



**WICHITA STATE
UNIVERSITY**
TRIO PROGRAMS
McNair Scholars Program







October

- 1 (2 - 3 p.m.)
Devlin Hall, Room 106, Staff
“*Graduate School Terminology Bingo*”
- (3 - 4 p.m.)
“*Library Research Database Tour*”
- 8 (2 - 3 p.m.)
Devlin Hall, Room 106
- 14-17 Fall Break - Enjoy!
- 22 (2 - 3 p.m.)
Devlin Hall, Room 106
, Career Services
“*Etiquette Workshop*”
- 30 (10 a.m. - Noon)
Devlin Hall, Room 106
Oklahoma State University
“*Personal Statement Writing*”
- 31

November

- 5 (2 - 3 p.m.)
Devlin Hall, Room 106,
, LAS
“*Me, Myself & Graduate School*”
- (3 - 4 p.m.)
“*Methodology/Data Collection*”
- 12 ss (2 - 3 p.m.)
Devlin Hall, Room 106
- 13 (10 a.m. - Noon)
Devlin Hall, Room 106



As a middle school student in Corona, California, Carlos Catalano was fortunate to have Mr. Schultie for his science teacher. When Catalano would ask a question, Schultie would answer, "I don't know, I have often wondered about that myself." Schultie had a library in the back of his classroom, and would suggest that Catalano look for the answer and let him know what he had found. For the longest time Catalano thought his teacher was ignorant. Finally, he realized that Schultie was teaching him a very important lesson: he could find an answer to any question on his own. It was wonderful to have someone point him in the right direction. Many times throughout Catalano's education, he had been fortunate to have someone guide him by pointing the way.

Catalano attended *California State University, San Bernardino* after he finished high school. He was not ready for college at that time, so he quit and worked as a buyer at Circle City Hospital for two years. That work experience convinced him that he was still very interested in science, and that an education would provide him with the necessary tools to become a successful scientist, so he returned back to school attending *California State University, Fullerton*, finding chemistry to be his favorite subject. Catalano recalled a conversation he had with his organic chemistry profes-

recent Ph.D. graduate, _____, shared his journey on getting the doctorate. He came up with a few survival tips and guidelines he wished he had known before he started his graduate degree. According to Azuma these are skills needed to successfully obtain the doctorate.

“Being a graduate student is like becoming all of the Seven Dwarves. In the beginning you’re Dopey and Bashful. In the middle, you’re usually sick (Sneezy), tired (Sleepy), and irritable (Grumpy). But at the end, they call you Doc, and then you’re Happy.”

_____:
What ever the reason may be, make sure that you believe in it passionately. If you do not have an answer, then save yourself a lot of grief and do not pursue the Ph.D.

The dissertation represents a focused, personal research effort where you take the lead on your own unique project. If you expect the advisor to hold your hand and tell you what to do every step of the way, you are missing the point of the dissertation. Ph.D. students must show initiative to successfully complete the dissertation. You will receive guidance at a high level but not at a micromanaging level. If you never do any task except those your professor tells you, then you need to work on initiative.

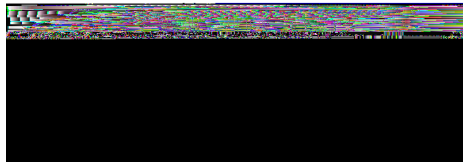
Tenacity means sticking with things even when you get depressed or when things are not going well. Part of the Ph.D. is building a “thick skin” so you are not so fragile that you give up at the first sign of difficulties

Flexibility means taking advantage of opportunities and synergies, working around problems and being willing to change plans as required. Events can be good as well as bad. The difference between the highly effective graduate student and the average one is that the former recognizes those opportunities and takes advantage of them.

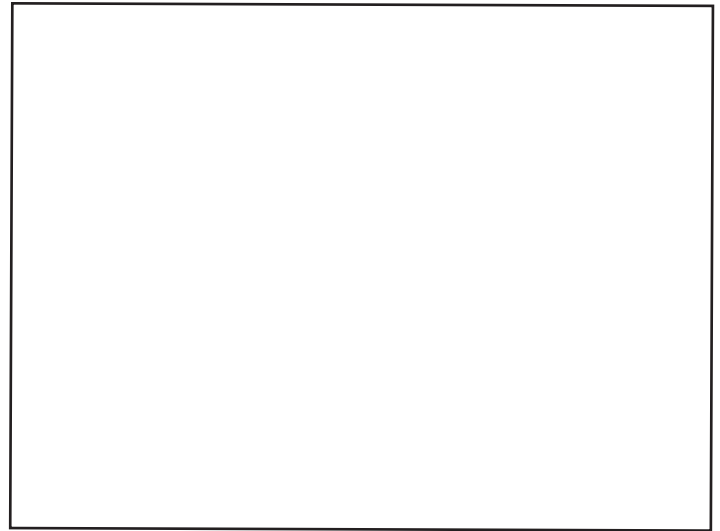
Your success in graduate school and beyond depends a great deal upon your ability to build and maintain interpersonal relationships with your advisor, your committee, research and support staff and your fellow students--you need these people to get your research done.

As a Ph.D. student, a lot will be asked of you on top of completing your dissertation (*attend conferences and meetings, meet and greet visitors and get projects done on time.*) Time management and organization are a must. “Failing to plan is planning to fail.”

Earning a Ph.D. is like running a marathon. You have to learn to pace yourself and take care of your body if you want to reach the finish line. Unfortunately, students often act like sprinters. They are highly productive for awhile, but then they fall by the wayside because they are not eating correctly, exercising and taking time to recharge their batteries. Take time to recharge yourself. Keeping your health and sanity intact are vital to achieving your primary goal of getting finished and graduating



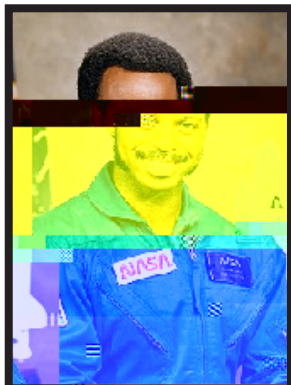
McNair Scholars Program
 1845 N. Fairmount
 Wichita, KS 67260-0199



McNair Facts: Did You Know?

The Wichita State University McNair Scholars Program has served students since 1995, of which:

- have bachelor's degrees
- have master's degrees
- have doctorate degrees
- are currently enrolled in doctoral programs.



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