

# The Doctor

Volume 29. No. 3. ♦ Sept.- Nov. 2024



## 29th Annual Closing Symposium 2024

The 29th Annual Closing Symposium featured 13 student research presentations. This year had the most faculty representation than any other year. We appreciate the time and efforts that our students received from their mentors!

Colleen Pugh, PhD, provided opening remarks at the Alumni Luncheon, sponsored by the Wichita State Graduate School. Thank you Dr. Pugh for your continued support of our program and Scholars!



The LaWanda Holt Fields Advocacy Award was presented to Sara Mata, PhD for her countless support of the program. Dr. Mata has mentored many Scholars in research and academics. Her student referrals have brought the program great students. Thank you!

In this newsletter  
you can expect:

29th Annual Closing  
Symposium 2024

Someone *Like Me*

Fall Birthdays

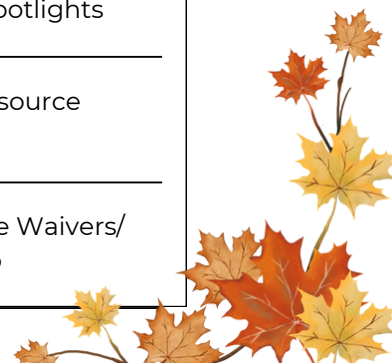
Upcoming Program  
Events

Need Help with  
Writing?

McNair Events and  
Student Spotlights

McNair Resource  
Room

McNair Fee Waivers/  
Fellowship



# Someone *Like Me*

## **Martina (Salerno) Sanchez**

Wichita State McNair Alumna 2014-2017

I am a Bioenvironmental Engineer at the California Air National Guard and a Scientist on the Multiplexing team at NeoGenomics.

In the Air Force Guard, I am a officer in the Bioenvironmental Engineering shop where I hold a supervisory role. Relevant Skills gained: Technical Communication, Design Control, Risk Assessment, Audit prep, Military briefings, safety regulations, occupational health, environmental health.

I am a also a Scientist on the Multiplexing team at NeoGenomics, a contract research organization that specializes in cancer diagnostics. Relevant Skills gained: Python automation, Direct Communication w/ medical providers, Tumor imaging & analysis, Biotech Client Communication.



PhD focus: During my doctoral studies, I built and analyzed simple & robust self-assembled vascularized human tissue models to model aging, healing, chronic diseases. With the project I learned experimental and device design. Data analysis during my PhD focused on volumetric imaging and automated quantification via custom image analysis algorithms designed in MATLAB. (TIME lab: Tissue, Injury, and mortality engineering; University of California, Riverside). PhD in Bioengineering earned in 2021.

## Fall Birthdays

Beatriz Moscoso- Gomez 9/2

Olivia Wessley 10/4

Aunisti Swan 10/5

Dimas Gonzalez 10/10

Marlene Vela 10/10

Ashley Cervantes 10/12

Gavi Perryman 11/23



# Upcoming Program Events

## September

**9/6** "Preparing Success graduate School Applications" *Aaron Coffey*

**9/14** "Selecting a Mentor" *Michael Birzer, PhD, "Vitae Writing/Portraying a Professional Image" Career Services*

**9/20** Writing Clinic: Research Proposal Review

## October

**10/4** Graduate School Prep Workshop, OKC, OK

**10/18** Writing Clinic: Identifying Peer Reviewed Journal Articles

## November

**11/1** "The Lit. Review/ Integrating Sources"

**11/15** Writing Clinic: Developing the Literature Review Outline

**11/16** "Time & Stress Management" *Counseling and Prevention, "Grad School Applications/Funding" Courtney Minor*

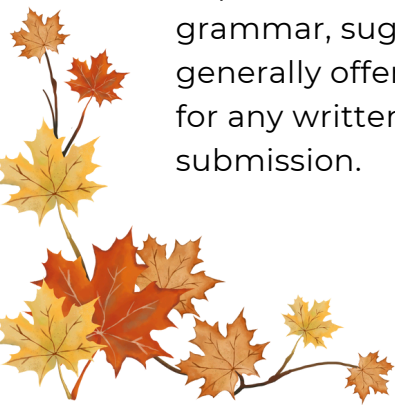
## Need Help with Writing?

Look no further!

Meet Becca! She is the program's writing tutor. Becca is a great resource available to all Scholars. She can review papers for any class, provide editing, and make suggestions.

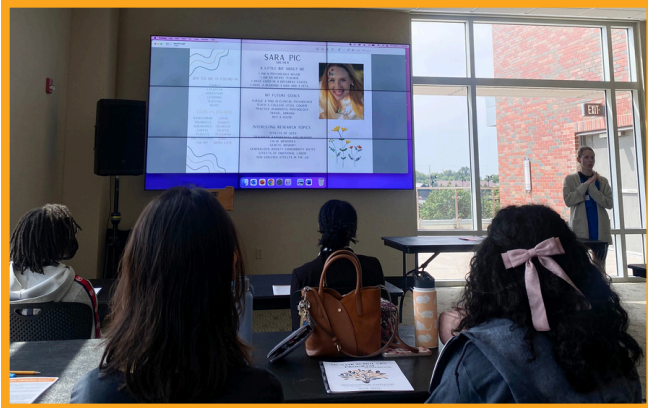
### **More about Becca....**

A senior at WSU majoring in English Lit, Becca is here to help students improve their writing by reviewing grammar, suggesting edits, and generally offering another set of eyes for any written work before submission.





# McNair Events and Student Spotlight



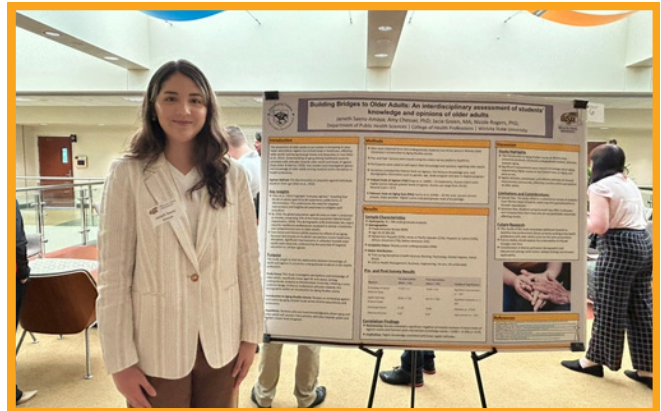
Students at Orientation presented an About Me page. This activity was dedicated to create networking amongst Scholars.



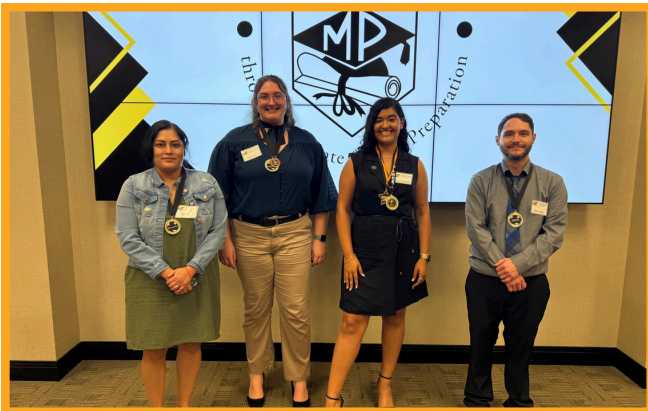
Students at Orientation 2024.



Jasmine Sosa at WSU Orientation.



Janeth Saenz Amaya with her research poster at the 29th Annual Closing Symposium.



Pictured left to right, Marlene Vela, Kylie Flax, Valeria Paunetto, and Colton West. These Scholars each received an award from the program for showing exceptional motivation, high GPA, and perseverance throughout their research project.



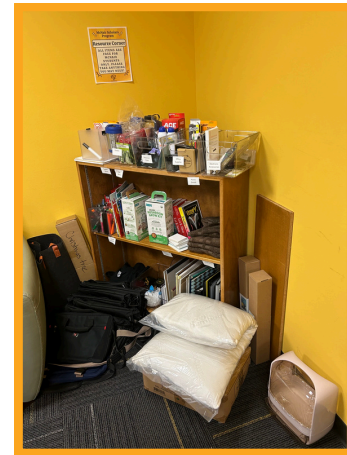
Scholars stand with their research mentors. Pictured left to right, Dr. Siyu Wang, Colton West, Dr. Lisa Parcell, Andres Saenz, Janeth Saenz Amaya, Jackie Martinez Landa, Dr. Moriah Beck, Dr. Michelle Redmond, Marlene Vela, Valeria Paunetto, and Dr. Sara Mata.





# McNair Resource Room

The McNair Resource Room is located in the Grace Wilkie Annex, room 165. This room can be used by scholars to study, work on homework, or relax in between classes.



The Resource Corner has FREE items for McNair Scholars! These items vary from books, towels, personal care, school items, and many more.

## McNair Fee Waivers/ Fellowships

The Council for Opportunity in Education (COE), in conjunction with the Council of Graduate Schools (CGS), has compiled a list of McNair incentives to help Scholars find graduate schools that offer application fee waivers and/or fellowships and other opportunities that are available to McNair Scholars.

This list can be found at: <https://coenet.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/05/2023-McNair-Scholars-Fee-Waiver-List-523.xlsx>

### **Highlighted Fellowship: Emporia State University**

McNair Scholars are eligible to apply for a two-year scholarship of \$2500 per year. The scholarship is guaranteed for two years provided the recipient maintains a 3.0 gpa each semester. Applicants will be required to complete the graduate admissions application. The graduate application fee will be waived for McNair Scholars with proof of McNair Scholar status. The scholarship may be used to pay tuition/fees for any program of graduate study at Emporia State University. All award recipients must be accepted to a graduate program of study and will be required to enroll in at least six credit hours as a graduate student during the semester in which they receive the award payment.

Deadline: 12/13/24

More information can be found at:

<https://www.emporia.edu/graduate-school/admissions-costs/financial-assistance/scholarships/mcnair-scholarship-form/>



## Inside....

29th Annual Closing Symposium  
Someone *Like Me*  
Fall Birthdays  
Upcoming Program Events  
Need Help with Writing?  
McNair Events and Student Spotlights  
McNair Resource Room  
McNair Fee Waivers/Fellowships

## McNair Facts: Did You Know?



In 1978, Ron E. McNair was selected to be an Astronaut. In 1984 he became the second Black American to go into space.

Source:  
<https://www.nasa.gov/imag/e-detail/amf-s84-27219/>



WICHITA STATE  
UNIVERSITY

TRIO PROGRAMS

McNair Scholars Program

### “The Doctor”

McNair Scholars Program  
Wichita State University  
*Grace Wilkie Annex, Room 173*  
*Campus Box 199*  
*Wichita, KS 67260-0199*  
Phone: (316) 978-3139  
Fax: (316) 978-3439

E-mail: [mcnairscholars@wichita.edu](mailto:mcnairscholars@wichita.edu)  
Website: [webs.wichita.edu/mcnair](http://webs.wichita.edu/mcnair)

Sara Gallo, Editor

Staff:

Ashley Cervantes, Director  
Sara Gallo, Assistant Director/Success Coach  
Jasmine Sosa, Administrative Assistant



**Illuminating Pathways**

30 YEARS OF EXCELLENCE

### Notice of Nondiscrimination

Wichita State University does not discriminate in its employment practices, educational programs or activities on the basis of age, color, disability, gender, gender expression, gender identity, genetic information, marital status, national origin, political affiliation, pregnancy, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, or status as a veteran. Retaliation against an individual filing or cooperating in a complaint process is also prohibited. Sexual misconduct, relationship violence and stalking are forms of sex discrimination and are prohibited under Title IX of the Education Amendments Act of 1972. Complaints or concerns related to alleged discrimination may be directed to the Director of Equal Opportunity or the Title IX Coordinator, Wichita State University, 1845 Fairmount, Wichita KS 67260-0138; telephone (316) 978-3187.