



# THE MCNAIR CHRONICLE

Lawrence, Kansas

## *KU Scholars Present at the Heartland McNair Conference*

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By John Davidson  
McNair Scholar

During the weekend of Friday 22nd through Sunday the 24th, I was given the opportunity to participate in the annual Heartland McNair Research Conference. Many activities were already planned for all of us (scholars). In an attempt to encourage anyone and everyone's participation in this fantastic event, I will try to highlight some of the most memorable activities.

As everyone began to get comfortable in their rooms, with the wonderful accommodations of the Country Club Plaza Marriott, we were asked to meet in the dining hall for an introduction of all of the schools; an introduction to all of the coordinators from the different programs; and an introduction to Carl McNair, the brother of the late Ron McNair. As dinner was served, I began to look around the room, a room filled with

forty intelligent individuals, and after a brief period of humbleness swept past me, I began to think

search that each scholar had put into his or her project. Although at times during the research, I felt as if I was in too deep, it all felt worth it as I stepped behind the podium to express the ideas which I generated over the last six months of work.

Finally, the most memorable event of this conference was



Baseball Great Buck O'Neil presents an autographed baseball to KU McNair Scholar Carol Delgado.

about what a great opportunity that this program is giving each of us. Not only are we in a program that allows us to succeed in an undergraduate program with ease, they are also allowing us to practice presenting research (which we have so many hours of work and pride in) to our peers as well as some graduate school recruits.

On Saturday, everyone geared up for breakfast and their upcoming presentations. As we all decided which presentations that we would watch, I realized the extensive amount of re-

the introduction of baseball great, Buck O'Neil. Opportunities like this in life are few and far between. The motivational speech given by Mr. O'Neil moved each and every one of us. He spoke of education, opportunities lost, and our generation as the future. His powerful words were felt as I imagined what all of these scholars who filled the dining hall with attentive eyes, will soon be, and the impact that we will have on the world in a matter of a few short years, and many long nights (of studying)!

### McNair Scholars Program

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**Michael Stewart**

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## Scholar Spotlight: Nikki White

### *New McNair Scholar Anticipates Exciting Year*

By Vincent Edwards  
McNair Staff

The McNair Scholars Program has been very positive for this University of Kansas student. Nikki White, a KU basketball player, said she was glad to have an opportunity to get away from the athletic scene. The Tennessee Senior cannot wait to do research in the upcoming summer. Nikki said she rarely gets to participate in activities other than basketball. One thing that basketball takes away from Nikki, is her passion to sing. "I really love to sing," said Nikki. She said she doesn't have time to get involved in a choir or any other organizations such as the Black Student Union.

Nikki plans to conduct research dealing with the psychol-

ogy of children and how they deal with their family situations. "I love kids," said Nikki. Growing up, Nikki said she always had a passion for working with kids. While at KU, Nikki has endured four years of homework, seven knee operations, and one broken nose. According to Nikki the program can only make her stronger. Although she has just entered the program, Nikki said she has already learned so much from McNair. "McNair has been great." "I have learned so much on how to use different sources for graduate school." Nikki plans to go back to the south when she graduates from KU. "I'm a little partial to the south," said Nikki. Nikki plans to apply to graduate programs at the University of Tennessee, Georgia State, and Florida State University. Though she has a preference for the south, she said she still won't rule KU out as a possibility for graduate school. Nikki plans for a bright future with her field and is glad to be a part of the McNair Scholars Program.

### *"Tony": A New Addition to the KU McNair Family*



The KU McNair Scholars Program is pleased to announce the birth of Anthony Kooi Morphew. Congratulations to "Tony's" mother, Tanya, and proud father, Christopher Morphew.

### *Former OU Scholar Joins KU Staff*



Michael Stewart joined the McNair staff this semester as a graduate assistant. A former McNair Scholar and a graduate from the University of Oklahoma, Michael is now a graduate student in the Indigenous Nations Studies Program at KU. Michael also works at the KU Indigenous Nations Studies Office as a research assistant and plans to graduate in December 2002.

#### ***Interested in being a KU McNair Scholar?***

Applications are now being accepted for the 2000-2001 academic year. Call (785) 864-3412 for more information.

#### ***Are you a former KU McNair Scholar?***

Call us toll free at 1-877-842-5232 and we will include an article about you in the next issue of *The McNair Chronicle*.

## McNair Scholars Spring Schedule

### January

- 15 MLK Day Office Closed
- 16 Classes Begin
- 22 Individual Meetings Begin
- 26 Symposium, 3-5pm  
JR Pearson Hall, Rm 300

### February

- 23 Symposium, 3-5pm  
JR Pearson Hall, Rm 300

### March

- 1 FAFSA Deadline
- 19-25 Spring Break
- 30 Symposium, 3-5pm  
JR Pearson Hall, Rm 300

### April

- 27 Symposium, 3-5pm

### May

- 2 Spring Banquet  
5:30pm  
Malott Rm, KS Union
- 8 Stop Day

## Graduate Assistant/Former Scholar Relocates to L.A.

McNair Scholars graduate assistant, Rochelle Votaw, will be leaving the staff in early January to take a position in Los Angeles, California. Rochelle, who many remember as a scholar 1997-1998, will graduate in December with her Master's degree in American Studies. She plans to work for two years before applying to Ph.D. programs in the Southern California area.

## New Research Course for KU McNair Scholars

We are pleased to announce that scholars participating in the 2001 Summer Research Institute will have their own research methods course in the School of Education. Professor Allan R. Miller will teach the course "PRE 598: Understanding Research" in the spring 2001 semester. By the end of the course scholars will have learned the concepts and procedures involved in research and have completed their research proposals. Scholars enrolled in this three credit hour course will have their tuition waived.

## Staff Profile: Shakura Jackson

Shakura Jackson is the new office manager for the McNair Scholars Program and receptionist for the Educational Opportunity Programs in the afternoons. She has worked at KU for many years, most recently at the Human Resources Department. In the mornings she works avidly on her art projects, mainly photography. She has participated in numerous competitions and exhibitions in the region. "Art fills me with an enthusiasm that is the best of life," she said. She and her husband Hobart, who teaches in the KU



Shakura Jackson

School of Architecture and Urban Design, demolished their garage and are building an art studio in its place.



## Mentor Accolades

### Annette L. Stanton

has published an article with colleagues in the *Journal of Consulting and Clinical Psychology* on emotionally expressive coping as a predictor of psychological and physical adjustment to breast cancer, and another article in the *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology*.

### Ray Pierotti

was named Tribal College/University mentor of the Year by the Society for the Advancement of Chicanos and Native Americans in Science at their annual meeting in Washington, D.C. Prof. Pierotti and his colleague published traditional ecological knowledge: the third alternative in the journal, *Ecological Applications*. He also published an article in the *Indigenous Studies* journal and also an Ecological Monograph on old-field plants and small mammal communities. His most recent article is in the journal *Evolution* on bounded hybrid superiority.

### Lisa Stehno-Bittel

was awarded the 1999 University of Kansas Medical Center Outstanding Investigator Award. She also received a NIH grant for \$447,172 for the year 2000.

### Shirley A. Hill

recently published with a colleague "Reforming gendered health care: An assessment of change," in the *International Journal of Health Services*.

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[www.soe.ukans.edu/aep/mcnair/](http://www.soe.ukans.edu/aep/mcnair/)

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## *Four KU Scholars Attend National McNair Conference in Wisconsin*

By Belinda Hinojos  
McNair Scholar

During the first weekend in November, I had the opportunity to attend the National McNair Scholars Conference in Delavan, Wisconsin. From the beginning I was excited about going to the conference because I knew it would give me the opportunity to meet many scholars from different schools.

The conference setting was nice, although overcrowded. One of the biggest drawbacks was



that the presentation rooms were far apart, and there wasn't enough seating at the meals. In spite of those challenges, I was able to meet a lot of different people, see scholars that I had met at the Heartland Conference in

Kansas City, present my research, and hear very good presentations.

I would have to say that the best thing about attending the conference was getting to know the scholars from my program better. I really got to know Eve Lane, Carol Delgado, John Davidson and my advisor Robert Rodriguez on a personal level and formed friendships with them. Overall, I thought the weekend as fun, and I would urge all scholars to attend any future conferences.



Belinda Hinojos (upper left) and Eve Lane (above) presented their research at the National McNair Conference.