

## McNair Senior & Master Scholars 2009-2010 Preliminary Schedule

Month/Date	Event	Description
<b>August 31</b> 5:30 - 7:00 pm	<i>Dinner at Billy's Restaurant</i>	Report out on Berkeley trip; feedback on MSRE; planning for fall and spring; staff will discuss what it means to be a Senior Scholar, and expectations for working with your graduate student mentoring.
<b>September 21</b> 5:00 - 6:30 pm	<i>Application Update</i>	Scholars will share where they're in the application process, GRE, and finding recommenders.
<b>October 12</b> 5:00 - 6:30 pm	<i>Graduate Admissions Committees Faculty Panel:</i> Dr. Helen Moore, Sociology Dr. David Pitts, Mathematics	On what basis do graduate schools admit students? How important are the various criteria (GRE scores, letters of recommendation, GPA, campus activities, etc) in graduate admissions decisions? A faculty panel will discuss the criteria graduate admissions committees use in making admissions decisions.
<b>November 9</b> 5:00 - 6:30 pm	<i>Personalizing your graduate application</i>	You'll most likely have a "template" for applications essays, but each essay needs to be individualized to strengthen chances at individual programs. Even if essays are largely the same, each needs to be personalized to fit <b>faculty</b> , school, and program strengths.
<b>December 11</b> 5:00 - 7:00 pm	<i>Social Event with Junior Scholars</i>	
<b>January</b>	<i>MLK Celebration Breakfast Embassy Suites Hotel</i>	Celebrate Martin Luther King's birthday at this community breakfast.
	<i>Preparing for Campus Visits</i>	It's important to visit schools you might want to attend; these visits allow you to actually experience the college before you make a commitment; this session will provide information on how to make your visit most successful.
<b>February</b>	<i>Managing Graduate School</i>	This session will focus on setting up your office, building relationships, working with your mentor, and balancing your responsibilities. A panel of graduate students at various stages of their program will discuss their graduate school experience.
<b>March</b>	<i>Graduate School: What to Expect</i>	This session will uncover the mystery of common terms used in graduate school, (i.e., qualifying exams, comps) and the differences between masters and doctoral programs.
<b>April 8</b>	<i>Undergraduate Research Conference</i>	Present poster for the Undergraduate Research Conference, held in conjunction with the UNL Research Fair.
	<i>McNair Recognition Reception Lied Center Steinhart Room</i>	An annual celebration and recognition of our Senior McNair Scholars' accomplishments. Bring your family and/or friends.

NOTE: Each scholar is also required to meet once a month with a McNair graduate assistant. Use these meetings to discuss your UCARE research, get feedback on your personal statement, help with completing graduate applications, etc.

**McNair Scholars Program**  
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