MTSU McNair Scholars
Research Action Plan (RAP)

Scholar Name

Discipline

Faculty Mentor

Directions: Use the space provided to describe the research you propose to conduct as a McNair Scholar during Summer Internship. The McNair staff is available to answer your questions and assist you in completing this form. Call or come by if you need assistance. The best help you can obtain in completing this form will be from your Faculty Mentor. **RAP is due at the last spring session.** Use more space if necessary.

**STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM :** (the **topic** your research will explore)
1) State the problem in complete sentences in as few words as possible.
2) **State the problem;** don’t just talk about it.

**JUSTIFICATION/IMPORTANCE OF THE PROJECT:**
Why is the proposed research needed? How will it add to the knowledge base in your discipline?

**HYPOTHESES AND / OR RESEARCH QUESTIONS:**
Hypotheses and/or research questions direct researchers’ thinking in finding a solution to the problem (topic). **List** the hypotheses to be tested or **state** the research questions you will ask in seeking a solution to your research problem.

**SOURCES OF LITERATURE REVIEW:**
**Purpose:** To demonstrate that you have a clear idea of what is new about your proposed research. In the review, explain how your research builds on what has already been reported in the literature that relates to your problem.
Sources: List specific journals, abstracts, indexes, etc. that you will use.

METHODS OF DATA GATHERING/METHODOLOGY:
Tell step-by-step how data will be gathered to answer the questions or test the hypotheses of this research. (Keep in mind if you plan to use quantitative or qualitative methods.)

DATA ANALYSIS PROCEDURES: (if appropriate)
Tell step by step how the data will be analyzed in order to reach conclusions about the questions or hypotheses of this research. (Keep in mind if you plan to use quantitative or qualitative methods.)

TIMELINE OF PROJECT ACTIVITIES:
Provide a time line/calendar of research activities that will allow for completion by the end of the eight-week summer session.

SIGNATURES:

McNair Scholar                  date  Faculty Mentor                  date

rap.doc
Updated February 18, 2005