On August 1, McNair scholars presented their research at the Tom Jackson building on subjects ranging from Proust to ternary logic. Altogether, 20 oral presentations were given and as many posters were on display.

Julia Martin (standing, second from right) discussed pain among college students. Jeffrey Blackman (first row, third from left) correlated perception and use of the internet. Bethany Adams (seated, third from right) described a dialect awareness program she created. Claire Marshall (standing, sixth from left) demonstrated the Total Physical Response method of learning languages.

Terri Proctor (seated, far right) discussed mental health among college students. Collin Davey (standing, fifth from left) analyzed the Lais of Marie de France using Propp’s morphology of the folk tale. Deidre Cullom (seated, fourth from left) looked at the impact of environmental policies on poor communities. Linda Selby (standing, fourth from right) compared American clowns and British pantomime. Angela Stroupe (standing, far right) discussed the Japanese community in Murfreesboro. Kim Cubit (seated, second from right) analyzed the health of Alzheimer’s caregivers. Russell Parman (standing, far left) presented a multivariate analysis of the roots of terrorism. Anna Fitzgerald (standing, fifth from right) discussed the role of gender in the genre of gigposters. Brandy Dacus (seated, second from left) described lithic analysis from the Castillian Springs mound site. Ken Garrett (standing, third from right) explained a new rule for balanced ternary division. Drew Monks (standing, fourth from left) analyzed the health of Alzheimer’s caregivers. Kim Cubit (seated, second from right) presented a multivariate analysis of the roots of terrorism.
IAQs
(Infrequently asked questions)

How do I apply for a scholarship?

Simple, right? Just fill out an application and wait. Well, maybe not quite so simple, especially if you actually want to get the award. The first thing you should do is take a personal inventory to get a handle on where you might look for scholarship money. Are you interested in conservation? There’s a scholarship for that from the Institute of Museum and Library Services. Are you a mother returning to school? There’s a Women in Transition scholarship for that. Are you a part-time student with a less than stellar GPA? Try Chela Education Financing. Do you shop at Target? Go online to Target’s site and apply for one of their scholarships. There’s a scholarship for virtually any sort of person you are or strengths you have.

The next step is to find the scholarships that apply to you. There are several scholarship search sites, either free or paid, that can get you started. Just keep in mind that when you use these online services, you’ll be spammed thereafter with scholarship offers. A few of the better ones are http://fastweb.monster.com, collegedata.com (and from the home-page, go to scholarship finder), scholarship-page.com, and find-tuition.com. Another source is the big black notebook in the McNair office that’s full of scholarships, sweepstakes and competitions. Also on the McNair bookshelves is the Scholarship Almanac, which claims to contain information on $6 billion worth of scholarships. Finally, be sure to check into all the scholarships your university offers.

Next, get organized. Let’s say you’ve found half a dozen scholarships that fit. Make a chart that shows application deadline, basic requirements, contact info, amount of the award, date the announcement is made for winners, and so on. Then set dates on a calendar for completion of personal statements, making requests for letters of recommendation, making arrangements to have transcripts sent and any other actions that may be needed. (As for letters of recommendation, see the McNair handout on the subject.) Work backward from the deadlines.

Follow application directions very carefully. If a scholarship-awarding agency asks that you provide an essay, be sure you write the essay on the topic that is requested. Don’t try to make one essay fit all the scholarships. Instead of saving time, you will be wasting time.

Finally, don’t ever give up. One McNair scholar assumed he didn’t get a scholarship because he hadn’t heard anything soon after the announcement date. A full month later he was informed that the money was his. Another scholar applied for the same scholarship that she had not won the previous year, and won it the next year. Keep looking for new ones to apply for — after all, it’s money you won’t have to pay back.

7th Annual Symposium

Continued from page 1

from left) surveyed the impact of the Sarbanes Oxley Act on the accounting practices of 81 Tennessee public corporations. Muorcil Acut (standing, third from left) described the efficacy of microfinance in Sub-Saharan Africa.

Sunshine Pinell (seated, far left) discussed ethnographic research of African immigration into Normandy, France. Calley Stroud (standing, far left) looked at online dating practices of adults.

Catie Cameron (standing, seventh from left) linked Proust and Cubism and found a parallel between the two. Finally, Logan Grant (standing, sixth from right) made a case for a professional press association.

The poster competition was judged by Mark Byrnes, associate dean, College of Liberal Arts; Robert Carlton, chair of the Physics Department and interim dean of the College of Graduate Studies; and Tom Cheatham, dean of the College of Basic & Applied Sciences. Thanks to these judges, who spent a combined 7.5 hours assessing the posters.

First-year scholars competed with other first-year scholars and second-year with second-year scholars. Each group had a first place winner, who received $75 and a second place winner, who received $50. Thanks to Phillips Bookstore for contributing to the prizes.

NOTE: Research papers that were presented at the Symposium will appear next May in the recently re-designed McNair Research Review.

Winning Posters

First Place (2nd Year)
Russell Parman

Second Place (2nd Year)
Collin Davey

First Place (1st Year)
Julia Martin

Second Place (1st Year)
Drew Monks
KEN GARRETT CROSSES THE FINISH LINE

Taking a break from his ternary logic research, Ken (far left and near right) takes a prize in a solar bike race for MTSU. Fittingly, his bike has three wheels.

NEW McNAIR MASTERS: CONGRATS!

Monte Hendrickson earned a masters degree at MTSU and has been accepted into a Ph.D. program at Vanderbilt.

Sarah Vinson Russell has earned a masters degree in Public Health at Indiana University.

NEW McNAIR GRADS

May
Megan Musick

August
Kristen Bailey
Deidre Cullom
Ashley Kite-Rowland
Russell Parman
Sunshine Pinell

MENTORS MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Many thanks to the faculty mentors who encouraged and guided McNair scholars through their summer research projects. The following students and their mentors participated in this year’s summer program:

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>SCHOLAR</th>
<th>MENTOR</th>
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<tr>
<td>Muorcil Acut</td>
<td>Dr. E. Anthon Eff</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bethany Adams</td>
<td>Dr. Allison Smith</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jeffrey Blackman</td>
<td>Dr. Charles Apigian</td>
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<td>Catie Cameron</td>
<td>Dr. Nancy Goldberg</td>
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<td>Kim Cubit</td>
<td>Dr. Suzanne Prevost</td>
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<td>Brandy Dacus</td>
<td>Dr. Shannon Hodge</td>
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<td>Deidre Cullom</td>
<td>Dr. Franklin Sekou</td>
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Collin Davey Anna Fitzgerald Ken Garrett Logan Grant Claire Marshall Julia Martin Drew Monks Russell Parman Sunshine Pinell Terri Proctor Linda Selby Calley Stroud Angela Stroupe

Dr. Monica Wright Dr. Wendy Koenig Dr. Charles Perry Dr. Clyde Willis Dr. Shelley Thomas Dr. Suzanne Prevost Dr. Kevin James Dr. Andrei Korobkov Dr. Nancy Goldberg Dr. Michelle Boyer-Pennington Dr. Martha Hixon Dr. Janet McCormick Dr. Ida Fadzillah

A reception for mentors will be held on September 13 from 4:30 to 6:00 pm, as noted on page 1. At the reception, scholars will present small gifts of appreciation to their mentors.
In a continuing series, McNair Moments will feature profiles on two Advisory Board members per issue. Our current guests are Dr. Sells and Dr. Williams.

**Dr. Debra Sells, Associate Vice President, Academic Support Services**

Bio: Dr. Sells earned a BA degree from Hope College, an MSW from the University of Michigan and an Ed.D from Arizona State University. She has been active in higher education since 1983 and came to MTSU in 1996.

Vision for McNair

“I believe that the McNair Program should have a strong collaboration with other TRIO-funded programs on campus, including Student Support Services. Both programs serve important functions at MTSU, helping hard-working students meet and exceed their goals by promoting perseverance and achievement.”

**Dr. Forrestine White Williams, Assistant to President, Equal Opportunity & Affirmative Action**

Bio: Dr. Williams has 25 years of experience in higher education, including 23 years in administration and teaching. She earned a BS, MS and Ed.D degrees, all from Tennessee State University.

Vision for McNair

“Equity and Compliance administrators understand well the importance of assisting individuals. The McNair Program fosters this principle by providing opportunities for first-generation and low-income students as well as students from groups under-represented in doctoral studies. I strongly believe that all persons should have the opportunity to be educated which contributes to their productivity and viability as citizens.”

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**Russell Parman**, recent winner of a SAE-OPP scholarship award, has been accepted into the doctoral program in the Political Science Department at Vanderbilt University. His research focus is in transnational terrorist networks.

McNair scholar **Sunshine Pinell**, who just graduated from MTSU with top honors, chats with President Sidney McPhee.

**Muorcol Acut**, formerly from the Sudan, became a U.S. citizen in June 2006. An economics major, his research interests include microfinance.

**Deidre Cullom**, a recent McNair graduate, is now attending the University of Memphis in Public Administration.

**Sunshine Pinell**, who just graduated from MTSU with top honors, chats with President Sidney McPhee.

**Bonnie Saari**, a McNair graduate in December 2005, has been accepted at the University of South Florida in Psychology. Her research while at MTSU, under the guidance of Dr. Stephen R. Schmidt, dealt with memory for taboo words, non-taboo emotional words, and neutral words.

**Tim Worrall**, a May 2005 McNair graduate in Biology, has published (with mentor V.A. Cobb and three others) “Initial den location behavior in a litter of neonate Crotalus horridus” in Southeastern Naturalist, 2005. 4(4): 723-730.

**Brian Winfrey**, a 2002 McNair graduate, has earned a JD degree from Vanderbilt University.

McNair’s own **Cindy Howell**, shown here with MTSU President Sidney McPhee, won the university-wide Classified Employee Award.