



TRIO PROGRAMS

McNair Scholarship Program

Vol. 15 No. 3  
March - May 2010

# *“The Doctor”*

McNair Scholars Program  
Division of Campus Life and University Relations

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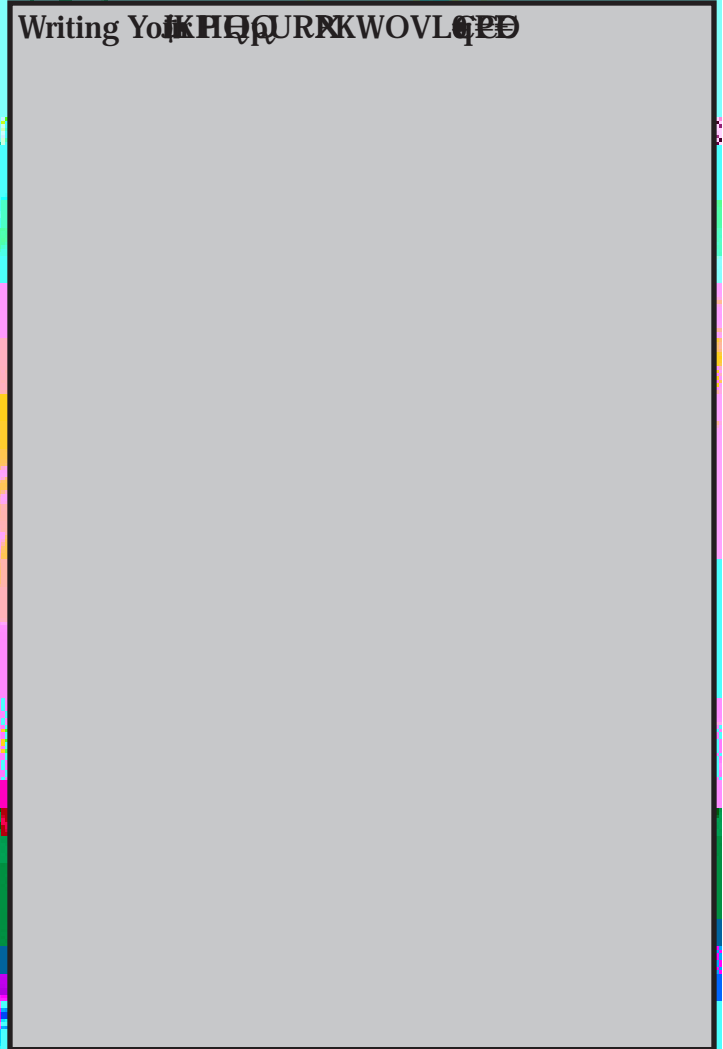


• Take Effective Notes:

- Take thorough notes from all of your sources
- Keep notes organized.
- Avoid confusion by making sure you clearly distinguish your own ideas from those you found elsewhere

- Get in the habit of marking page numbers and recording bibliographic information or web addresses for every source right away.

Writing Your Research Paper



## Happy Birthday!

The staff would like to wish a  
Happy Birthday to those  
celebrating during the months of  
March, April & May

**Rachel Jacobs - 3/18**

**Sara Gomez - 5/17**

**Antony Ngicu - 5/20**

**Traniece Bruce - 5/21**

**Kristal McGhee - 5/26**

**Berenice Soto-Frias 5/29**

**Marissa Barnes - 5/30**



## Events to Come

- 5 **Grad Seminar** (2-3pm)  
Devlin Hall, Rm 106  
Dr. Michael Birzer, Sch. of Comm. Affairs

MARCH

APRIL

MAY

## Someone Like Me?

**Henry Jackson, Ph.D.**

**Criminal Justice, Metropolitan State College of Denver**

**W**hen **Henry Jackson** began college at *Widita State University*, he never thought a graduate degree was attainable. However, the more classes he took, the more he wanted to know and the more he wanted to share his new found knowledge with his peers and professors. This spark eventually turned into a desire to become a member of the professoriate, and with the help of the **Ronald E. Post Baccalaureate Achievement Program** (McNair Scholars Program), Jackson met his research mentor, **Dr. Brian Withrow**. After completing his McNair research project and having it published in *The National McNair Journal* (Fall 2000), Withrow encouraged him to pursue graduate education. Jackson applied to the *University of Kansas* and received a Master's degree in Public Administration with an emphasis in City Management. This later became a career interest for Jackson where he worked in the field for four years until Withrow encouraged and assisted him in obtaining a job at

# GRAD-CONNECT

## Congratulations! You're Now Getting Acceptance Letters into Graduate School!

The waiting is finally over. Acceptance letters are beginning to come in with offers from one or more graduate programs. How does one wisely consider the best option? offers some insightful pointers on how best to navigate through the offers to accept and decline graduate programs.

**How to Handle Multiple Offers:** Take time to decide which school to attend, but never hold more than one offer in hand because there are other applicants waiting anxiously to hear. Each time you get an offer, compare it with the one you have in hand and determine which to decline. Repeat this comparison process as you receive each new offer. Admissions committees will appreciate your timeliness and honesty - and they will be able to move on to the next candidate on their list. You hurt other candidates, your peers, by holding on to offers that you have no intention of accepting. Notify programs as soon as you realize that you will decline their offer.

**How to Decline Admission:** Send a short email or faxed letter thanking them for the offer and notifying them of your decision. Address the note to your contact person or to the entire graduate admissions committee, and simply explain your decision. Be sure to type your name and then sign the letter. You may notify the program by email, fax, or phone, but be sure to follow up with a written letter through the postal system because messages are sometimes lost.

**Pressure to Accept:** You often find that some programs will pressure you to make a decision and accept their offer of admission before **April 15**. It is not appropriate for the committee to pressure you, so stand your ground (unless you are absolutely certain that it is the program for you). Remember that you are not obligated to make a decision until **April 15**. When you have accepted an offer of admission, remember that you are committed to that program. If you attempt to be released from an acceptance agreement, you might make waves and gain an unsavory reputation among graduate programs (*it is a very small world*) and among the faculty who have provided you with letters of recommendation.

**Accepting Admission:** When you are ready to accept an offer of admission, call or email your contact for the program and follow up with a written letter that is faxed and then mailed to the program. A short professional looking note indicating that you have made your decision and are pleased to accept their offer of admission is adequate.

**How to Handle being WUDP0A**

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**Inside....**

National TRIO Day

**“The Doctor”**  
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***McNair Facts***  
***Did You Know?***

The Ronald E. McNair  
Baccalaureate  
Achievement  
Program is dedicated to  
providing research-related  
experiences and academic  
support to undergradu-  
ates who are interested in  
pursuing a doctorate.

