

McNair Scholars & Mentors Recognized

At the 2014 McNair Scholars Recognition Reception on Friday, May 2, the accomplishments of the 27 Scholars served by the UNL McNair Scholars Program were highlighted and the graduating seniors were recognized. The 2013-14 graduating seniors honored were: Emmilie Baker, Janeigh Castillo-Barraza, Kenneth Herron, Brooke Micek, Ivan Moreno, Moses Pacheco, Nina Quiñones, Eric Reiss, Jason Thomas, and Joseph Tran.

We also acknowledged the friends and family members who support the McNair Scholars and our Program. Dr. Bellows, McNair Program Director, thanked the faculty, postdoctoral, and graduate student mentors who are instrumental in guiding the Scholars through the research process and selecting a graduate program.



Dr. Sarah Gervais, Associate Professor of Psychology, 2014 McNair Faculty Mentor Appreciation Award

In addition to showing appreciation for all faculty, postdoctoral, and graduate student mentors, several awards were presented to a faculty member, a graduate student mentor, and an advisor who have made significant contributions to the McNair Scholars Program and to our Scholars.

Dr. Sarah Gervais, Associate Professor of Psychology, received the 2014 McNair Faculty Appreciation Award. In presenting the award, Dr. Laurie Bellows noted that Dr. Gervais has mentored three former scholars and is currently mentoring another. Emmilie Baker and Marco Gullickson congratulated Dr. Gervais, noting that she has made them feel more confident about doing research because of the time she has given them.

Maggie Gossard, a graduate student at the University of Nebraska–Omaha, described Dr. Gervais as amazing, passionate, and dedicated. Maggie commented, “She has created a culture within her lab of collaboration and cooperation. As a graduate student looking back on my experience in her lab, I absolutely could not have asked for a better mentor.”

Justin Escamilla, who is pursuing his Ph.D. at the University of Illinois-Chicago, emphasized that Dr. Gervais helped him grow as an undergraduate and prepared him well for being a successful graduate student. Justin added, “One of the best things about working with Dr. Gervais was her effort to include everyone and provide a holistic and coherent understanding of research. Thinking back to my undergraduate experience with her as my mentor brings back great memories of friendly people,

interesting research, and a supportive learning environment.”

The 2013 McNair Graduate Student Appreciation Award recipient was Brett Sallach, a doctoral student in civil engineering. Brett has worked with three of our scholars, including Rei Alcalde, who earned a master’s degree from the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign is pursuing a Ph.D. at the University of Texas-Austin.

Jason Thomas, who has been accepted to the plant biological sciences doctoral program at the University of Minnesota–Twin Cities affirmed, “Brett provided valuable feedback on my writing, showing me what it means to write a quality research paper.”

Moses Pacheco, who will be entering the civil and environmental master’s program at Michigan State University noted, “Brett’s motivating words and helpful advice made me realize that graduate school was within reach and that there are endless engineering opportunities that can be attained with hard work and dedication.”

An advisor appreciation award was given to Celeste Spier, the former Psychology Academic Advisor and current Coordinator of the Arts and Sciences Advising Center. Dr. Bellows noted Celeste has been a champion for McNair, and has done an outstanding job recruiting psychology students for the McNair Program.

Kassie Guenther, one of her advisees, said “Celeste has assisted me in developing my career interests and has provided me with invaluable support and assistance in terms of my academic achievement. Celeste was always my go-to person when I had questions about registering for courses, how to build my resume, and she pushed me to become a better student.”

Thank again to all of the faculty, postdoctoral and graduate student mentors, advisors, and family members for their support of the McNair Program and our Scholars. Your contributions are critical to the success of our program.



Celeste Spier, coordinator of the Arts & Sciences Advising Center, 2014 McNair Advisor Appreciation Award



Brett Sallach, civil engineering Ph.D. student, 2014 McNair Graduate Student Mentor Appreciation Award

UNL McNair Alumni Awarded NSF Graduate Fellowships

In April 2014, Ivan Moreno and Jeff Lopez were awarded the prestigious National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship (NSF GRFP). The program recognizes outstanding graduate students who plan to pursue or are pursuing research-based master's or doctoral degrees in STEM (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics) fields at accredited U.S. institutions. The fellowship offers annual stipends for three years, as well as tuition support, and international and professional development opportunities. Out of 14,000 applications submitted for 2014, only 2,000 awards were offered (<http://www.nsfgrfp.org/>). Congratulations to Ivan and Jeff on this accomplishment! In interviews, Ivan and Jeff discussed their NSF applications, graduate school, and advice for McNair Scholars.

Ivan Moreno, who graduated in May 2014, will enter the chemistry Ph.D. Program at California Institute of Technology (Caltech) in June. He will be working with Dr. Nathan Lewis, the Principal Investigator of both the Beckman Institute Molecular Materials Resource Center and the Joint Center for Artificial Photosynthesis at Caltech.



Ivan Moreno
UNL McNair Scholar 2012–2014

Ivan applied for the NSF GRFP after a McNair Scholars Program session on graduate fellowships. His research focus sprung from an article by Professor Yi Cui that discussed using silicon nanoshells to absorb more light than planar silicon. Ivan's research expanded on Professor Cui's idea by using semiconductor nanoshells as the light absorber for a photoelectrochemical device.

He spent a great deal of time preparing his NSF application and sought help from the McNair

Scholars Program staff as well as his graduate student mentors. "I think each document went through 10 or more revisions, and I spent about a month on my application," Ivan said. He further noted the importance of asking your research advisor and graduate students for assistance, saying, "All the advice was very important for the success of my application."

For the application personal statement, Ivan focused on how his experiences at UNL prepared him to be a graduate student and hopefully a professor. As an undergraduate, Ivan participated in the McNair Scholars Program, the University Honors Program, Undergraduate Creative Activities & Research Experiences (UCARE), the Nebraska Science Olympiad, and Chemistry Day. He conducted research with Dr. Martin Centurion, Physics and Astronomy, and with Dr. Chin Li Cheung, Department of Chemistry. His undergraduate experience also included presentations at the 2013 California McNair Scholars Symposium and the 2013 American Chemical Society Midwest Regional Meeting at Springfield, Missouri.

In his NSF application, Ivan argued that his research would have a broader impact by helping to advance renewable energy technologies, combatting the well-documented risk society faces by continuing to use fossil fuels. Ivan also expanded on his personal motivations to pursue research in renewable energy technologies. In addition to doing research, he plans to become an active participant in discussions related to the implementation of renewable energy in our society.

When asked if he had any advice for McNair Scholars and other undergraduates who may be considering applying for the NSF Fellowship, Ivan replied, "Make sure you try to experience many activities that are beneficial throughout your undergraduate career. For the research proposal, pick a project that you believe will help the scientific community and help society thrive."

Jeff Lopez is a second year doctoral student in chemical engineering at Stanford University. He will continue to conduct his NSF research with his graduate advisor, Professor Zhenan Bao.

Jeff believes both his undergraduate and graduate experiences were invaluable to his NSF application. While at UNL, Jeff worked with Dr. Ravi Saraf before graduating in May 2012 with a bachelor's degree in chemical engineering. As an undergraduate, he gave numerous poster and oral presentations and had two articles published. He was involved in ASUN and mentored for the Nebraska Human Resource Institute (NHRI). At Stanford, Jeff is mentoring in the Phoenix Scholars Program and is leading the Stanford Polymer Collective.



Jeff Lopez
UNL McNair Scholar 2009–2012

With the help of his graduate advisor, Jeff constructed a graduate research statement based on the research he is currently conducting using self-healing elastic materials to improve the longevity of high capacity Li-ion batteries. He argued the broader impact of his research was the importance of studying the energy storage of batteries and the interdisciplinary nature of his work will aid in building collaborations and improving communication among researchers.

In addition to meeting with an advisor, Jeff sought feedback for his NSF proposal from a variety of people. His classmates and friends assisted with the initial edits, and postdocs helped to refine the draft.

In regard to his dissertation topic, Jeff states he hasn't completely narrowed down the focus, but he knows it will have something to do with batteries. "My personal goal is to have a fully flexible and stretchable battery by the time I'm done. Whatever work is needed to achieve this goal will probably form the bulk of my dissertation," Jeff added.

Because of the demanding nature of graduate school, Jeff feels the constant need to improve the standard of his work. He reports, "I think I have more free time in my day, but the time I do spend working is much more intense and demanding."

For advice to McNair Scholars and future graduate students, Jeff emphasized the invaluable experience that undergraduate research provides and stated, "Take that experience seriously and talk it up in your applications. It's what graduate committees look for and what few people have." He added, "I came into the lab at Stanford more prepared than many of my peers due to my significant experience on many projects and pieces of equipment. It helped me hit the ground running when I started my project."

Kudos to McNair Scholars and Alumni

Janeigh Castillo-Barraza earned her bachelor's degree in psychology in May 2014. Janeigh will pursue a Ph.D. in school psychology at the University of Georgia in Fall 2014 and will be working in Dr. Stacey Pritchett's lab.

Kenneth Herron graduated in December 2013 with a bachelor's degree in English. Kenneth will attend Colorado State University where he'll pursue a student affairs master's degree this fall.

Arlo McKee (McNair Scholar 2003-2006) earned his master's degree in anthropology at the University of Kansas-Lawrence in December 2009. He is currently employed as an independent geoarchaeological consultant in Plano, Texas. Arlo has been accepted to the geospatial information science graduate certificate program at the University of Texas at Dallas and will begin the program in Fall 2014.

Brooke Micek earned her bachelor's degree in biological systems engineering in May 2014. Brooke has accepted a project engineer position at Becton, Dickinson and Company Pharmaceutical Sciences in Columbus, Nebraska.

Ivan Moreno earned his bachelor's degree in May 2014. Ivan will pursue a chemistry Ph.D. at the California Institute of Technology (Caltech) and will be working with Professor Nathan Lewis. Ivan received the 2014 National Science Foundation Graduate Research Fellowship Program (NSF GRFP), a highly competitive award reserved for outstanding students pursuing research-based graduate degrees.

Moses Pacheco earned his bachelor's degree in civil engineering in May 2014. Moses was accepted at Michigan State University to pursue a master's in civil and environmental engineering. He will be working with Dr. Nizar Lajnef and Dr. Karim Chatti.

Nina Quiñones earned her bachelor's degree in psychology in May 2014. Nina will pursue a master's of social work at The Ohio State University. Nina received the Graduate Enrichment Fellowship.

Jason Thomas will earn his bachelor's degree in biological systems engineering in August 2014. Jason has accepted an offer from plant biological sciences doctoral program at the University of Minnesota-Twin Cities and has received the Diversity of Views and Experience (DOVE) Fellowship.

Joseph Tran earned his bachelor's last December in biological systems engineering. Joseph will pursue a master's degree in mechanical engineering at the University of Kansas.



Nathan Palmer (UNL McNair Scholar 2004-2006) was awarded the Wells-Warren Award for Excellence in Teaching Professor of the Year at Georgia Southern University. Students from across Georgia Southern selected him for this award. Congratulations, Nathan!

<http://class.georgiasouthern.edu/socianth/2014/04/03/nathan-palmer-professor-of-the-year/>

Scholars Complete Theses and Co-author Publications

Scholars who completed an original, thesis-length research project include:

Emmilie Baker

Baker, E.A. (2014). *Womyn in the Mirror: Feminism, Objectification, Anxiety, and Genes. Senior Thesis.* Committee: Dr. Sarah Gervais and Gwen Nuss, Department of Psychology.

Ivan Moreno

Moreno, I.A. (2014). *A Review of Recent Developments in Photocatalysis. Honors: Technical Communication,* University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Lincoln, Nebraska.

Jason Thomas

Thomas, J., Li, X. (2014). *Investigating Antibiotic Resistance Levels of Salmonella Internalized in Lettuce Leaves.* Thesis advisor: Dr. Xu Li, Civil Engineering. *Honors: Technical Communication,* University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Lincoln, Nebraska.

Scholars who co-authored recent publications include:

Daniel Rico

Rico, D., Sandoval, L. (under review). *Woodpeckers Cavity-Nest Orientation in Tropical Rain Forest Edges. Journal of Ornithologia Neotropical.*

Elia Soto

Soto, E. F., Martinez, M. M., Nelson, J. M. (in preparation). *Associations Among Family Cultural Values, Parenting, Inhibitory Control, and ADHD Symptoms in Hispanic Preschool Children.*

Jason Thomas

Thomas, J., Li, X. (2014). *Investigating Antibiotic Resistance Levels of Salmonella Internalized in Lettuce Leaves, The McNair Scholars Research Journal.* University of Nebraska-Lincoln. <http://digitalcommons.unl.edu/mcnairjournal/9/>

Sports & Psychology Passion led Sadberry to Perfect Fit



Dr. Sheriece Sadberry
UNL McNair Scholar 2001-2003

Like many first generation college freshman, Sheriece Sadberry was unsure what field of study to pursue at the University of Nebraska–Lincoln. During her sophomore year, she changed her major from business to psychology by happenstance. She had no specific reason for choosing psychology other than she needed a major and was a student worker in the Psychology Department.

While looking for an undergraduate research mentor, she was encouraged by several psychology professors to meet Dr. Wes Sime, a UNL sport psychologist. Sadberry was a former athlete and the professors thought this would be a good area for her research. She learned a lot about the process of research working with Dr. Sime, and also received some practical experience with an area high school track team implementing sport psychology skills training.

Sadberry became immersed rather quickly in research, by participating in the McNair Summer Research Experience, Undergraduate Creative Activities and Research Experiences Program (UCARE), and also working with psychology faculty on their research projects. All of these research experiences provided a solid foundation for graduate school.

When applying to graduate schools, Sadberry focused on schools where she could get a master's degree and Ph.D. in counseling psychology as well as the sports psychology training. She chose the University of Missouri because the degree program she was looking for was a good fit. A PhD in counseling psychology, she noted, would allow her to be more marketable and allow her to work in various settings since full-time work with athletes is limited.

Sadberry said she felt fairly prepared for graduate school because of the guidance she received from graduate students in the UNL Psychology Department. She emphasized, “They provided advice that really helped me. For me, the challenge I had, and still struggle with, is trimming down all the things I want to do to what is relevant to do now. There is so much to learn in graduate school and it’s impossible to do it all.”

Graduate School was as demanding as she expected. “The demands were different from undergrad in that it was less testing, but more papers, more requirements, and more pressure from faculty,” Sadberry also noted, “There was also the internal demand of wanting to do the best I could at everything which is impossible without sacrificing my health.”

Mentoring has played a big role in Sadberry’s academic and career decisions. As an undergraduate, her psychology professors provided her invaluable advice on her coursework, graduate school selection, and research. Throughout graduate school, she accumulated mentors who were either faculty with whom she worked or clinical supervisors. She expressed, “There are a number of mentors, as well as peer mentors, I stay in touch with regularly as I continue through my profession.”

Sadberry offered this advice to current McNair Scholars: “Network with professionals and find several good mentors. Take in as much advice as you can. Learn to say no to yourself and others, so you can balance everything including taking care of yourselves.”

Currently, Dr. Sadberry works full-time as a counseling and sports psychologist for the Kansas Jayhawks and also meets with clients in her private practice in the evenings or on weekends. She noted, “I see a variety of concerns and I get to do a variety of tasks throughout my day as well, so I’m always challenged professionally.”

In her Jayhawks position, Dr. Sadberry meets individually with athletes to address mental health, personal concerns or performance issues. She added, “It’s amazing to work with someone and see them be successful in their life and in their sport.”

In addition to working with individual athletes, she works with teams on performance and cohesion concerns, supports coaches as they work with their athletes, and advocates for student-athlete welfare throughout the department.

Sadberry loves being able to provide a service to a population that would not typically seek help, not just athletes, but also minorities. She commented, “My goal in life is to help decrease the stigma of mental health and to bring mental health services to populations that are typically underrepresented.”

Whether it was happenstance or meant to be, the path Dr. Sheriece Sadberry chose for graduate school ended up to be the perfect fit.

On Facebook – The UNL McNair program created a Facebook page to facilitate communication between current McNair scholars and alumni. Current scholars can use Facebook to connect with one another and develop a stronger sense of community. Alumni can provide valuable insights for our current scholars and keep us up-to-date on their successes. **Look for UNL McNair next time you log into Facebook!**

Lundahl Publications Draw National Attention

When she was working on her master's thesis regarding parents' perceptions of their children's weight, Alyssa Lundahl never dreamed it would result in two major publications and generate national attention. In January, the *Annals of Behavioral Medicine* published half of her thesis, "Parental misperceptions of children's underweight status: A meta-analysis". Then, in February, *Pediatrics*, the official journal of the American Academy of Pediatrics, published "Parental Underestimates of Child Weight: A Meta-analysis". Her research suggests most parents fail to recognize that their children are overweight.

After her research was published, the New York Times, CNN, USA Today, Reuters, and other news outlets contacted her for interviews. Alyssa, who is pursuing a doctorate in clinical psychology at the University of Nebraska–Lincoln, spent about a year on the study. Katherine Kidwell, a fellow graduate student, assisted Lundahl in coding research data.

As a second year graduate student working with Dr. Timothy Nelson in the UNL Pediatric Health Lab, Alyssa's research interests include pediatric health issues such as the prevention of obesity and the promotion of healthy behaviors (e.g., sleep, physical activity, diet). Specifically, she is interested in how parents influence the development of eating and weight issues in their children through their feeding practices, attitudes and beliefs, and modeling. Alyssa's future plans are to pursue a career in research and continue to examine these issues in pediatric populations.

Alyssa participated in the McNair Program from 2010-2012 and conducted her McNair research on Initial Psychometric Evaluation of the Behavioral Observation of Preschoolers System (BOPS). During this time, she worked with Dr. David Hansen, UNL Department of Psychology, in the Child Maltreatment Lab.

She also worked as an undergraduate research assistant in Dr. Nelson's Lab and became interested in pediatric health issues. During her work with Dr. Nelson, she realized that more impact could be made on health issues at younger ages, when unhealthy lifestyle factors such as diet, physical activity, and sleep are less firmly established and therefore are more modifiable.

Sharing her thoughts on her preparedness for graduate study, Alyssa said, "I felt well-prepared for graduate study. As an undergraduate, I became involved in psychological research labs during my sophomore year and became acquainted with the research process early on. This involvement also helped me learn to manage coursework, while also conducting research."

"Graduate school is exactly how I expected it to be," she reflected, "I expected it to be demanding, and it is. In psychology, you have to balance research, class, clinical work, and self-care. Time management is vital," Alyssa added. She felt the biggest adjustment moving from undergraduate to graduate coursework was the large amount of reading assigned.

"I think the McNair Program was most influential in providing me with a record that made me a competitive applicant to graduate school," she noted, adding, "Throughout the summer experience, I learned not only numerous research and time management skills, but also how to love the research process."

"The McNair program also played a large role in preparing me for graduate school, especially in regard to time management and instilling the value of collaborative relationships," she emphasized.

Currently, she has clinical placements as a Social and Emotional Learning Consultant at Community Action Partnership/ Educare and she also is a Behavioral Specialist at Teach a Kid to Fish, a non-profit in Lincoln dedicated to preventing and treating childhood obesity. She has taught Introduction to Psychology recitations in the past and continues to conduct research.

Alyssa earned her bachelor's degree in psychology from the University of Nebraska–Lincoln in May 2012 and earned her master's degree in May 2014. She will continue to work on her doctoral degree at UNL and has identified her dissertation topic, which will focus on parental feeding practices.

Her secret to completing her master's thesis so quickly was identifying her topic early in her program—she started working on it immediately. Alyssa set short, manageable goals she could consistently meet to keep moving forward. She noted, "I woke up every morning and completed the one task related to my master's thesis that I least wanted to work on. Completing the least desirable thing on my to-do list first made the remaining tasks throughout the day a breeze."

Alyssa offers this advice to McNair Scholars preparing for summer research: "Start formulating your research interests now. It's never too early to get started!"

[Lundahl, A., Kidwell, K. M., & Nelson, T. D. (2014). Parental misperceptions of children's underweight status: A meta-analysis. *Annals of Behavioral Medicine*. Online First published on January 14, 2014.]

[Lundahl, A., Kidwell, K., Nelson, T. (2014). Parental Underestimates of Child Weight: A Meta-analysis. *Pediatrics* 2014; 133:3 e689-e703; published ahead of print February 2, 2014, doi:10.1542/peds.2013-2690.]



Alyssa Lundahl
UNL McNair Scholar 2010-12

McNair Alumni – keep us informed about your progress in graduate school, publications, and other career milestones. You may update your information at anytime: <http://www.unl.edu/mcnair/scholarupdate.shtml>

The McNair Program is a focused, comprehensive program that provides much more than advice on how to prepare for entrance to a graduate program. Participating Scholars become an integral part of a learning community, receiving support from each other, McNair Program staff, UNL faculty, and other resources as they develop the research skills they need to prepare for the next stage in their educational careers.

Honors, Awards, and Leadership Activities 2013-14

M McNair Scholars continue to make an impact on the University of Nebraska-Lincoln campus and in the community through their leadership roles and volunteerism. This is a partial listing of their honors, awards, and leadership activities:

Emmilie Baker – UCARE Award 2013-14; completed senior thesis; Research Assistant in Dr. Debra Hope and Dr. Sarah Gervais Subtle Prejudice labs.

Kaylor Caldwell – Dean's List; Law and Public Policy Research Experience for Undergraduates (REU); UCARE Award 2014-15; Nebraska College Preparatory Academy (NCPA) mentor; Susan T. Buffet Scholar; and William H. Thompson Scholar.

Janeigh Castillo-Barraza – UCARE Award 2013-14; William H. Thompson Learning Community member and mentor; and Harley Elementary Tutor.

Kassie Guenther – Dean's List; UCARE Award 2014-15; All-University Honors Convocation Certificate of High Scholarship Spring 2014; William H. Thompson 4.0 GPA Certificate (Fall 2013); Fall 2013 TA for ALEC102; Spring 2014 TA for ALEC 466; William H. Thompson Scholars Peer Mentor; Psi Chi, Undergraduate Psychology Organization; National Society of Collegiate Scholars; Alpha Lambda Delta Honor Society, Phi Eta Sigma Honor Society; Community Action volunteer for home visits and research data collection; and El Centro de las Américas grant proposal volunteer.

Marco Gullickson – Dean's List; UCARE Award 2014-15; research assistant in Dr. Sarah Gervais lab; Diversity Enhancement Scholarship; Davis Scholar; and William H. Thompson Scholar Academic Achievement Reception.

Bryan Hermsillo – UCARE Award (2013-14 and 2014-15); and William H. Thompson Scholar.

Jackie Hernandez – Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers; Society of Women Engineers; Nebraska College Preparatory Academy Scholarship; Bright Lights Dry Ice Extravaganza; and SMART Girls Club YWCA volunteer.

Erandi Herndon – Honors Program; Dean's List; UCARE Award (2013-14 and 2014-15); UNL Honors Convocation; Celebration of Excellence ceremony; NU Connections Nebraska Achievement Scholarship; Honor's Program Scholarship; Lambda Theta Nu Sorority Inc. Silver Eagle Award (highest national GPA); Lambda Theta Nu Sorority Inc. Academic Chair; and The Village Resident Assistant.

Kenneth Herron – Howard and Judy Vann Student Leadership Award; OASIS Student Advisory Board; Melvin Jones Learning Community mentor; Vice Chancellor of Student Affairs Funding Review Committee; and Camp Kesem co-chair.

William Lambert – UCARE Award 2014-15; Spring 2014 research assistant with Dr. Patrick Dussault Research Group; and Fall 2013 research assistant in Dr. Raul Barletta's lab.

Mason Mabin – UCARE Award 2013-14.

Jarold McWilliams – Dean's List; Regent's Scholarship; Honors Textbook Scholarship; David and Freda Wolf Scholarship.

Jennifer Milliman – Dean's List; UCARE Award (2013-14 and 2014-15); Sally W. Nixon Educational Scholarship; Law and Policy Lab coordinator and research assistant; Target Bullying Prevention & Intervention research assistant (Spring 2014); Psi Chi, Undergraduate Psychology Organization; Tau Sigma Honors Society; and Scarlet Guard.

Brooke Micek – UCARE Award 2013-14; Simpson Lab research assistant Fall 2013; Society of Women Engineers; Success Scholarship; May Miller Brownell Memorial Scholarship; Alpha Lambda Delta and Phi Eta Sigma Honor Society; Sigma Psi Zeta Fundraising Chair, New Member Educator Assistant, and Multicultural Greek Council Representative; and YWCA SMART Girls Club volunteer.

Dina Morales – UCARE Award 2013-14; and the Susan T. Buffet Scholarship.

Ivan Moreno – Honors Program; Dean's List; UCARE Award 2013-14; Dewey & Kelley Scholarship; Susan T. Buffett Scholarship; UNL Honor's Program Scholarship; William H. Thompson Scholar; UNL American Chemical Society Student Chapter President; UNL Chemistry Curriculum Committee Member; and Chemistry Day volunteer.

David Pacheco – Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers Co-Founder, President, Treasurer, and Tutor; Mid-America Transportation Center mentor - facilitate after-school program engineering-based activities; Jackie Gaughan Spanish interpreter and tutor/mentor to high school students and college freshmen; Sigma Lambda Beta International Fraternity, Treasurer; Mexican American Student Association Vice-President and Treasurer; Malone Center/El Centro de las Américas Golden Warriors Mentoring Program.

Moses Pacheco – OASIS Academic Excellence Recognition; Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers; President of Sigma Lambda Beta Fraternity - Phi Alpha Chapter; Mexican American Student Association; Mentor 40 at-risk Latino youth in the Golden Warriors Program at El Centro de las Américas.

Nina Quiñones – W.E.B. Du Bois Honor Society; and Mexican American Student Association.

Olivia Reinert Gehman – Dean's List, Regents Scholarship; Honors Program; UCARE Award (2013-14 and 2014-15); Dr. Stoltenberg's Behavior Genetics Lab research assistant; Dr. Dodd's Vision/Attention/Memory/Perception Lab research assistant; UNL Children's Center assistant teacher; Secretary of Phi Sigma Pi Honors Fraternity; and Vice President of Psi Chi Psychology Honors Society; and Phi Sigma Pi National Honor Fraternity Secretary.

Eric Reiss – 2013-14 UCARE Award; American Association of Petroleum Geologists (AAPG) Foundation L. Austin Weeks grant; UNL's AAPG student chapter member; and 2014 Morrill Hall "Dinosaurs and Disasters" volunteer.

Adrienne Ricker – Honor's Program; UCARE Award 2014-15; Neihardt RA; National Residence Hall Honorary; and these community outreach activities: Fright Night at the Museum, Dinosaurs and Disaster's, Sunday with Scientist-Titanoboa, and Women in Science.

Daniel Rico – Dean's List; UCARE Award (2013-14 and 2014-15); Susan T. Buffet Scholarship; Buffet Scholarship Award for Academic Excellence; Othmer Mildred Scholarship; Gilman Scholarship; Global Gateway Scholarship; Environmental Leadership Program (ELP) Historian; and Engineers Without Borders (EWB).

Elia Soto – UCARE Award (2013-14 and 2014-15); UNL Developmental Cognitive Neuroscience Lab research assistant; Kenneth Randall Scholarship; and Center for People in Need Giving Thanksgiving Food volunteer.

Jason Thomas – UCARE Award 2013-14; Honors Program; SUCCESS Scholars Program; W.E.B. Du Bois Honor Society; and UNL Study Abroad Scholarship.

Joseph Tran – UCARE Award 2013-14; Engineering Librarian Assistant, UNL Biomedical Engineering Society, and Academic Competitiveness Grant.

Alyssa Yeates – Dean's list; UCARE Award (2013-14 and 2014-15); Simpson Lab research assistant; Humanities in Medicine treasurer and executive committee; UNL MEDLIFE; Lincoln Humane Society volunteer; George and Mary Haskell Scholarship; National Society for Collegiate Scholars; and YWCA SMART Girls Club head facilitator.

Scholars Report Research Findings at Conferences

McNair Scholars disseminated their research findings at numerous local, regional, and national conferences:

Emmie Baker – Baker, E.A., & Gervais, S.J. (2014, February). *When the Lady in Red Becomes Blue: The Objectification Model and Social Anxiety*. Poster presented at the Society for Personality and Social Psychology Conference, Austin, Texas.

Baker, E.A., Nuss, G., Christ, C., & Gervais, S.J., Stoltenberg, S. (2014, April). *Womyn in the Mirror: Feminism, Objectification, Anxiety, and Genes*. Poster presented at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln 2014 Undergraduate Research Conference, Lincoln, Nebraska.

Janeigh Castillo-Barraza – Castillo-Barraza, J., Gottsch, J., Wehrmann, C., Marvin, C., Sheridan, S. (2014, April). *The Getting Ready Intervention: A Descriptive Study of Parent-Reported Home Behaviors*. Poster presented at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln 2014 Undergraduate Research Conference, Lincoln, Nebraska.

Erandi Herndon – Herndon, E. (2014, February). *Effects of Ethnic Identity on Well-Being*. Poster presented at the Society for Personality and Social Psychology Conference, Austin, Texas.

Herndon, E., Willis-Esqueda, C. (2014, April). *The Effects of Demographic Information on Ethnic Identity*. Poster presented at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln 2014 Undergraduate Research Conference, Lincoln, Nebraska.

Jennifer Milliman – Daley, M., Matzke, S., Milliman, J., Brank, E. (2014, April). *Trust your knowledge? The relationship between trust and legal knowledge*. Poster presented at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln 2014 Undergraduate Research Conference, Lincoln, Nebraska.

Dina Morales – Morales, D., Stevens, J. (2014, April). *Patience and Caching in Pinyon Jays*. Poster presented at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln 2014 Undergraduate Research Conference, Lincoln, Nebraska.

Ivan Moreno – Moreno, I.A., Gernhart, Z.C., Cheung, C.L. (2013, October). *Synthesis and characterization of lutetium doped nanostructured ceria catalysts*. American Chemical Society Midwest Regional Meeting, Springfield, Missouri.

Moreno, I.A., Gernhart, Z.C., Cheung, C.L. (2014, April). *Synthesis and Characterization of Lanthanum Doped Nanostructured Ceria Catalysts*. Poster presented at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln 2014 Undergraduate Research Conference, Lincoln, Nebraska.

Olivia Reinert-Gehman – Reinert-Gehman, O., Keehn, D., Stoltenberg, S. (2014, April). *Emotion, Trauma, and the FKBP5 Gene Antisaccade Performance*. Poster presented at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln 2014 Undergraduate Research Conference, Lincoln, Nebraska.

David Pacheco – Pacheco, D.A. (2013, October). *Optimization of a Rolling/Walking Hybrid Locomotion*. Oral Presentation at the Society of Hispanic Professional Engineering National Conference, Indianapolis, Indiana.

Moses Pacheco – Pacheco, M. (2013, August). *Effect of Size, Orientation, and Anchoring Mechanism on Strain Measurements from Piezoelectric Strips*. Oral and poster presentation at 2013 Mid-Michigan Symposium for Undergraduate Research Experiences at Michigan State University.

Daniel Rico – Rico, D., Torres Alavez, J., Mohammad Abadi, A., Morton, M., Munoz-Arriola, F. (2014, April). *Determining Streamflow Sensitivity to Changes in Temperature on the Platte River Basin*. Poster presented at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln 2014 Undergraduate Research Conference, Lincoln, Nebraska.

Elia Soto – Soto, E., Baker, M., Wanser, B., Garza, J. (2014, April). *Testing a Developmentally Sensitive Emotional Flanker Task in an Adult Population: An ERP Study*. Poster presented at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln 2014 Undergraduate Research Conference, Lincoln, Nebraska.

Alyssa Yeates – Yeates, A., Zimmer, B., Simpson, M. (2014, April). *Role of UDP-Glucose Dehydrogenase (UGDH) in Prostate Tumor Cell Response*. Poster presented at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln 2014 Undergraduate Research Conference, Lincoln, Nebraska.



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