

Conference Schedule—Friday, October 30, 2015

1pm — 8pm	Registration (Follow the signs to the pre-function area)
1pm — 8pm	PowerPoint Presentation Uploads (Willams Bay)
3pm — 3:45pm	Graduate Fair Exhibitors set-up (Lake Lawn & Queens Table)
4pm — 7:30pm	Graduate School Fair (Lake Lawn & Queens Table)
6pm — 8pm	Dinner (Geneva Ballroom)
7:45pm — 8:30pm	Graduate Preparation Workshops-First & Second Session Presenters Maya Holtzman -- Understanding the Differences Amongst Graduate Programs and Writing High-Impact, Best-Fit Personal Statements (Illinois Room) Dr. Russell Cuhel --- Preparation for Your Quality Application to Graduate School (Wisconsin Room)
7:00pm — 7:45pm	First Session of Graduate Preparation Workshops (listed above)
7:30pm — 8:30pm	McNair Staff Reception (Chicago Room)
8:45pm — 10:15pm	Fireside Chat with Carl McNair, brother of Dr. Ronald McNair (Wisconsin Room)
10:30pm — 11:30pm	TRIVIA Night and Costume Contest! (Wisconsin Room)

Graduate Preparation Workshops

1) Maya Holtzman -- Understanding the Differences Amongst Graduate Programs and Writing High-Impact, Best-Fit Personal Statements (Illinois Room)

Maya Holtzman is Associate Director of McNair Scholars Programs and the Summer Research Opportunities Programs at the University of Wisconsin, Madison. Over the last 10 years, Maya has helped hundreds of McNair Scholars learn strategies to gaining admission to highly competitive Masters' and Ph.D. programs, this includes understanding the graduate admissions process and ways to fund graduate education, writing effective graduate application essays, networking with faculty and self-advocacy, skills on effectively presenting research. Maya has a Master of Science Degree in Curriculum and Instruction from the University of Wisconsin, Madison, and is currently a doctoral candidate, in the same program.



Your personal statement is one part of your graduate application that you totally control. Come hear how to write a statement that will get you where you want to go! Facilitator: Maya Holtzman, Associate Director, McNair Scholars Program, University of Wisconsin-Madison.

2) Dr. Russell Cuhel --- Preparation for Your Quality Application to Graduate School (Geneva Club)

This workshop will present for discussion different components of an application for advanced study in McNair-appropriate specialties including STEM disciplines. The topics include: Application forms and files, the importance of the personal statement and background experience, transcripts, and letters of recommendation. Facilitator: Dr. Russell Cuhel, Senior Scientist and Director of the Research Experience for Undergraduates, School of Freshwater Sciences, University of Wisconsin- Milwaukee. He started in Hollywood with a paper route and selling used hangers to a dry cleaner. His coin collection helped him attend college at the University of California San Diego, where he earned BAs in Biology and Chemistry along with a job in Oceanography. His skills and networking earned him a full ride to the PhD at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and the Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution. In addition to the more than 2000 days at sea studying marine biology, he has helped many individuals pursue their careers in STEM. Don't LOOK for a career; CHOOSE one!



Conference Schedule — Saturday, October 31, 2015

7:30am — 8:15am	Breakfast (please remain seated for the plenary sessions that follow meals) (Geneva Ballroom)
8:15am — 9:15am	Conference Welcome and Panel of Deans and Directors (Geneva Ballroom) Welcome: Johannes Britz, Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee
9:45am — 11:45am	CONCURRENT MORNING ACTIVITIES Graduate School Fair (Lake Lawn & Queens Table rooms) McNair Scholars Oral Presentations (check book for room locations)
11:45am — 1:15pm	Conference Luncheon and Plenary Session: Dr. Rastafa Geddes (Geneva Ballroom)
1:30pm — 2:15pm	Oral Research Presentations continued (check book for room locations)
2:15pm — 2:30pm	Poster Presentation set-up (Lake Lawn and Queens Table)
2:30pm — 4:00pm	Poster Presentation Session (Lake Lawn and Queens Table)
4:15pm — 5:30pm	Oral Research Presentations (continued)
6:00pm — 7:00pm	Reception (Geneva Ballroom)
7:00pm — 9:00pm	Conference Banquet (Geneva Ballroom) Master of Ceremonies: Kaye Monk-Morgan, President Mid-America Association of Educational Opportunity Program Personnel (MAEOPP) Keynote Speaker Wisconsin Senator Lena Taylor Campus Roll Call
9:30pm — 12:30am	Evening Soirée (Geneva Ballroom)

***** NOTE ABOUT SATURDAY: Some presentation rooms are not in the main conference area *****

***** Explore a bit on Friday, and try to locate every room that you will need on Saturday *****

Sunday, November 1, 2015

8:00am — 9:30am Breakfast and Graduate Student Panel (Geneva Ballroom)

9:30 am — Noon Checkout and Departure

**COME BACK AGAIN NEXT YEAR
FOR THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ANNUAL NATIONAL
RONALD E. McNAIR RESEARCH CONFERENCE AND GRADUATE FAIR!**