

# THE McNAIR SCHOLAR

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TRUMAN STATE UNIVERSITY

Fall 2009

## 13th Annual MKN McNair Heartland Research Conference

Nine senior McNair Scholars traveled to Kansas City, MO September 25-27th to attend the 13th Annual MKN Heartland Research Conference. Scholars were afforded an opportunity to present the results of their research conducted during the summer of 2009. The Heartland Conference program included individual student research presentations, a graduate school recruitment fair, and speakers who provided useful information about application to and strategies for success in graduate school. In addition, the Scholars toured the nearby Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art.

At the conference, McNair alumna Laura Casey was awarded the MKN Heartland Scholarship. The \$500 award is given to a previous presenter at the conference who is currently enrolled in graduate school. Laura presented her research at the 2007 Heartland Conference and is currently a second year student in the Political Science doctoral program at the University of Michigan-Ann Arbor.



Conference participants outside the Nelson-Atkins Art Museum in Kansas City. Pictured from left to right are: Jade Hicks, Dominique Johnson, Ta'janette Sconyers, Leia Wilson, Amanda Wiggans, Chris Reid, Kayla Simmerman, Jonathan Whitfield, and Brooke Ratterree.

## Truman Alumna Earns Recognition

Dr. Kia (Hartfield) Johnson, a member of the 1997-1998 Truman McNair cohort, provided the keynote address at the Heartland Conference. Dr. Johnson recently completed her doctoral training in the Department of Hearing and Speech Sciences at Vanderbilt University. She received a Bachelor of Science degree in Communication Disorders from Truman State University and a Master of Science degree in Communication Sciences and Disorders from Howard University. She also has first-authored research articles published in the *Journal of Fluency Disorders* as well as the *Journal of Communication Disorders* along with several co-authored publications. Recently, she was awarded both the MO-KAN-NE and MAEOPP 2009 TRIO Achiever Awards in recognition of her civic and professional achievements. Congratulations to Dr. Johnson!



### McNair Program Staff:

#### Program Director

Dr. Sylvia Macauley

#### Research Coordinator

Dr. G. Victoria Landrum

#### Program Coordinator

Sarah Hass

#### Administrative Assistant

Bich Kuhns

## McNair Pre-Research Internship

Nine Scholars completed the 2009 McNair Pre-Research Internship (PRI). During the PRI, the interns participated in a series of workshops on research design and professional writing. Participants also traveled to Washington University in St. Louis where they utilized the library for research materials and met with graduate school representatives. The PRI concluded with a public presentation of each Scholar's completed research proposal.

PRI Interns. Back row (left to right): Joseph Dove, Hailey Feldhaus, Max Glenn, Hubert Expoh, Jorge Camarillo.  
Front row (left to right): Shawn Glispie, Katie Tolle, Sherrie Fortson, Emmanuel Camarillo



## 2009 Summer Research Internship Participants and Their Research Supervisors

Phillip Davis, Justice Systems  
Professor Andrea Hampton

Jade Hicks, Communication Disorders  
Dr. Janet L. Gooch

Dominique Johnson, Health Sciences  
Dr. Janice Young

Jeremy Mapp, Psychology (Pre-MAE)  
Dr. Wendy Miner



Brooke Ratterree, Philosophy  
Dr. Lynn Rose and Professor Cole Woodcox

Christopher Reid, Political Science  
Dr. John Quinn

Ta'janette Sconyers, Psychology  
Dr. Kathryn Gerken, University of Iowa

Kayla Simmerman, Psychology  
Dr. Michele Breault

Jonathan Whitfield, Psychology  
Dr. David Conner

Amanda Wiggans, Music  
Dr. Maureen Carlson

Leia Wilson, English  
Dr. Joseph Ponce, Ohio State University

SRI Interns pictured (partial group). From left to right: Jeremy Mapp, Brooke Ratterree, Kayla Simmerman, Dominique Johnson, Jonathan Whitfield, Christopher Reid, Phillip Davis

## McNair Alumna Returns to Deliver Keynote Address

McNair alumna Tisha Wiley returned to the Truman campus in September to serve as keynote speaker for the 17th Annual McNair Research Presentation luncheon. Tisha joined the program in 2000 and during her time as a McNair scholar, completed her summer research internship under the guidance of her mentor, Dr. Karen Smith. She graduated magna cum laude from Truman in 2003 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration and Psychology, receiving the Outstanding Student in Psychology Award. Tisha began graduate school at the University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC) in 2003, received an MA in Social Psychology in 2006, and will complete her PhD this fall.

While pursuing her PhD, Tisha developed a program of research exploring how maltreatment and trauma affect children, particularly in legal contexts. Tisha has also presented her research at 22 conferences, authored four book chapters and three peer-reviewed publications, including a first-author article in the *Law and Human Behavior*, a single-author article in the *Journal*

*of Child Sexual Abuse*, and an article in *Child Maltreatment*. Tisha has received four nationally competitive grant awards to support her research, most recently including the Society for Child and Family Policy and Practice in the Section on Child Maltreatment Dissertation Award. She also received three awards in recognition of the quality of her research, including a Distinguished Student Contribution Award from the Society for the Psychological Study of Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual Issues in 2008.



In addition to her academic work, Tisha has been a consultant for the Chicago Children's Advocacy Center, the Illinois Department of Child and Family Services, and University of Illinois at Chicago Women in Science and Engineering System Transformation Initiative. Currently, Tisha is a Post Doctoral Fellow and Project Director at the Juvenile Protective Association in Chicago, Illinois.

## Jade Hicks to Travel to New Orleans

Congratulations to Senior McNair Scholar Jade Hicks, who has been selected by the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA) for inclusion in the Minority Student Leadership Program. As a participant in this prestigious program, Jade will travel to New Orleans, Louisiana from November 19-21 to participate in the National ASHA Convention. At the convention, she will take part in special programming designed to help students gain insight into their own leadership skills and develop a better understanding of how leaders effect change in their professional association.



**Did you know that  
23 Truman State  
University McNair  
Program alumni  
have earned  
doctoral degrees?**

**The McNair Program now has a presence on Facebook.** It is our hope that this will help to better connect Scholars with one another and our Program. There are 2 groups:

- (1) Current McNair Scholars at Truman State University and
- (2) Alumni and Friends of the McNair Program at Truman State University.

Join one today!



## Chris Reid is off to ISA-Midwest

Senior McNair Scholar Chris Reid will be traveling to St. Louis November 6-8 to attend the 2009 annual meeting of the International Studies Association-Midwest. Chris will be presenting his research, entitled “Minority Party Electoral Performance in a One-Party Dominant Russia.” This research was completed under the guidance of Dr. Quinn as part of the 2009 McNair Summer Research Internship.



## McNair Program Performance Objectives

**Objective 1:** McNair participants will complete research and scholarly activities each year that will directly impact their educational progression.

**Objective 2:** McNair participants will attain a baccalaureate degree within three years of entry into the program.

**Objective 3:** Bachelor degree recipients will enroll in a post-baccalaureate program by the fall term of the academic year immediately following completion of that degree.

**Objective 4:** McNair participants will attain a doctoral degree within ten years of the attainment of the bachelor's degree.

### 2009 Recruitment

**The deadline to submit an application to become a McNair Scholar is November 10th. Go to <http://mcnair.truman.edu> for more information and application instructions.**



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