## McNair Graduating Scholars 2020–21 Schedule

### Fall & Spring Meetings via Zoom

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Meeting Date/Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Individual Monthly Meeting: Suggested Topic for Discussion</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Thursday, August 27</strong>&lt;br&gt;3:30 – 4:30 PM via Zoom</td>
<td>MSRE Debriefing Meeting for <em>Post-MSRE 2020 Scholars</em></td>
<td>Feedback on MSRE 2020, selecting a graduate student mentor, and a discussion on what it means to be a Senior/Graduating Scholar.</td>
<td>August - No individual meeting required</td>
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<td><strong>Thursday, September 10</strong>&lt;br&gt;3:30 – 4:30 PM via Zoom</td>
<td>Organizing Your Graduate Applications and Peer Review of your Statement of Purpose</td>
<td>Group will discuss organizing components of grad application recommender packets. Open your SOP to share for peer review.</td>
<td>September - Update Individual Development Plan (IDP), &amp; Graduate School Matrix, funding &amp; fellowships</td>
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<td><strong>Thursday, October 1</strong>&lt;br&gt;3:30 – 4:30 PM via Zoom</td>
<td>Graduate Admissions Committees Faculty Panel: Dr. Edward Harris, Biochemistry Dr. Debra Hope, Psychology Dr. Xu Li, Civil Engineering</td>
<td>On what basis do graduate schools admit students? How important are the various criteria (GRE scores, GPA, letters of recommendation, etc.) in graduate admissions decisions? A faculty panel will discuss the criteria graduate admissions committees use in making admissions decisions.</td>
<td>October Graduate application questions, SOP and CV revisions</td>
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<td><strong>Wednesday, January 27</strong>&lt;br&gt;4:30 – 5:30 PM</td>
<td>Preparing for Campus Visits / Zoom Interviews Professionalism and Networking at Conferences</td>
<td>It’s important to visit prospective graduate programs, even if it takes place remotely. This allows you to meet faculty and graduate students, as well as experience the department culture before you make a commitment. This session will help you prepare for a successful visit.</td>
<td>December – No individual meeting required</td>
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<td><strong>Wednesday, February 17</strong>&lt;br&gt;3:30 – 4:30 PM</td>
<td>What it Takes to be a Successful Graduate Student &amp; Managing Graduate School Expectations</td>
<td>This session will focus on building relationships, working with your mentor, and balancing responsibilities. We’ll discuss tips for being a successful graduate students provided by McNair Alumni at various stages of their program.</td>
<td>January/February Graduates: Honors thesis, campus visits, and accepting an offer</td>
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<td><strong>April 12–16</strong>&lt;br&gt;Virtual Conference</td>
<td>Undergraduate Research Week</td>
<td>Prepare a virtual poster presentation for the Undergraduate Research Week. If you received UCARE funding, you should plan to participate in this event.</td>
<td>March/April Exit Interviews</td>
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<td><strong>Friday, April 23</strong>&lt;br&gt;5:30 – 7:00 PM Lied Commons or Virtually</td>
<td>McNair Recognition Reception</td>
<td>An annual celebration and recognition of our McNair Scholars’ accomplishments.</td>
<td>May – No individual meeting required</td>
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**Individual Monthly Meeting:** You’re required to meet twice per semester with a McNair staff member. Plan ahead: Schedule your appointments early in the month instead of waiting until the last minute. Use these meetings to discuss your plans for graduate studies, writing your personal statement, or other topics related to research, graduate school and career goals. In addition to required monthly meetings, you are welcome to schedule appointments at any time to meet with McNair Staff on any topic you wish to discuss.