

SIUC McNair Newsletter

McNair Scholars Program

7/31/2020

Volume 3, Issue 1

Meet the Graduating scholars of the McNair Scholars Program



From Left- Luis Prado, Jacob Janicki, Kaitlin Faust, Christian Rose, Areaj Mubarak, Joshua McCray, Jessica Jurak, Shalane Scott, Jawaun Valentine, Destanee Williams, and Andres Womac



Amanda Leppert Gomes will be attending the University of South Florida Master's Program in

Applied Anthropology. She will be using her NSF Graduate Research Fellowship to attend this University with full funding. Her goal is to pursue an M.D Ph.D. and will be studying medical anthropology. Her accomplishments include SIUC Chancellors Scholar, Undergraduate Anthropology Club member and University Honors Program.



Yasmin Ibrahim will be attending Emory University in Atlanta, GA to

pursue a PhD in Biochemistry, Cell, and Developmental Biology in fall 2020. Her ultimate goal is to get her Ph.D., do research and teach at a university like SIU. Her accomplishments include SIU Chancellor's Scholar, Saluki Ambassadors, Students Today Leaders Forever, United Nations Association, and Habitat for Humanity, Carbondale Science Center, University Honors, and Undergraduate Assistantship



Jacob Janicki will continue working in horticulture while he

comparing graduate schools for horticulture and botany. His goal is to work in research, particularly with secondary metabolism in botany. Ultimately, in his career, he hopes to earn a doctorate. As an undergraduate, Jacob was a member of the Plant Biology Club.



Jessica Jurak will be attending the Kentucky College of Osteopathic

Medicine (KYCOM) in Pikeville, KY, beginning in fall 2020. She will be graduating with the class of 2024 with the hopes of completing a residency in surgery. Her accomplishments include University Honors, Society of Physics Students, Pre-Professional Association, Rocketeers of Southern Illinois (R.O.S.I), Laser Spectroscopy and Optics Research



Joshua McCray will be attending Southern Illinois University

to earn his Master's in Public Administration. His ultimate goals are to go to law school to earn his Juris Doctorate as well as a Master's in Public Administration or Public Policy. Then complete a PhD in Political Science. As a professional, Josh would like to work for the government from both a policy and legal standpoint or teach at the collegiate level.

His accomplishments include Dean's List, Mike Lawrence Scholarship Recipient 2019, Political Campaign intern, Paul Simo Public Policy Institute Student Ambassador 2017-present.



Allison McMinn has been admitted to Arizona State University

(ASU) into their Electrical Engineering PhD program. The program is under the Physical Electronics and Photonics track. She has received the NSF Graduate Research Fellowship along with the the Dean's Fellowship from ASU. She will be receiving full funding. She wants to turn her passion for innovative research into a career as a professor and researcher. She plans on becoming an esteemed research professor who can be an inspiration to all students.

Her accomplishments include University Honors, Undergraduate Assistantship, Secretary of SIU ATMAE, and Treasurer of the Society of Woman Engineers



Itzel Mendoza plans to take a year off from school to work at a mental health clinic in

Rockford, IL to gain experience. She plans to apply for master's programs in Counseling Psychology for 2021. Her accomplishments include Youth Ministry Leader, Undergraduate Lab Assistant, Youth Servant Award, University Honors, Dean's List.



Areaj Mubarak plans on attending the Master in Public Health Program

at Washington University in St. Louis with a specialization in Mental and Behavioral Health. With this she hopes to contribute towards solving global barriers to mental health care, as well as generally garner a broader perspective of the social dimensions of medical care as to accomplish her goals of being a physician. Her accomplishments include being on the Dean's list for all semesters, peer mentor at the First Saluki Center, Pre-Med Chair of the Pre-Health Professions Association, member of the University Honors Program, and Timmy Global Health.



Luis Prado will be attending Southern Illinois

University to pursue a Master's Geography & Environmental Resources with funding. He will focus on sustainability. His accomplishments include University Honors, Saluki Ambassador's, Saluki Service Dawgs, Marching Salukis, United Nations Association, and West Campus Area Council EcoRep



Tori Rhone has been accepted into the MEDPREP program at

Southern Illinois University- Carbondale along with the Master of Biological Sciences (MBS) program.

After completing two years of MEDPREP and master's degree she will be applying for Medical School. Her accomplishments include Saluki Summer Bridge, SIUC TRIO Achievers Student Support Services, Rising Scholars Recipient, Delta Zeta – Gamma Omega Chapter.



Shalane Scott's ultimate goal is to become a criminal analyst. She

has been accepted into the Southern Illinois University-Carbondale's Master of Public Administration (MPA) and has received a 25% assistantship. Her accomplishments include Trio Student Support Services, Transfer Student Award, and Associates in Arts Degree.



Jawaun Valentine will be attending Washington University of

St. Louis with a concentration on Health Management Policy. His accomplishments include Dean's list, member of Pre- Health Professionals Association.



Destanee Williams will be attending the University of Urbana-Champaign,

School of Social Work. She is currently an intern paralegal at the Students' Legal Assistances Office. Her ultimate goal is to become an advocate for youth. Her accomplishments include

Dean's list, Vice President of the Organization for Paralegal Studies and Treasurer of Students Promoting Education Advancement and Research. She volunteered at the Saluki Food Pantry and Catholic Charities. She is also a recipient of the African American Scholarship and Black Alumni Group Scholarship.

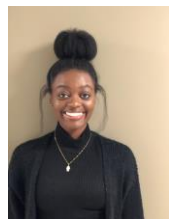


Left to Right: Jessica Jurak, Christian Rose, Jawaun Valentine, and Joshua McCray



Left to Right: Luis Prado, Jacob Janicki, Kaitlyn Faust, Christian Rose, Areaj Mubarak, Joshua McCray, Jessica Jurak, Shalane Scott, Jawaun Valentine, Destanee Williams, and Andres Womac

Summer Research Institute 2020



Diamoneek Green
presented her research

"The Impact of Generational Membership and Other Determinants of Racial Attitudes Pre and Post Obama" under the mentorship of **Dr. Randolph Burnside**, Public Administration.



Jocelyn Ortiz
presented her research

"Unraveling the Link Between Protective Factors and Juvenile Delinquency" under the mentorship of **Dr. Daryl G. Kroner**, Criminology & Criminal Justice.



April Robinson-Kain
presented her

research "African Americans in Colonial Moravian Society" under the mentorship of **Dr. Pamela Smoot**, History.



Eeron Valdivia
presented his research

"What Factors Affect Reproductive Success in *Tradescantia ohiensis*" under the mentorship of **Dr. Sedonia Sipes**, Plant Biology.



Mackenzie Rosario
presented her research

"Analyzing the Cinematic Representation of the Dominican Republic Post-Dictatorship" under the mentorship of **Dr. Angela Aguayo**, Cinema and Photography



Carlos (Danny) Zarate
presented his research

"Professional Knowledge and Practices for Working with English Learners" under the mentorship of **Dr. Katherine Martin**, Linguistics .



Christian Rose
presented his research

"Electromagnetic Scattering from Fractal Configurations" under the mentorship of **Dr. Jerzy Kocik**, Mathematics & **Dr. K.V. Shajesh**, Physics



Mya Tatum
presented her research

"Chlamydia Vaccines: a Review" under the mentorship of **Dr. Vjollca Konjufca**, Microbiology.



Martiece Arrington
presented his research "Well Spoken: A Neo-Aristotelian

Analysis of Barack Obama's 2008 Victory Speech" under the mentorship of **Dr. Craig Engstrom**, Communications Department.



Shawn Arreguin
presented his research "Perception of

Gardening with Native Plant Species Across the United States" under the mentorship of **Dr. Jessica Crowe**, Sociology.



Millien Regis
presented his
research

"Plant Parasitic Nematodes Associated with Pigeon Pea (*Canjanus canja* (L.) Millsp.) and Integrated Management Approaches" under the mentorship of **Dr. Jason Bond & Ahmad Fakhoury**, Agricultural Sciences.



Margaret Schlotter
presented
her research

"The Impact of Socioeconomic Status, Parental Negative Talk, and Gender on Child Internalizing and Externalizing Behaviors" under the mentorship of **Dr. Lisabeth DiLalla**, Psychology.

2020 Virtual Summer Research Institute

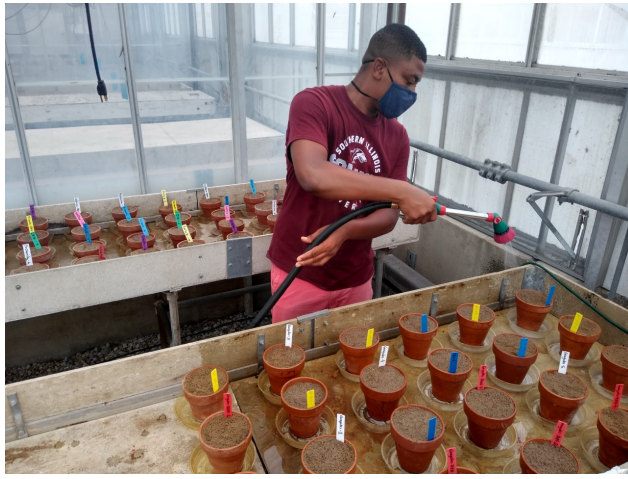


Left to Right 1st Row: Mackenzie Rosario, Rhett Seymour, Mya Tatum, and Tiara Watson

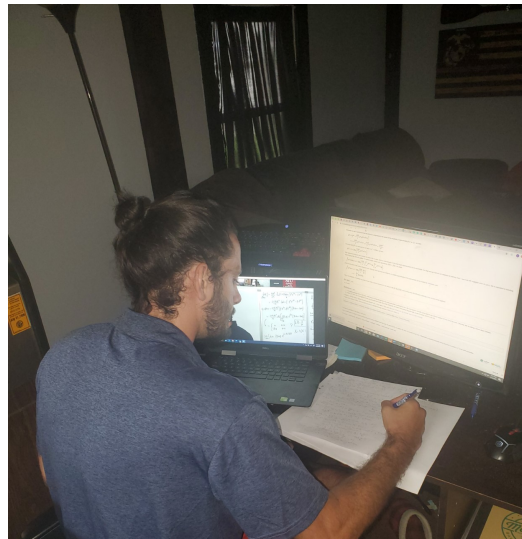
Left to Right 2nd Row: Kortney Maedge, Shawn Arreguin, Diamoneek Green, and Margaret Schlotter

Left to Right 3rd Row: Martiece Arrington, Carlos (Danny) Zarate, Eeron Valdivia, and Jocelyn Ortiz

Left to Right 4th Row: April Robinson-Kain and Millien Regis



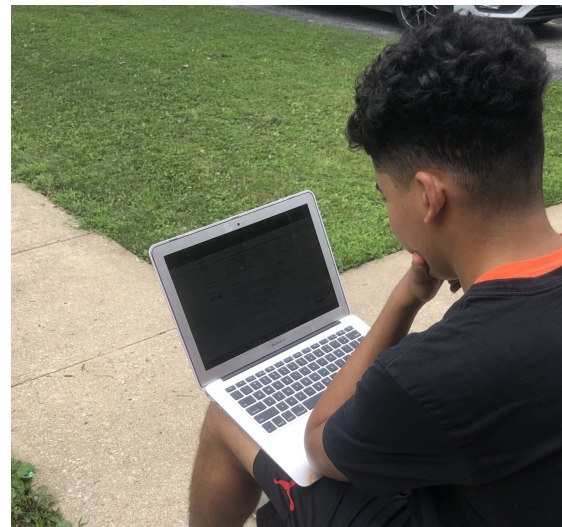
Millien Regis



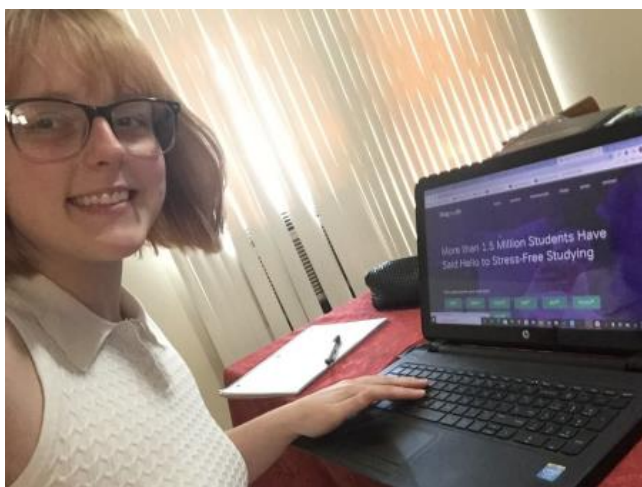
Christian Rose



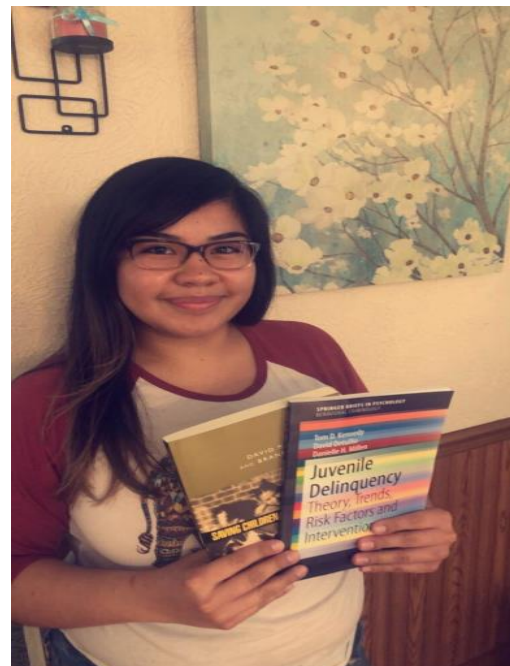
Mackenzie Rosario



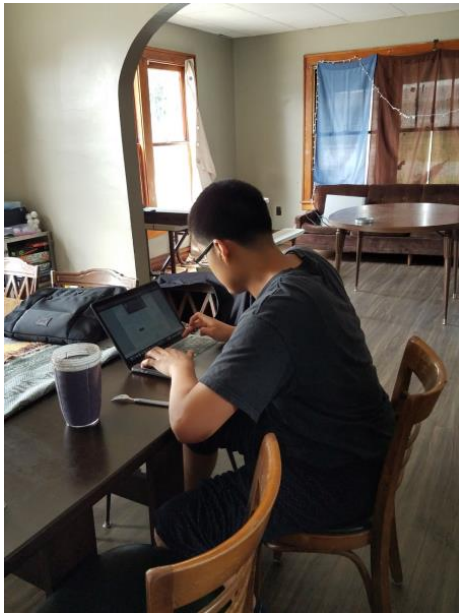
Eeron Valdivia



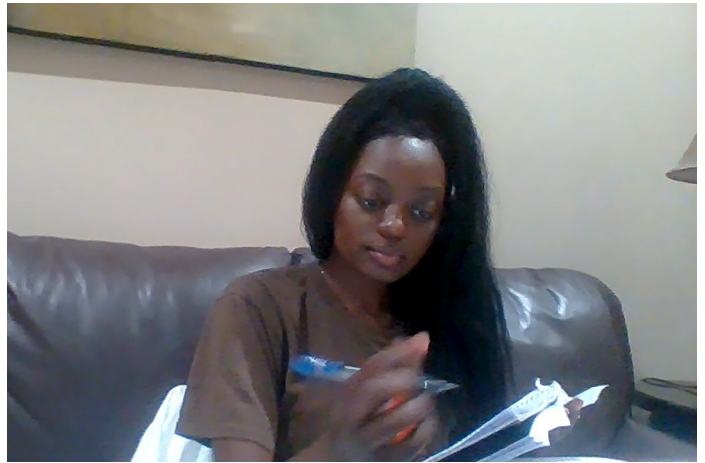
Margaret Schlotter



Jocelyn Ortiz



Carlos (Danny) Zarate



Diamoneek Green



Mya Tatum



Shawn Arreguin



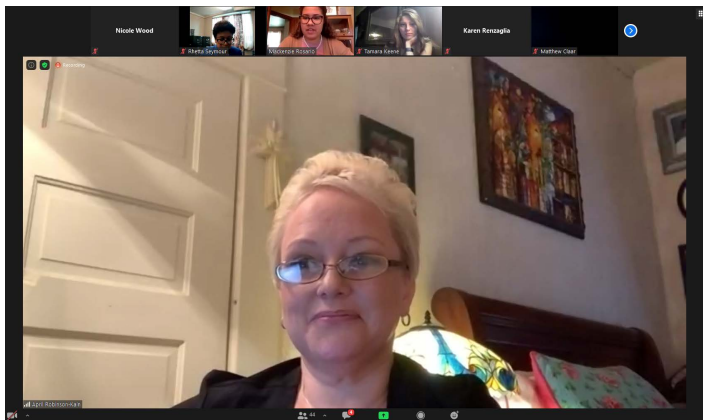
Martiece Arrington



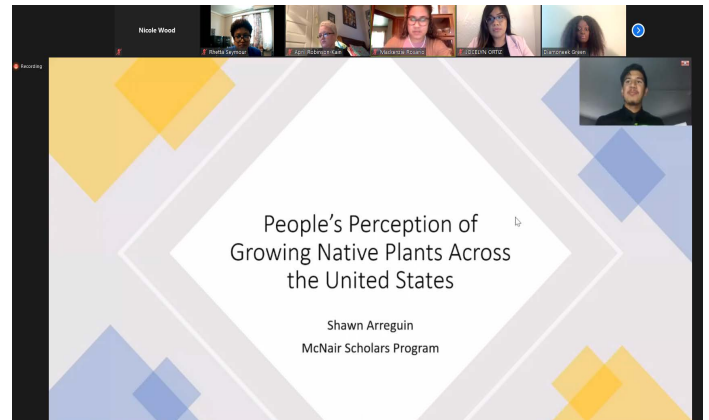
April Robinson-Kain

Moments of Virtual SRI Symposium 2020

Day 1 July 30th, 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.



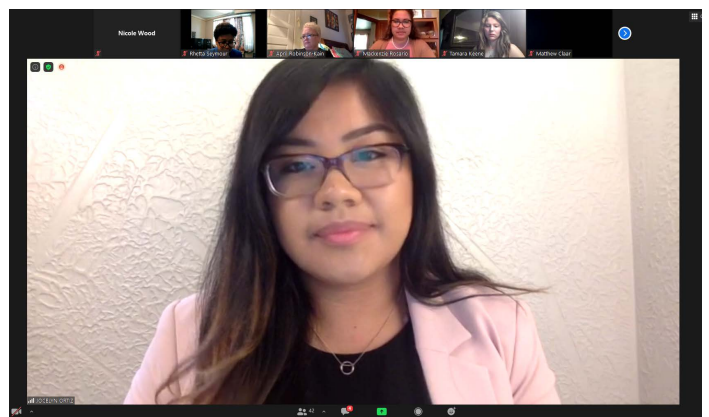
April Robinson-Kain



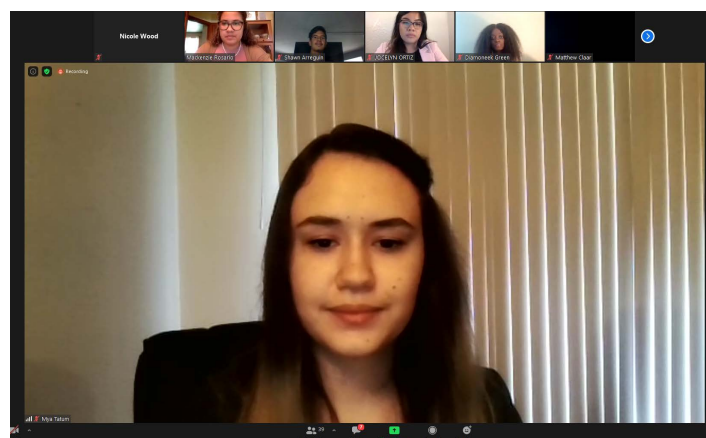
Shawn Arreguin



Diamoneek Green



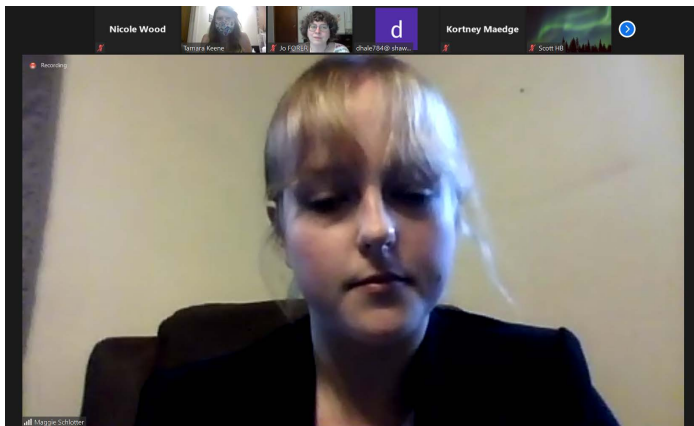
Jocelyn Ortiz



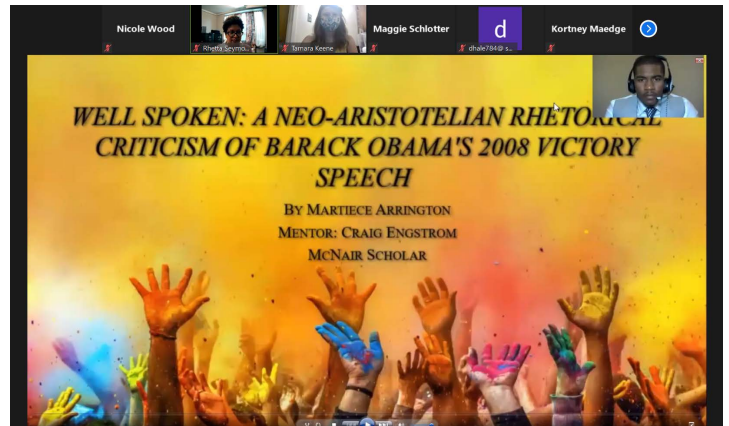
Mya Tatum

Moments of Virtual SRI Symposium 2020

Day 2 July 31st, 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.



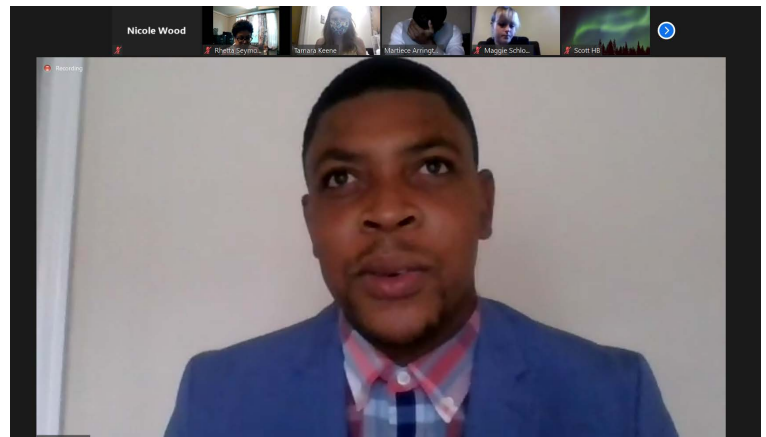
Margaret Schlotter



Martiece Arrington



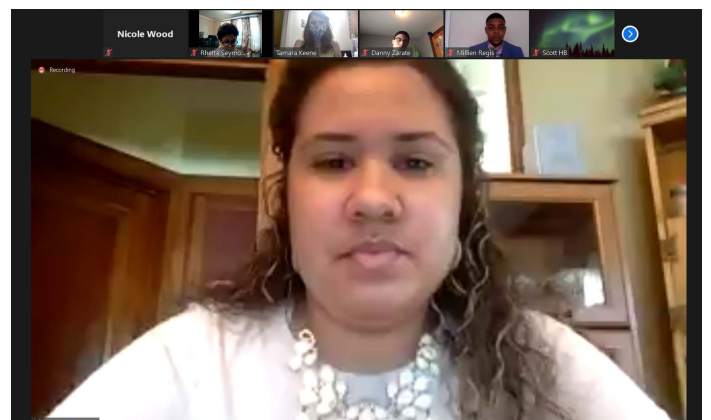
Eeron Valdivia



Millien Regis



Carlos (Danny) Zarate



Mackenzie Rosario

Congratulations to Recent Masters Graduates (2020)



Jorden Thomas received a Master's in Public Administration from Southern Illinois University Carbondale in May 2020



Trevor Keen received a Master's in Physics from the University of Tennessee-Knoxville in May 2020

Upcoming Events

Introduction to Graduate Education at Northwestern



The Graduate School at Northwestern University's Office of Diversity and Inclusion is pleased to announce that applications are now open for 2020 introduction to **Graduate Education at Northwestern (IGEN)**. This is a program for diverse rising juniors and seniors interested in doctoral studies. This event is being held virtually. Virtual visits to Northwestern's Chicago and Evanston campus's are now available.

<https://www.tgs.northwestern.edu/diversity/diversity-recruitment/introduction-to-graduate-education-igen.html>

Date: **October 1-3, 2020**



McNair Scholars Research Conference



The Baylor University McNair Scholars Program cordially invites you and your Scholars to attend the 2020 Virtual Baylor University McNair Scholars Research Conference on October 1-2, 2020. Open to all disciplines, this virtual conference offers a platform for undergraduate students to share their research and participate in professional development opportunities. Non-McNair students engaged in faculty-mentored research are equally encouraged to participate. Registration now open.

Conference Highlights:

- Student Research Oral & Poster Presentation
- Graduate School Fair
- Graduate School Workshops
- Student Networking Opportunities
- McNair Staff Development Workshop
- Information on Baylor University McNair Doctoral Fellowship
- Graduate Student Panel
- Keynote Address

We hope you will join us this year! For more information, please visit our website at baylor.edu/mcnairscholars

Date: **October 1-2, 2020**

Registration NOW OPEN!

<https://www.baylor.edu/mcnairscholars/index.php?id=959243>

Fees:

\$100 - Early Student & Staff Registration through Sept. 4th
\$125 - Standard Student & Staff Registration begins Sept. 5th

BIG TEN+ GRADUATE SCHOOL EXPOSITION



The Big Ten+ Graduate School Exposition is specifically designed for those interested in graduate study in the fields of Engineering, Mathematics, Science, Technology, Pharmaceutical Sciences and related disciplines. Students from all institutions are encouraged to attend, and travel scholarships are available! Also, check the below website for complete schedule and handbook. <https://www.purdue.edu/gradschool/gradexpo/>

The Grad Expo features:

- educational workshops
- an elite graduate school fair
- networking receptions
- and more!

Date: **October 4-5, 2020**

Virtual Event

Apply to the Purdue Graduate School for FREE (event registration and attendance required)

If you are interested in attending these graduate school fairs or campus tour, please contact Rhetta Seymour regarding Registration and Fees

McNair Scholars Virtual Graduate School Fair



The University of Central Florida is hosting a virtual graduate school fair for the national McNair Community and other underrepresented students. Please register for this FREE opportunity.

Registration is limited to 800 participants. Additional graduate schools are being added daily. Deadline to register is **September 10th, 2020**

Link: <https://app.brazenconnect.com/a/universitycentralflorida/e/ag1Qq>

Date: **October 9th from 1 p.m. - 5 p.m.**

Participating Graduate Schools:

- University of Colorado Denver
- Rensselaer
- University of North Texas
- University of San Diego
- Princeton University
- Weill Cornell Medicine
- Virginia Tech
- Northwestern University
- The University of Chicago
- and MORE being added every day!