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## UNLV McNair Scholars Institute Twelfth Annual Research Poster Presentation and Reception

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**About the UNLV McNair Scholars Institute  
at  
The Center for Academic Enrichment and Outreach**

Grounded in the inspiration and vision of Challenger astronaut Dr. Ronald E. McNair, this program began at The Center in 1999. The Ronald E. McNair Scholars Institute at UNLV is committed to diversifying the ranks of American faculty and research institutions by encouraging and preparing undergraduate students who are members of under-represented groups to pursue doctoral studies. The McNair program is designed to prepare undergraduate students for doctoral study and to pursue careers in college teaching. McNair participants are students from low-income, first-generation backgrounds, and/or members of underrepresented groups in graduate education.

An important aspect of the McNair Scholars Institute is the Summer Internship Program. This six-week program partners McNair Scholars with distinguished members of the UNLV faculty. The partnership provides scholars with a view of the foundations of academic life, research, and scholarly activities. As main contributors to the overall success of the McNair Scholars Institute, faculty mentors help students to develop professional work habits and research skills, while also widening their network of campus colleagues and academic relationships.

**The Center** seeks to increase student admission, retention, and graduation rates in undergraduate and postgraduate programs. The Center also strives to improve the quality of education for all students. Primary services offered by the Center include assistance with admissions and financial aid applications, advising and counseling, career planning, placement testing, tutoring assistance and readiness for graduate study. In addition, the Center provides referrals to campus and community resources. All services are free of charge.



**UNLV McNair Scholars Institute  
Twelfth Annual Research Poster Presentation  
&  
Reception**

**Wednesday, October 19, 2011  
Student Union Room 208  
1:00 pm—3:00 pm**

**Sponsored by:**

**The Center for Academic Enrichment and Outreach**



## **2011 UNLV McNair Scholars & Mentors**

**Scholar: Kelly AbuAli, Psychology**

**Mentor: Dr. Laurel Pritchard, Psychology**

Topic: *Can exercise ameliorate increased sensitivity to cocaine in maternally separated rats?*

**Scholar: Cyndy Anang, Psychology**

**Mentor: Dr. Kimberly Barchard, Psychology**

Topic: *Subjective Evaluations of Data Checking Techniques*

**Scholar: Sajar Camara, Pre-Nuclear Medicine**

**Mentor: Dr. Ralf Sudowe, Health Physics**

Topic: *Absolute Specific Activities of Deposited Radionuclides in Dust and Soil Samples, Nellis Dunes Recreational Area (NDRA)*

**Scholar: Pamela Cornejo, Psychology**

**Mentor: Dr. David Copeland, Psychology**

Topic: *Children's Emotional State and False Memory in the DRM Paradigm*

**Scholar: Carla Farcello, Psychology**

**Mentor: Dr. Janice McMurray, Psychology**

Topic: *The Effect of Spiritualism on the Neuropsychological Function of Memory*

**Scholar: Ilse Garcia, Psychology**

**Mentor: Dr. Brad Donohue, Psychology**

Topic: *Review of Interventions to Reduce Risk Factors for Alcohol and Substance Abuse among Student Athletes*

**Scholar: Anthony Harrington, Chemistry**

**Mentor: Dr. Penny S. Amy, Life Sciences**

Topic: *Identification of Nitrifying Bacteria Contained in a Commercial Inoculant Using Molecular Biology Techniques*

**Scholar: Natiera Magnuson, Biological Sciences**

**Mentor: Dr. Ernesto Abel-Santos, Chemistry**

Topic: *The Release of Calcium in Bacillus anthracis Pathogenicity*

**Scholar: William McCurdy, Biological Sciences**

**Mentor: Dr. Andrew Andres, Life Sciences**

Topic: *Toward a Mechanistic Understanding of Narcolepsy with Cataplexy*

**Scholar: Lorena Munoz, Psychology**

**Mentor: Dr. Cortney S. Warren, Psychology**

Topic: *Influence of Rap and Hip-hop Lyrics on Male Body Image and Attitudes Toward Women*

**Scholar: Maxym Myroshnychenko, Biological Sciences**

**Mentor: Dr. Anton Westveld, Mathematical Sciences**

Topic: *Analysis of Morris Water Maze Data with Bayesian Statistical Methods*

**Scholar: Ricardo Rios, Psychology**

**Mentor: Dr. Cortney S. Warren, Psychology**

Topic: *An Examination of Ethnic Differences in Body Image in Male College Students*

**Scholar: Theodore Waldeck, Human Services Counseling**

**Mentor: Dr. Larry Ashley, Educational & Clinical Studies**

Topic: *The Need for School-Based Drug Prevention Programs in the Curriculum*

**Scholar: Barbara Wallen-Magee, Psychology**

**Mentor: Dr. Larry Ashley, Educational & Clinical Studies**

Topic: *Male Anorexia in the Modern 2011*

**Scholar: Carmen Vallin, Biological Sciences**

**Mentor: Dr. Eduardo Robledo, Life Sciences**

Topic: *Transcription Associated Mutagenesis in Stressed B. subtilis cells: The Role of Transcription Associated Stem-loop Structures*

**Scholar: Ana Zuniga, Psychology/Criminal Justice**

**Mentor: Dr. Alexis Kennedy, Criminal Justice**

Topic: *An Analysis of the History and Hardships Experienced By Girls in the Las Vega Juvenile Justice System*

## **Twelfth Annual McNair Scholars Institute Poster Presentation & Reception Program**

**~Poster Reviews~**

### **Mistress of Ceremonies**

**Ms. Deanna R. Davis**

*Director for Academic Enrichment*

### **Welcome**

**Dr. William W. Sullivan**

*Associate Vice President for Retention and Outreach  
Executive Director*

**Mr. Keith Rogers**

*Deputy Executive Director*

### **Statement of Occasion**

**Ms. Terri Bernstein**

*Retention and Academic Coordinator*

### **Mentor Appreciation/Scholar Recognition**

**Dr. Harriet E. Barlow**

*Assistant Vice President for Diversity*

### **Closing Remarks**

**Ms. Deanna R. Davis**

***Refreshments will be served immediately after the program.***