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SAN JOSÉ STATE UNIVERSITY
McNAIR SCHOLARS
PROGRAM
RESEARCH JOURNAL

* San José State University and McNair

The Ronald E. McNair Postbaccalaureate Achievement Program was established by Congress in 1986 after the tragic explosion of the Space Shuttle Challenger that killed seven crew members, including Dr. McNair. Funded by the U.S. Department of Education, the program provides institutions with grants to develop and implement successful programs that recruit promising and aspiring low-income and first-generation students and those from backgrounds underrepresented at the doctoral level and prepares them for the rigors of graduate level work. Currently, the program operates at 152 campuses across the country serving 5000 scholars each year.

Since the McNair Scholars Program's inception at SJSU in 1996, McNair has successfully recruited 300 low-income and first generation students and individuals who are underrepresented at the doctoral level. Of those who have completed the program, 99.5% have earned their bachelor's degree, far exceeding the 16% - 20% for this population nationwide. Eighty percent of our SJSU graduates have finished or are pursuing a graduate school degree. SJSU has McNair alumni teaching or studying at universities across the United States, as well as in Germany, Columbia, Kenya, Australia, Turkey, and Morocco. We are extremely proud of our students and our program's successes.

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FOR THEIR SUPPORT:**

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A MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

The San José State University McNair Scholars Program is pleased to present the thirteenth SJSU McNair Scholars Research Journal. This journal represents the diverse and practical research experiences of the McNair Scholars during the 2016-2017 academic year.

I would like to congratulate the scholars for their hard work, dedication, and accomplishments during the spring course and in the summer research program. My sincere appreciation to the faculty mentors for their guidance, time, and commitment to the scholars, their research and the program. A particular word of thanks goes out to the families and extended support systems that made these outstanding presentations possible.

A special thanks to President Dr. Mary A. Papazian, Andy Feinstein Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, Stacy Gleixner Associate Vice President for Student Academic Success Services, and Pamela Stacks Associate Vice President for Graduate Studies and Research for their continuing support and encouragement given to both the students and staff of this program.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

McNair Research Papers

1 Eric Nunez Aguilar

“HIV-1 Protease Inhibitors From Marine Brown Alga: A Literature Review.”

FACULTY MENTOR: Dr. Claire Komives, Department of Chemical Engineering

19 Sophia Alcala Cabrera

“From Stigma to Standing: The Effects of Peer Leadership Participation on Student Veterans’ Ideas About Self and Others.”

FACULTY MENTOR: Dr. Elena L Klaw, Department of Psychology

30 Jemerson Diaz

“From Caution to College: The Effects on Veterans with Self-Reported Trauma Symptoms Sharing their Experiences with the Campus Community.”

FACULTY MENTOR: Dr. Elena L Klaw, Department of Psychology

42 Stephanie P. Dizon

“Reducing Stigma-Driven Health Disparities in People Living with HIV (PLWH): A Literature Review.”

FACULTY MENTOR: Dr. Constance Hill, School of Nursing Department, Dr. William Armaline, Department of Sociology, and Dr. Maria E. Cruz, Assistant Director McNair Scholars Program & Lecturer in Mexican American Studies Department

55 Diego Gomez

“The Effects of Anger and Happiness on Opposite Valence Racial Stereotypes.”

FACULTY MENTOR: Dr. Richard Petty (Ohio State University),
Department of Psychology

69 Japsinder Kaur

“Male Nurses: A Visible Minority.”

FACULTY MENTOR: Dr. Arlene Spilker and Dr. Susan McNiesh,
School of Nursing Department

76 Rashmeen Kaur

“U.S. Participation in Global Climate Change Resolutions: Analysis of the Kyoto Protocol.”

FACULTY MENTOR: Dr. Jennifer Pence,
Dr. Maria E. Cruz, Assistant Director McNair Scholars Program &
Lecturer in Mexican American Studies Department

91 Kougang Anne Mbe

“Culturally Competent Health Education in African-Americans’ Faith-based Communities for Better Health Outcomes: A Literature Review.”

FACULTY MENTOR: Dr. Constance Hill, School of Nursing

105 Alondra Varela

“Asthma-Related Hospitalization and Emergency Room Visits in Oakland.”

FACULTY MENTOR: Dr. Jennifer Hartle, Health Science and Recreation
Department

114 Heriberto Zavala

“Yo No Cruse La Frontera, La Frontera Me Cruzo” (I Didn’t Cross the Border, the Border Crossed Me).

FACULTY MENTOR: Dr. Magdalena Barrera, Associate Professor,
Mexican American Studies