

*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 43

Summer 2009

Upcoming Events

GRE Saturdays

September 12, 19, 26
October 3, 10, 17
9:00 am-12 noon,
340 McCannel Hall

McNair Monthly Meeting

3:00 pm September 25
Swanson Hall, Room 10-12
Dean Joey Benoit's "Do's and
Don'ts of Applying to
Graduate School"



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Greetings from the Director

Greetings to all new and returning McNair scholars and university or community supporters of the UND McNair Program! It's the beginning of a new academic year and all across campus students are kicking it off with high hopes and determination to succeed academically. UND McNair Program participants have demonstrated energy, creativity and great potential for success, and our staff are looking forward to assisting in any way possible their attainment of a four year degree and entrance into graduate school. A special appreciation is expressed to faculty members serving as McNair mentors. Their presence in the student's academic life is invaluable both as a role-model and as a teacher concerning the research and graduate school study processes. As the academic year proceeds, please feel free to drop in and visit us at our main TRIO office at McCannel Hall, we welcome everyone!

Sincerely,
Elaine Metcalfe, Director
UND TRIO Programs

Society of Indian Psychologist Conference

By Sierra Abe, McNair Senior

The trip to the Society of Indian Psychologist Conference in Utah was once again a very educational and inspirational experience. We had exceptional presenters this year, including Dr. Joseph Trimble, from Western Washington University. Dr. Trimble has published extensively and is well known in nationally and internationally in the field of psychology. He spoke on "Infusing the Psychology Curriculum with Ethnocultural Content: Truths, Half Truths, Anecdotes and the Role of Critical Thinking." In his presentation he talked about the important roles as a researcher. One crucial and often underappreciated role is to check your resources thoroughly. He showed us a number of anthropology books that had been published by prominent anthropologists. These books had parts where the author essentially made up or had extremely distorted perspectives on various tribes. This struck up issues concerning ethics. The authors probably did this for popularity and money. More so, since they were well-known in the field, not many people questioned their research.

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*Society of Indian Psychologist Conference
Continued from Page 1*

One example he gave was a book that claimed there were over 500 words for snow in Eskimo. Dr. Trimble traced back the various sources that the book claimed to verify this interesting finding. However, what he found was that most of the publications did not trace back to any original source. They kept on being referred to one article to another and another, and so on.

These are all important lessons in research. Research should always be taken seriously and conducted in an ethical manner. All researchers should abide by the standards set by the national IRB and other IRB's that relate to their research. Also, research should always be done with critical eyes. I know I ought to be more critical of the publications that I find on the internet or other resources. Dr. Trimble stressed not be lazy in these efforts, because once an article is published, there are tremendous ramifications. This presentation was a wakeup call to me.

Further, this conference is unique because it talks mainly about Indigenous issues and different ways of interpreting and conducting research.

I notice the term, "Indigenous Psychology" being used a lot. My basic understanding of 'Indigenous psychology' is that it entails a more holistic approach to studying behavior. This is in contrast to the traditional Western-European models. The psychology books that I have been reading throughout my undergraduate career (even in high school) have been written by generally older white males. I take tests on the material I have read and try to memorize the different theories, etc. However, I am a young Native student in the world of academia. I sometimes forget about the valuable role of my own cultural teachings...and their impact in my education and overall life style.

This conference is especially important to me for this reason. The people help me realize the meaning and value of Indigenous teachings and how to infuse those along with the teachings in my college textbooks. I feel like they understand where I am coming from and how I would like to conduct my own research with American Indians. It is empowering.

Welcome New Scholars

What's up everybody? I'm Isaac Allmaras and am originally from Minot, North Dakota but have lived in Grand Forks for the past nine years. I went to high school in EGF and am currently a junior here at UND. My major is Marketing with an emphasis in Psychology, and my focus is on consumer behavior. After completing my undergraduate degree, I will be concentrating on my Ph.D. with the intent to teach at a college/professional level. Researching and finding new facts is the challenge in the field of Marketing, and that's why I find it so interesting. Also, everyday people buy products and merchandise, and finding out the influences is very fascinating. I am very grateful to have been chosen to be part of the McNair program, and will take advantage of everything it has to offer!



Hi, my name is Julia Beard, I was accepted to the McNair Program in the summer of 2009. Thus far, I see the McNair Program as a great resource in preparing for Graduate School and keeping me on track with my academic goals. I am currently a senior at UND studying ecology and evolutionary biology. I want to continue on to Graduate School to study environmental science. I enjoy camping and can be found most weekends during the summer fishing at a river or lake. I also enjoy traveling; it gives me a thrill to experience new places and cultures. I am excited to be part of the McNair Program and am looking forward to the rest of this year with this great team of people.



Hello, my name is Matthew Fahrenbruch. I was born and raised in Colorado, but I currently live with my wife Melissa in Gilby, ND. Before moving to North Dakota, my wife and I spent 2 years in Southern Nevada where I earned my associates degree across the border at Dixie State College in St.



George, Utah. In 2006 we moved to North Dakota to escape the economic and housing crisis that would soon plague the west including Nevada. I entered UND in Fall 2008.

My major is Environmental Geography with a minor in Biology. Some of my academic interests are: developing green building strategies that are tailored to specific climates, and assessing the perceived value of natural areas by people, based on their proximity to those areas and the amount of time they spend utilizing them (recreation).

Some of my personal interests include: canoeing, fishing, mountain biking, hiking, and pretty much any other outdoor activity. I also love to cook, especially when the recipe calls for new and exciting foods and spices that I have never used before. I especially like Southwest and Mexican influenced recipes. Currently though, I am trying to master the art of baking bread, specifically sourdough.

After I graduate, I plan on applying to graduate school where I will most likely further my studies in geography concentrating on the fields of conservation and sustainable development. As can be seen by my interests above, I have an interest in keeping our green spaces green, and making sure that we do not destroy our resources in the name of development. My graduate study will most likely be related to these interests.

After graduate school I would like return to the west where there are boundless opportunities to satisfy my appetite for the outdoors. Two career paths I can see myself taking are: working in the management and conservation of our

public land through the development of land use policy and programs, or working to increase the use of green building techniques in our urban and suburban areas through the development of green building strategies and policy. I am honored to be a member of the McNair program and look forward to making a difference in our world.



My name is Seinquis Slater and I am from Fort Walton Beach, Florida. I moved to North Dakota when I was five and have lived here since. I am currently a sophomore at the University of North Dakota pursuing a major in Sociology. Through the McNair Program, I plan to put forth all efforts to prepare myself for graduate school. After receiving a degree in Sociology, I plan to attend graduate school to obtain a Ph.D. in Educational Leadership. Once I have completed graduate school, it is my goal to work in higher education and assist under-represented students in excelling academically during their time at a university.



Campus involvement is a vital component in my life. Currently, I am a member of Student Government as an Administrative Assistant, Alpha Phi Omega service fraternity, Greek Public Relations, and intramural volleyball and broomball. I am also an active member of Alpha Chi Omega sorority, where I currently hold the positions of Panhellenic Delegate, Public Relations Chair, Alumni Chair, and Publications Chair in my chapter. I am very grateful to be a McNair Scholar and I am excited to take part in the opportunities it has to offer me!

Alumni News: Diane Potter



Statue of Liberty Replicas

I was unaware of the existence and history of Statue of Liberty replicas when I took this photograph in LeRoy, New York, October 4, 2005 at ~11:15 a.m. EST. Research reveals a rich narrative.

This photograph would not be possible without the patriotic generosity of the late Jack P. Whitaker (1890–1968) born in St. Joseph, Missouri. Jack was a successful Kansas City businessman, Rotary Club 13 member, Boy Scout volunteer, husband, father, grandfather. To commemorate the 40th anniversary of the Boy Scouts of America, Jack had 200⁺ copper replica Statues of Liberty manufactured by the Friedley-Voshardt Company of Chicago, Illinois. These replicas measure ~8 ½ feet high, and are further elevated upon a variety of pedestals. Our states, possessions and territories were encouraged to purchase the statues in the early 1950's from the Kansas City Boy Scout office; most states did so: *Fargo, ND has a replica statue. A plaque cites that well-chosen, resonating anniversary theme, 'Strengthen the Arm of Liberty'.

Statues of Liberty unrelated to the above mentioned replicas exist or existed in other countries: Hanoi, Vietnam, 1887 until toppled August 1, 1945; Barentin, France; Tiananmen Square, Beijing; Odaiba, Tokyo; Osaka, Japan; Visnes, Norway; Colmar, France, birthplace of Frederic Auguste Bertholdi, Lady

Liberty's sculptor; Prishtina, Kosovo; a 35 meter Statue of Liberty in Heath Park, Soltau in Lower Saxony Northern Germany was opened on July 4, 1986 – Ronald Reagan was our President, it was the 100th anniversary of our Lady Liberty and it was 210 years after our Declaration of Independence; on the Ile des Cygnes on the river Seine south of the Eiffel Tower stands a Statue of Liberty facing her New York sister – she is 35 feet tall and she was presented to France by the community of Americans in Paris on July 4, 1889. The largest replica is a full half-size and stands in Las Vegas, Nevada at the New York Hotel/Casino.

The ethereal flag image was formed purely by chance from a single jet contrail distorted by the winds on high. I was truly in the right place at the right time. The experience of seeing this image and taking this photograph is the most profound moment in my life:... the world fell silent ... I fell to the ground ... and fell to my patriotic mission. Liberty's Glory is America ... personified.

My heartfelt gratitude to our brave military, police, firefighters, armed services – guardians of Liberty.

Diane is holding this dedication in photo on page 4:

LIBERTY'S GLORY

Photo and Dedication Text Copyright © 2005 Diane K. Potter

We are Americans, we are guardians of freedom, personified by Lady Liberty, a gift from France that is our national treasure, a symbol of who we are, what we possess – the will and the freedom to achieve, to follow a calling, to light the way so that others may find their way out of the darkness. Liberty's torch needs but an ember – a smoldering flicker coaxed into flame. 'Tis Hope fanning sparks into stars until Freedom illuminates the darkest of hearts. Lady Liberty is enlightenment ... personified.

It is my responsibility as an American citizen to step forward to respectfully and humbly present and dedicate this patriotic phenomenon to our beloved servicemen and women, past and present, all those who proudly serve, protect and defend our nation here at home ... and abroad, for they are the stellar fabric of our nation, our flag – citizenry is the stitching. Those who serve are the stars upon our walls. Lady Liberty is towering integrity ... personified.

My thoughts are with you and all who serve our nation, those who understand that freedom and the responsibilities that come with that blessing, requires courage to uphold and defend, for the very existence, the founding of this nation came at a great price to vast numbers of people – those driven out of their lands, those who made and survived the perilous journey, those who fought to sever oppressive ties an ocean away, those who were taken from their homeland to be enslaved by others, those who gave their lives to unite all states under the premise and promise of the twin principles of liberty and equality. All people are joined in sorrow, all people are joined in Hope. Lady Liberty is human spirit ... personified.

Our actions are our responsibility, so too, are our words ... fleeting upon the wind, yet forever. Lady Liberty stands firm upon the solid foundation of the words so eloquently carved out – scripted – by our Founding Fathers who punctuated their resolve with the mightiest sword that would commit their blood to Liberty. Led by John Hancock (born January 12, 1737; died October 8, 1793) – owner of a ship named *Liberty* – they became an historic crew for his symbolic pen/man/ship. Lady Liberty is unwavering strength ... personified.

Every day I think of all those who have lived for, dreamt of, fought for – and obtained – freedom. Every day I reflect on those who give their lives – so that others may live free. Every day I reflect on what we would be without our military – I must prove myself worthy of their sacrifice. Every day I reflect on the bravery and sacrifice of our police and firefighters – they face battles on a daily basis, they must quell the fire and survive the crossfire of humanity's searing discontent. The long, strong arms of the law are there to catch us, to break our fall, one and all, should we plummet ... into self-destruction. Lady Liberty is self-sacrifice ... personified.

Any nation is the sum total of the personal best of its citizens as led by honest, selfless leadership – *protected by the strength of its military*. It's a simple equation, really. In this mortal journey, I choose to add something positive, something tangible, something 'proof positive' to the equation, for I am inspired by those who competently and honestly serve these United States, those who uphold – and adhere to – our laws, those who, without reservation, without hesitation, step forward, front and center, to lead, to follow, to pledge allegiance, to defend, to honor this potent nation. Lady Liberty's posture is straightforward, forthright, upstanding. Lady Liberty is statuesque self-discipline ... personified.

This photograph would not be possible if it were not for the patriotic generosity of the late J.P. 'Jack' Whitaker (1890-1968) born in St. Joseph, Missouri. Jack had over 200 copper replica Statues of Liberty cast to commemorate the Boy Scouts' 40th anniversary. A plaque cites that well-chosen, resonating theme, 'Strengthen the Arm of Liberty'. Our states, possessions and territories were encouraged to purchase the statues in the early 1950's through the Kansas City Boy Scout office; most states did so. These replicas measure ~8 1/2 feet high and are further elevated upon a variety of pedestals. I took this photo October 4, 2005, at ~11:15 a.m. EST in the village of LeRoy, New York. "Liberty's Glory 10-4". The ethereal flag image was formed purely by chance from a single jet contrail distorted by the winds on high. This photo was taken with a Canon Rebel and strip negative film developed the same day at a grocery store. No cropping or manipulation of this image is involved. We are what we choose – and allow ourselves – to see. Lady Liberty is Truth ... personified.

Lady Liberty celebrates her 125th anniversary in 2011 of her official acceptance and dedication by President Grover Cleveland on October 28, 1886.

We are guardians of Liberty.

Seeing this image and taking this photograph is the most profound moment in my life. That these 2 national symbols should appear together as such is beyond words, to say nothing of the experience of bearing witness:

... the world fell silent ... I fell to the ground ... and fell to my patriotic mission.

Liberty's Glory is America ... personified.

My heartfelt gratitude to our brave military, police, firefighters, armed forces – guardians of Liberty.

Sierra Abe's response to "Writing Like a Doctor" by Rachel Toor

The article was very intriguing to me for three reasons:

- Writing is an area that I struggle with.
- Godfrey's story is similar to mine in terms of being able to tell a good story, but not being able to write it down on paper in a proper way.
- I have been told before that I need to "show strong reasoning behind my argument" in papers and to make clear statements in order for the readers to follow my train of thought.

The author, Rachel, made a strong point: Reading is great, but you need to actually write and re-write to get better in your ability. Also, outlines are a time-saver and will help with the writing process.

In college, I procrastinate when it comes to writing papers. I rather free write than write a research paper. However, I know that the more I write APA style papers, the faster and easier they are. Good writing skills are crucial when it comes to graduate school, so I am trying to practice while I am still an undergraduate.

As Rachel said, "the only good editing is the editing the author accepts." This is a bit discouraging because it takes away from the uniqueness that the writer has to offer, but a good writer will have to learn to adapt and tweak their style for certain projects. In writing grants the writer has to be very clear and use more technical terms. In a research paper the writer will have to be objective and refrain from using the letter "I" or any other personal grammar.

At the end Rachel wrote, "Doctors and Scientists might sometimes need a reminder that they are writing for humans." The journal articles that I have researched usually state a couple of interesting (why it applies to everyone) facts or thoughts in their abstracts. This helps the reader understand why their research is meaningful. Throughout the paper the writer should write clear arguments and data to make their paper easy for the laymen to comprehend.

I personally believe that I have a lot of room to grow in my writing ability. I am trying to look at paper assignments with a positive attitude, and believe that I can write a good paper. I know that I should take more time with writing assignments, write outlines, and ask someone to look over my papers. I will improve with every paper that I write, starting with this one!



Top Ten Scholarship Tips

Ever wonder what the folks who award the scholarships want to see? FinAid and FastWeb have polled scholarship providers across the country asking for their tips on applying for scholarships:

TIP 1: Give concrete examples

If your answer to an essay question is abstract, support it with a concrete example that illustrates your point. The scholarship sponsor wants to see evidence that you satisfy their criteria, not just unsupported statements.

TIP 2: Apply only if you are eligible

Read all the scholarship requirements and directions carefully, and make sure that you are eligible before you send in your application. Your application will not be considered if you are not qualified to apply.

TIP 3: Identify the sponsor's goals

Try to understand the sponsor's motivation in offering the award. Do they want to promote interest in their field? Do they want to identify promising future researchers and business leaders? If you can identify their goals, you can direct your application toward satisfying those goals, increasing your chances of winning the award.

TIP 4: Complete the application in full and follow directions

Many students fail to follow directions. You can give yourself a competitive advantage by reading the directions carefully. Provide everything that is required. But do not supply things that are not requested. You will not impress and you might be disqualified. Be sure to complete the entire application. If a question does not apply, note that on the application. Do not just leave it blank.

TIP 5: Neatness counts

Make several photocopies of all the forms you receive. Use the copies as working drafts as you develop your application packet. **It is always best to type the application. If you must print, do so neatly and legibly.** Proofread the entire application carefully. **Nothing is less impressive than an application with misspelled words or grammar errors.** Ask a friend, teacher or parent to proofread it as well.

TIP 6: Write an accomplishments resume

Compile a list of all your accomplishments. This will help you identify your strengths and prepare a better application. Give a copy of the resume to the people who are writing letters of recommendation for you. They will be able to work some of the tidbits into their letters, making it seem like they know you better.

TIP 7: Watch all deadlines

Impose a deadline for yourself that is at least two weeks before the stated deadline. Use this "buffer time" to proofread your application before you send it off. YOU are responsible for making sure all parts of the application arrive on time. This includes supporting materials, such as letters of recommendation and transcripts. So make sure everyone who is contributing to your application has ample lead-time.

TIP 8: Take steps to make sure your application gets where it needs to go

Before sending the application, make a copy of the entire packet and keep it on file. If your application goes astray, you can always reproduce it quickly. Make sure your name (and social security number, if applicable) appears on all pages of the application. Pieces of your application make get lost unless they are clearly identified.

TIP 9: Ask for help if you need it

If you have problems with the application, do not hesitate to call the sponsor. But do not expect anyone to do the work for you. Completing the application is your job.

TIP 10: Remember – your scholarship application represents YOU!

Your ability to submit a neat, timely, complete application reflects on you. It is the face you present to the sponsoring organization. Take pride in yourself by submitting the best application you can.

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Answers: 1.d.; 2.i.; 3.a.; 4.f.;5.j.;6.b.;7.h.;8.c.;9.e.;10.g.

10) Verdant	j.	A gossip; a busybody.
9) Badinage	i.	1. A florid, brilliant style of music. 2. A showy or brilliant display
8) Clandestine	h.	1. Characterized by fullness, clarity, strength and smoothness of sound. 2. Pompous; bombastic.
7) Orotund	g.	1. Green with vegetation. 2. Green. 3. Native.
6) Encomium	f.	The farthest or highest point; culmination.
5) Quiddance	e.	Light, playful talk; banter.
4) Apogee	d.	1. In music drama, a marked melodic phrase. 2. A dominant and recurring theme.
3) Ferid	c.	Characterized by, done in, or executed with secrecy or concealment subversion or deception.
2) Bravura	b.	An often formal expression of warm or high praise.
1) Leitmotif	a.	Heated or vehement in spirit, enthusiasm, etc. 2. Burning; glowing; intensely hot.

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

Words for Wits