



Student Educational Opportunity  
McNair Scholars Program

## 33rd Annual McNair Scholars Research Symposium

Wednesday, August 13, 2025

---

9:00 am

**Welcome**

By Dr. Peter Parolin, Dean of The Honors College

---

9:15 am

***Beyond Documents: Ethical Historical Methods for  
Engaging Indigenous Narratives***

Andrea Edwards

With Richard Vercoe, PhD & Lynnea Rivera

---

9:35 am

***Spirit and Earth: Heaven's Gate in the Mountain  
West***

With Kenneth Hanson, PhD & Mandy Alexandre

---

9:55 am

***Dystopian Reflections: How The Purge Franchise  
Mirrors the Rhetoric and Ideological Goals of  
Project 2025***

Bella Smith

With Ryan Williamson, PhD & Kennedy Penn  
O'Toole, MA, MLIS

---

10:15 am – 10:30 am

**Break**

---

10:30 am

***Retrieval Practice and Delay on Multiple-Choice  
Questions***

Constance Hall

With Meredith Minear, PhD & Annyher Reyes Ayala

---

10:50 am

***Association Between Perceptions of Campus Safety  
and Sexual Violence Between Domestic and  
International University Students***

Kaylin Franck

With Matt Gray, PhD & MeeSoh Bossard

---

11:10 am

***Perceptions of Sexual & Gender Minority Students  
in the Context of School-Based Violence***

Dylan Chatterley

With Kayla Burd, PhD & Jaylin Melek Aliev, MS

---

11:30 am

***From Victim to Verdict: How Terminology and  
Legal Context Influence Jury Decisions in Crimes  
against Sex Workers***

Annette Harlan

With Kayla Burd, PhD & Olivia Grella, MA, MS

---

11:50 am – 1:30 pm

**Luncheon**

With

11:50 am – 12:30 pm

**Poster Session**

12:30 pm – 1:30 pm

**Keynote by Dr. Seth Swanner**

Assistant Professor, Department of English

---

1:30 pm

***The Internal Struggle: Honor Culture and Mental  
Health Stigma Among Veterans***

Jacques De Villiers

With Jarrod Bock, PhD & Katy Jones

---

1:50 pm

***Advancing Understanding of Associations for  
Possible Bipolar Disorder Symptom History with  
Treatment Access, Quality of Life, and Other  
Clinical Variables***

Amber Rahn

With Kasey Stanton, PhD & Helena Towne

---

2:10 pm

***Culturally Competent Language Assessment: Non-  
word Repetition***

Devon Cherniss

With Doug Petersen, PhD & Gwen Stout, MS, CCC-  
SLP

---

2:30 pm – 2:45 pm

**Break**

---

2:45 pm

***Bioactive Wound Healing Hydrogel for Chronic  
Wounds***

Selena Melendez

---

*Continued on Next Page*



UNIVERSITY  
OF WYOMING

Student Educational Opportunity  
McNair Scholars Program

**3:05 pm**

***Does the Addition of VRk1 and BANF affect the  
Nuclear Size or Morphology of Xenopus Laevis Egg  
Extract?***

Veronica Hudson Hurtado  
With Daniel Levy, PhD & Haritha Prabha

**3:25 pm**

***Human and Neanderthal Population Structures  
Defined by Bottlenecks***

DJ Lueloff  
With Allison Mann, PhD & Sophia Eberts

*The McNair Scholars Program is funded 100% by a grant from  
the U.S. Department of Education at \$356,584 annually with a  
tuition contribution from the University of Wyoming.*