostatistical modeling of aquifer heterogeneity

CENE HARRIS
Major: Psychology
Research Mentor: Anna C.J. Long, PhD,
Department of Psychology
Impact of a transdiagnostic risk factor on willingness to seek treatment among Black students

MATTHEW JOHNSON
Major: Biological Sciences
Research mentor: Maheshi Dassanayake, PhD,
Department of Biological Sciences
A survey of the SMR gene family in the plant kingdom, using a motif oriented search tool

SAMANTHA LEOBEUF
Major: Psychology
Research mentor: Katherine Stamps Mitchell, PhD,
School of Social Work
The self-presentation and perception of college students on Instagram
TODD MOULDER  
Major: Physics  
Research mentor: Jonathan Dowling, PhD, Department of Physics & Astronomy  
*Linear optical quantum metrology with single photons – examining practical realizations for beating the shot-noise limit*

ZACKARI MURPHY  
Major: Psychology  
Research Mentor: Dr. Daniel Hayes PhD, Department of Biological & Agricultural Engineering  
*Thiolene based medical scaffolds utilizing frontal polymerization*

VICTOR OMOJOLA  
Major: Biological Engineering  
Research Mentor: Todd Monroe, PhD, Department of Biological & Agricultural Engineering  
*Characterization of microfluidic mixing devices for analysis of zebrafish sperm motility*

MCNAIR RESEARCH SCHOLARS  
FACULTY MENTORS

We thank this year’s faculty research mentors for their time, effort, and commitment to ensuring the success of our students.

Chris Barrett, PhD (English)  
Mary Jill Brody, PhD (Geography & Anthropology)  
Alex Cohen, PhD (Psychology)  
Theda Daniels-Race, PhD (Electrical & Computer Engineering)  
Maheshi Dassanayake, PhD (Biological Sciences)  
Jonathan Dowling, PhD (Physics & Astronomy)  
Daniel Hayes, PhD (Biological & Agricultural Engineering)  
Linda Hooper-Bui, PhD (Environmental Sciences)  
Anna Grove, PhD (Biological Sciences)  
Angeletta Gourdine, PhD (English)  
James Garand, PhD (Political Science)  
Jerome La Peyre, PhD (Animal Sciences)  
Anna C.J. Long, PhD (Psychology)  
James Miller, PhD (Pathobiological Sciences)  
Katherine Stamps Mitchell, PhD (Social Work)  
Todd Monroe, PhD (Biological & Agricultural Engineering)  
Marchia Newcomer, PhD (Biological Sciences)  
Jas Sullivan, PhD (Political Science)  
Frank Tsai, PhD (Civil & Environmental Engineering)