

TRiO

McNAIR SCHOLARS PROGRAM



Congrats Grads!

Every spring, the McNair Scholars Program at the University of Wyoming says farewell to a group of dedicated students who graduate with a bachelor's degree and begin the next chapter in their academic or professional careers. Between December 2016 and May 2017, the McNair Scholars Program had twelve students complete their bachelor's degrees.



Our graduates include the following UW

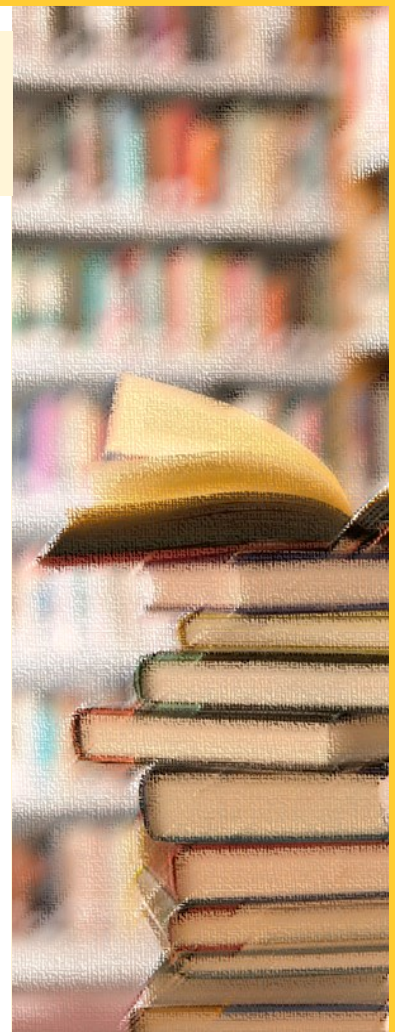
Students : Kyria Brown (Gender and Women's Studies), Samantha Brown (Anthropology), Richelle Clifton (Psychology), Taylor Fontes (History), Shelby Gaddis (Agricultural Business), Dalyn Grindle (Anthropology), Alex Hampton (Anthropology), Lucas Hansen (Political Science), Karly Higgins (Biology), Mike Morrow (Psychology), Rikki Nelson (Physiology and Molecular Biology), and Rachel Surratt (Anthropology).

Of our twelve graduating students, ten students are going on to graduate programs in the fall!

Read more about where they are going on page 3!

We are incredibly proud of our graduating students. We wish them luck on all their future endeavors!

Liz Nysson, Project Director & Susan Stoddard, Assistant Director
UW McNair Scholars Program



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DID YOU KNOW...

- UW McNair Scholars has been around for 25 years!
- We support 33 students each year.
- We are funded by the U.S. Department of Education.
- Our program was named after Dr. Ronald E. McNair who earned a Ph.D. in physics from MIT.



MCNAIR SCHOLAR RECEIVES NSF FUNDING AND IS GOING TO HARVARD!

Elizabeth Dalyn Grindle, a University of Wyoming McNair Scholar from Pavillion, Wyoming, earned a prestigious Graduate Research Fellowship from the National Science Foundation to undertake independent research conducting a zooarchaeological study on reindeer domestication at Harvard University.

Grindle, an Honors student and McNair Scholar, is a first generation college student who graduated from UW in December 2016 with a joint bachelor's degree in anthropology and environment and natural resources and a minor in drawing. She was one of about ten students accepted to Harvard's anthropology Ph.D. program from among more than 250 applicants.

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Graduate Research Fellowship Program (GRFP)

As the oldest fellowship program in the U.S., the GRFP has funded over 50,000 individuals since 1952. Of those, 42 have gone on to become Nobel Laureates!

This program also has high rate of doctoral degree attainment. Among funded students, 70% go on to complete a Ph.D. within 11 years.



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The NSF Graduate Research Fellowship is one of the nation's most competitive awards for graduate studies. Approximately 2,000 students received fellowships from among more than 13,000 applicants this year. It offers a three-year annual \$34,000 stipend, as well as international research and professional development opportunities. Grindle also received additional funding from Harvard University.

According to Grindle, her research goals are driven by a desire to make an impact on the formulation of solutions for environmental and social problems, such as over-grazing, immigration and climate change. Further, she hopes to influence her field of study by incorporating straightforward interdisciplinary perspectives into her work; a practice she learned as an undergraduate at UW.

Last year's NSF awardee



This is the second consecutive year that a UW McNair Scholar has entered graduate school with a NSF Graduate Research Fellowship! UW 2016 Anthropology/Geography graduate, Jazlynn Hall of Rawlins, WY received a Graduate Research Fellowship to attend Columbia University to study in the Department of Ecology, Evolution and Environmental Biology.

THE CLASS OF 2017 IS GOING PLACES!

With the spring semester completed, many graduates will be embarking on new adventures and chapters in their lives. For ten of our McNair Scholars, that next chapter will be graduate school this fall! Getting into graduate school is increasingly competitive. We are so proud of our scholars who were accepted into graduate programs. We are also happy to share that every student accepted received some form of funding or competitive scholarships including six students who received full funding including a tuition waiver, living stipend, and healthcare.

Here is where our students are off to this fall:

- Kyria Brown will be heading the University of Denver to begin a Master's in Social Work program.
- Richelle Clifton will begin her doctoral studies in Clinical Psychology in the combined Purdue-Indiana University program.
- Taylor Fontes will head east to begin her Master's in Museum Studies at Tufts University.
- Dalyn Grindle will begin her doctoral studies in Anthropology at Harvard University.
- Alex Hampton will head south to Baylor University to begin his Master's in Museum Studies.
- Lucas Hansen will stay local, beginning his Master's in Political Science here at UW.
- Karly Higgins will head back to her home state of California to begin doctoral studies in Computational Biology at UC Merced.
- Mike Morrow, another California native, will begin his Master's in Counseling at Cal State San Bernardino.
- Rikki Nelson will begin her Master's in Biomedical Sciences at the University of Kansas Medical Campus.
- Rachel Surratt will continue at UW to pursue a Master's in American Studies.

THE STORY OF OUR GRADUATION STOLES....

Did you know that every year the UW McNair Scholars Program seeks outside funds to pay for our graduation stoles? It's true!

This year the McNair Program teamed up the UW Foundation to raise money for our graduation stoles through the "You Fund Campaign." We surpassed our fundraising goal in ONE DAY!

Thank you to those who contributed!

If you're interested in helping us provide graduation stoles for our 2018 graduates, please contact the foundation and ask to make a donation to the UW McNair Scholars.

More information here:

www.uwyo.edu/foundation



WELCOME NEW SCHOLARS!

Each Spring as our current scholars graduate, we bring a new group of students into our program. To become a McNair Scholar one must undergo vetting, submit an application, and have three letters of recommendation. During the summer these students take part in a rigorous summer internship which culminates with an oral presentation and research paper.

HERE ARE OUR NEW 2017 MCNAIR SCHOLARS:

Tara Brunner (Psychology | Colorado Springs, CO)
Clay Carper (Mathematics | Riverton, WY)
Alex Greenwald (Geography/ENR, | Lander, WY)
Ashley Harris (Anthropology | Riverton, WY)
James Hedeem (History | Laramie, WY)
Jonet Jennings (Political Science | Denver, CO)
Shaelynn Kaufman (Geology | Clark, WY)
Marissa Murr (Geology | Fair Oaks, CA)
Taylor Orton (Psychology | Lyman, WY)
Veronica Spaulding (Chemistry | Cheyenne, WY)
Olivia Terry (Geology | Skiatook, OK)
Natalie Thibault (Family and Consumer Sciences | Cheyenne, WY)
Alexandra Monique Weaver (Biology | Evanston, WY)



Research Presentations for the 25th annual McNair Scholars Research Symposium!

August 1, 2017

UW University of Wyoming
Wyoming Union Family
Room

Laramie, WY

8:00 am-2:30pm

Lunch provided

*A full schedule of presentations
will be provided online
in late July.*

Go here for more:

[www.uwyo.edu/seo/mcnair
-scholars-program/](http://www.uwyo.edu/seo/mcnair-scholars-program/)

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