



# *“The Doctor”*

## **McNair Scholars Program**

Division of Campus Life and University Relations

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**Ronald E. McNair**

### **16th Annual Closing Symposium**

On July 29, 2011, fifteen McNair Scholars and two EPSCoR Scholars will showcase their research findings before family, friends, faculty and administration during the Closing Symposium in the Rhatigan Student Center Regents Room 203 from 8:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. This is in preparation for graduate study and the pursuit of a doctoral degree.

Scholars representing disciplines from chemistry to social work and music performance to communication sciences disorders, put in 200 plus hours working with Wichita State faculty research mentors learning research methodology, test design, literature searching and writing techniques in preparation for the Closing Symposium.

**GRE Summer Workshop**  
**June 20, 21 & 22, 2011**

*McNair Scholars Program:*  
*Keys to Success in College and Life*

## Grammatically Speaking

### *Steps for Revising Papers*

According to the the Purdue OWL online lab, proofreading is primarily about searching your writing for errors, both grammatical and typographical, before submitting your paper to an audience (a teacher, a publisher, etc.). Use this resource to help you find and fix common errors.

#### **Find your main point:**

- ✿ What are you trying to say in the paper?
- Try to summarize your thesis or main

#### **Avoid overusing the passive voice:**

- ✿ Do you see any problems with grammar, punctuation, or spelling? If you think something is wrong you should make a note of it even if you don't know how to fix it. You can always talk to a writing lab tutor about how to correct errors.

#### **Switch from Writer-Centered to Reader-Centered:**

- ✿ Try to detach yourself from what you've written; pretend you are reviewing someone else's work. What would you say is the most successful part of your paper? Why? How could this part be made better? What would you say is the least successful part of your paper? Why? How could this part be improved?

Source: Purdue OWL General Writing, Research and Citation, Teaching and Tutoring, Subject Specific Writing. <http://owl.english.purdue.edu/owl/resource/561/05/>

## Summer Research Seminar

Dr. Marlene Schommer-Aikins, professor of Education Psychology in the Counseling, Educational and School Psychology (CESP) Program, will lead a seminar to acquaint McNair and EPSCoR students with research concepts, including sampling methodology and research design. A research methods course is required of students wishing to conduct research; this seminar offers an introduction as well as aid students in writing their research proposals. This is the 12th year that Schommer-Aikins has worked with the Program. The research seminar is three days (Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday) during the week of June 5, 2011, from 1:00 - 3:00 p.m. in room 327, Hubbard Hall. Students receive six hours toward their research requirement upon the conclusion of the three-day seminar. Space is limited to 10 students.

## Preparing Presentations for the Symposium

As McNair Scholars make those final preparations for presenting their research at the Closing Symposium, one word of advice: practice, practice, practice and practice some more. The following is a list of items to consider as one prepares to present at a conference.

**Sound:** How soft or loud are you speaking?  
Will the audience be able to hear you?

**Diction:** How clearly are you speaking?

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## *GRAD-CONNECT*

**G**ood communication skills are important to be successful, enhance relationships, and get one's point across in effective ways. When conflict arises, one must be aware of negative communication patterns to avoid or resolve conflict. Below are some examples of negative communication patterns that can exacerbate conflict in any type of relationship. How many sound familiar to you?

Rather than discussing building frustrations in a calm, respectful manner, some people don't say anything until they are ready to explode in an angry, hurtful way. The less stressful route seems to be avoiding an argument altogether, but may cause more stress to both parties: as tensions rise, resentments fester, and a bigger argument eventually results. It's usually healthier to address and resolve conflict.

**Being Defensive:** Rather than addressing complaints with an objective eye and a willingness to understand the other person's point of view, defensive people steadfastly deny any wrongdoing and refuse to consider that they are contributing to a problem. Denying responsibility may alleviate stress temporarily but creates long-term problems when unresolved conflicts continue to grow.

**Overgeneralizing:**

Some people blow situations out of proportion by making sweeping generalizations. a

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