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What is McNair?

The McNair Post-Baccalaureate Achievement Program is a federally-funded program dedicated to increasing the ranks of under-represented groups in graduate study. The McNair Program provides a select number of promising scholars with mentoring and fellowships to improve their chances of being admitted to PhD programs nationwide.



On Our Campus

The McNair Scholars Program is housed within the Office of Graduate Studies at the University of California Davis. We are located on the second floor of the Student Community Center within the Undergraduate Research Center. Please share the news of this unique program with others in the UCD community. We begin accepting applications in the spring!

Where Are They Now?

As we approach spring and graduation, we find ourselves remembering McNair Scholars from years ago. Did you know that UC Davis has graduated ten cohorts, almost two hundred McNair Scholars, since 1996? There are a whole lot of success stories out there and we want to share some of them with you! In this installation of **Where Are They Now?** we present UC Davis McNair Scholar, **Nessy Tania!**



Professor Tania was accepted into the UC Davis McNair Program in the fall of 2000. Soon after, she began a research project later titled *Parameter studies on the Unsteady Flow in the Rabbit Aorto-celiac Bifurcation*. She replied to our email with the following update:

"After graduating from UC Davis in 2002, I went to pursue a Ph.D. in Mathematics from the University of Utah. That was followed by a postdoctoral fellowship at the University of British Columbia, and I am now an Assistant Professor in the Department of Mathematics and

Statistics at Smith College. As an applied mathematician, I work on a wide range of biologically motivated problems for my research, from the generation of cardiac arrhythmia to cancer cell metastasis and nervous system development. I am also having a lot of fun working with an enthusiastic group of women undergraduates and amazing colleagues here at Smith. I still often reminisce about my time in Davis. I am grateful to the McNair Program and my undergraduate research advisor, Professor Angela Cheer, for investing and believing in me back then. Best wishes to the current staff and all the McNair scholars!"



Thank you, Professor Tania, for reminding us of the various directions Ph.D. study can take. We are proud to include you among the successes of the UC Davis McNair Scholars Program!



A Farewell From Miki Mori



Dear McNair Scholars Program,



This spring, I have decided to journey on to where the sidewalk ends. As it turns out, it ends on a tiny island off the coast of Madagascar: Mayotte.

My decision has created many bittersweet thoughts and feelings, especially regarding the McNair scholars, staff and colleagues. Aiming for concision, in sum my thoughts are: What an impressive group of individuals to get to know and spend time with. Your enthusiasm, drive and intellect inspire me to continue working toward my goals, including the fundamental ability to put "Dr." in front of my name.

I will finish writing my dissertation on the island, which is in dire need of earnest, educated help for development, and for now plan to teach English at the university.

For the McNair juniors scholars, I wish I could have followed you along through the summer, but for now please heed my advice to stay curious and stay focused. I have chosen my adventure. Be sure to choose your own.

One final note: Study your vocabulary sets.

Au revoir,
Miki



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UC Davis McNair Scholars Program
The McNair Program at UC Davis is part of the Office of Graduate Studies. We are located on the second floor of the Student Community Center in Suite 2300 with the Undergraduate Research Center. Please share the news of this unique program. We are now accepting applications!

Program Benefits:

- Academic Counseling
- GRE Preparation Seminars
- Assistance with Graduate School Applications
- Independent study with a faculty mentor
- \$2,800 Summer Research Stipend

Program Requirements:

- UCD GPA of 3.0 or higher
- US citizenship or Permanent Resident
- 90 quarter units or 60 semester units
- Low-income and first generation college student, or member of a group underrepresented in graduate study (e.g. Chicano/Latino, African American, Native American or Asian Pacific Islander)