From the Director

Spring Quarter is an excellent time to take stock of our students’ achievements and the overall state of the program. First, all our graduating seniors who spent most of the fall and early winter applying to graduate schools were admitted to at least one. Many scholars received welcome letters from several schools. Again, as in the past few years, admittance for the majority of them also means full funding in the form of assistantships and fellowships. One of our graduates, Sergio Madrid, is spending the next two years teaching English in Vanuatu as a Peace Corps volunteer. Fantastic job everyone! Special thanks to faculty mentors for helping their students start the journey to graduate school. If you see one of our graduating scholars at SOURCE, and most will be there presenting results of last summer’s research and creative projects, please take time to congratulate them on their wonderful successes! We also welcomed a new cohort who spent fall and winter developing ideas and full proposals for this year’s summer internships. Welcome!

Next year (2016-2017) marks the fifth and final year of this grant cycle. We have accomplished a great deal and the state of the program is excellent. We are happy to announce a one-time 3% federal budget increase that will go entirely towards scholar travel to present their projects at regional and national conferences. Again, we thank President Guadino, the School of Graduate Studies and Research, the Office of Undergraduate Research, and the Council of Deans (CAH, COTS, CEPS, CB) for their unwavering support of our student-scholars.

Thank you CWU.

Dr. Ian Buvit
2015 SUMMER RESEARCH FELLOWS

Elizabeth Brooks: An Extensible Software Infrastructure for Evolution of Developmental Interactions.

Patience Collier: Native American Women’s Role in the Fishing Industry.

Juan Flores: Impact of C60 on Electron Transport Chain Function and H2O2 Production in Beef Heart.

Braden Goveia: Julio Cortazar, Writer and Teacher: Parallels and Consistencies.

Laura Gutierrez: The Relationship Between Parental Discipline and Aggression in Children.

Ayla Medina: Safe Space for All: Investigating the Possibilities and Limitations of Safe Spaces in Schools


Jessica Murillo-Rosales: The Impact of Gender, Age and Political Division on Parenthood.


Elizabeth Seelye: Building a Myth: Testaments of the Kievan Rus’ Grand Princes as Origin Myths.

THANK YOU......

DEDICATED MENTORS:

DR. HEIDI BOGUE (Laura G.)
DR. CARIN THOMAS (Juan F.)
DR. NATHALIE KASSELIS (Braden G.)
DR. DARCI SNOWDEN (Theo J.)
DR. STEFANIE WICKSTROM (Edgar Z.)
DR. ALISON SCOVILLE (Elizabeth B.)
DR. MAIA CHACHAVA (Tarra H.)
DR. ROXANNE EASLEY (Elizabeth S.)
DR. TRACEY HOOVER (Jessica M.)
DR. JUDY HENNESSY (Ayla M.)
DR. BRIAN CARROLL (Patience C.)
ALUMNI TESTIMONIAL: SERGIO MADRID
MCNAIR SCHOLAR AND CWU GRADUATE 2015

As a Central Washington University scholar, I wanted to strive to become a well-rounded individual. Today, as a 2015 graduate, there was a plethora of factors that helped me do just that. One of these key factors was the McNair Scholars program. During my time in the program, I discovered that there is an infinite amount of opportunities for first generation students like me and that we can go beyond our limits. Prior to applying to the program I never imagined I could go as far or achieve as much as I have. Similar to stopping at a dead-end road and not knowing there is a forest beyond, the McNair Scholars program helped me look beyond the dead end road that I thought was simply earning an undergraduate degree to now striving to earn a PhD.

This discovery led me to think further than I ever did and to accomplish goals I didn’t think I could. For instance, writing my McNair research project and my undergraduate thesis were two of the biggest obstacles I didn’t think I would be capable of completing, but with the support of our McNair scholars program’s staff I was able to successfully overcome all my challenges. I also never imagined that I would be capable of performing at a demanding professional level such as our state’s legislature, but I did.

On January 22nd 2016, I’m set to face my next biggest challenge in my journey to become a well-rounded individual, as a Peace Corps Volunteer, in pursuit of following a path which will lead me to obtaining a PhD, a decision the old me would not have thought I was capable of. Now I strongly believe I can go beyond my limits and accomplish anything I set my mind towards. Thank you McNair.

SCHOLAR HIGHLIGHT: PATIENCE COLLEER

Patience is a writer, historian and student working towards a BA in History, continuing on to graduate school at the University of Oregon.

Patience was invited to present at the 18th Annual Women’s History Conference in New York. The theme of the conference was “On the Move: Working Women and the Struggle for Social Justice.” Patience was the only undergraduate to present at the conference, with most presenters being professors and other professionals in the field.

Patience’s paper was on the experience of indigenous women from Washington, British Columbia, and Alaska working in industrialized salmon canneries from the 1880s to the 1920s. Patience argued the canneries provided a respite from the control and oversight of interfering Bureau of Indian Affairs agents bent on ‘civilizing’ Indians—by forcing them to farm and give up traditional cultural practices. Starved for laborers in the sparsely populated Pacific Northwest, cannery managers cared little about the cultural practices of workers as long as they did not interfere with fishing and processing. Indian families, and particularly indigenous women, used this to their advantage. They moved off reservations and relocated to canneries where they created independent native villages on or adjacent to company grounds.

Patience was nominated for and won the James and Katie Guadino SOURCE Award, which is “designed to acknowledge and reward those undergraduate students who present at SOURCE and whose work, activities, and accomplishments provide examples of exceptional dedication to the scholarship experience.”

Congratulations and good luck to a very promising future, Patience!
Introducing Marna Carroll, our new Faculty coordinator

Having worked on campus for the past five years, Marna Carroll joins the McNair staff while also taking an active part in the Thorp Mill Town Historical Preservation Society, the Thorp Mill Museum, and as president of the local history consortium, Cascade Association of Museums and Historic Sites.

Marna began her career in historical archeology and has worked as an archeologist for the National Park Service (at the Abiel Smith School and African Meeting House, in Boston, Massachusetts), the National Forest Service (in the Talladega National Forest, Centreville, Alabama), and the Mashantucket Pequot Tribe (in Mashantucket, Connecticut). She has also worked as an ethno-historical consultant, gathering evidence for the Montauk Tribe’s petition for federal recognition. Her current research interests include the relationship between gender and power in the proto-Contact New England Native American societies and the representations of identity in petroglyphs, or rock art, found in the region.

Some of her educational achievements include:
• MA in Anthropology from UConn and a MsEd in Moderate Special Needs education from Simmons College.
• Teaching in the American Indian Studies program, Anthropology, and Humanities at CWU.
• Taught thirteen years at Landmark High School in Prides Crossing, Massachusetts in the school’s college prep program. Landmark School addressed the needs of students with language based learning disabilities and was at the forefront of developing teaching methods that enabled students with learning issues such as dyslexia and/or ADHD to achieve academic success in a general education or college classroom.

WELCOME NEW SCHOLARS!

**Andy Basargin**, Biochemistry, mentor Dr. Timothy Beng

**Cheri Bednarik**, Clinical Physiology, mentor Dr. Robert Pritchett

**Jessica Cawthon**, Psychology, mentor Dr. Tonya Buchanan

**Kendyl Hardy**, Communication, mentor Dr. Emily DuPlessis

**Kayla-Ann Hemmings**, Psychology, mentor Dr. Mary Radke

**Steve Isaak**, Psychology, mentor Dr. Jesse James

**Sydnee Johnson**, Mechanical Eng/Philosophy, mentor Dr. Charles Pringle

**Gavin Schag**, Geography, mentors Drs. Bob Hickey and Elvin Delgado

**Jonathan Ojeda**, Psychology, mentor Dr. Mary Radeke

**Viridana Ortiz**, Elem/Prof Education, mentor Dr. Bobby Cummings

**Tucker Reiley**, Nutrition, mentor Dr. Nicole Stendell-Hollis

**Brianne Shaw**, Anthropology, mentor Dr. Hope Amason

**Drew Slocum**, Biology, mentor Dr. Eric Graham
Dig Siberia 2015!

This may be the oldest site CWU archaeologists have ever excavated. Last summer McNair Director, Dr. Ian Buvit, along with long-time faculty mentor, Dr. Steve Hackenberger, took two McNair Scholars, Erin Chenvert and Liz Seelye, as well as three other CWU students to the Lagernaia site in the Transbaikal Region of southern Siberia where work began on an international, multidisciplinary project that is planned through 2018. The seven flew from Seattle to Moscow, Russia, then traveled another 14 hours to a remote village near Lake Baikal, joining around 100 archaeologists, university students, and other scientists for one month in a primitive field camp.

Based on radiocarbon dating, the site appears to have been occupied by humans around 30,000 to 27,000 years ago, just before a period of extreme cold called the Last Glacial Maximum (26-20,000 years ago). Globally, humans reacted to the event in different ways. In the Transbaikal, there were clear shifts in technology and social organization. The region appears to have been completely abandoned by humans between around 25,000 and 23,000 years ago when low temperatures, low precipitation, and low numbers of prey animals became unbearable. Moreover, when people returned, they brought a new stone-tool technology called microblades, one of the most efficient ways of utilizing flint, obsidian, and other precious materials.

Several especially relevant questions the team is researching are: Were conditions so harsh that humans abandoned the area at that time? If so, where did they go? And, when and where did microblade technology first emerge? These questions will be addressed by examining the environmental conditions at the site and by describing the archaeological evidence for how the occupants coped with drastic changes. So far, the Lagernaia site, located in sandy deposits at the confluence of the Menza and Chikoi rivers, is revealing a single occupation surface with a high density of flaked-stone artifacts along with nearly a hundred river cobbles. Erin Chenvert says, "I think the most memorable part was sharing the different analytical techniques with the Russians, because sharing techniques can promote cross-cultural and scientific understanding."

In summer 2016, Chenvert, Hackenberger, and Buvit will return to continue the painstaking recovery of evidence for Ice Age humans. Stay tuned!
McNair 2015-2016 Advisory Board

Dr. Laila Abdalla, Professor, English • Dr. Yukari Amos, Associate Professor, TESL Multicultural Education
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Mr. Greg Rankin, Advisor, SSS • Dr. Erica Holley, Assistant Professor, Management, Lynnwood Liaison

Dr. Sundaram Nataraja ("Raj")

The McNair Scholars Program welcomes Raj as our newest advisory board member. From India, to Singapore, to Saudi Arabia, to the United States, to the United Arab Emirates, Sundaram Nataraja's career has spanned the globe. Selected as the new chair of the Department of Aviation, Dr. Nataraja brings an impressive international background and academic experience to Central Washington University. He has more than three decades of academic and administrative experience, and an outstanding record of scholarship, research, and teaching. Nataraja’s 15 years of airline and aviation industry experience includes his employment with international corporations including Emirates Airlines, Saudi Arabian Airlines, Singapore Airlines, and United Airlines. Raj comes to CWU from King Saudi University in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, where he was the associate dean for quality and institutional development and professor in aviation management in the College of Business Administration.

2015-2016 CWU McNair Program Quick Facts

• Number of students served: 28
• Federal Funding Amount: $220,000
• Average funding per participant: $8,148
• Percentage of low-income/first-generation participants served: 96%
• Percentage of applicants who enrolled in a grad school immediately after completing their bachelor’s degree: 100%
• Percentage of them who received FULL FUNDING: 88%

Program Eligibility

• 3.1 major GPA; 2.9 cumulative GPA;
• Sophomore, Junior or Senior standing;
• Stated interest in pursuing a PhD;
• U.S. citizen or Permanent Resident, and;
• First-generation college student with a family income less than 150 percent of the federal poverty level, and/or Black/African-American, Hispanic/Latino, American Indian or Alaska Native, Hawaiian or Pacific Islander.

cwu.edu/mcnair-scholars