**McNair Scholars**

8th Annual Poster Exhibit

Summer 2020

**Jolene Addi**
The microbiota-gut-brain axis: intestinal inflammation and psychological disorders.
Faculty mentor: Sarah Hird, Ph.D.
Molecular & Cell Biology

**Dana Chamberlain**
Physical Activity Barriers to Reducing Cardiovascular Disease Risk in Black Women in the United States.
Faculty mentor: Loneke Blackman Carr, Ph.D.
Nutritional Sciences

**Suzannah De Almeida**
Allosteric Modulators of GPCRs: A novel therapeutic approach for Substance Use Disorder.
Faculty mentor: Gregory Sartor, Ph.D.
Pharmaceutical Sciences

**Allyson Derry**
Differential Gene Expression of the American Beech in Response to Toxic Soils.
Faculty mentor: Jill Wegrzyn, Ph.D.
Ecology & Evolutionary Biology

**Paul Dineen**
Exploring Hybridization in the Moss Family Funariaceae.
Faculty mentor: Bernard Goffinet, Ph.D.
Ecology & Evolutionary Biology

**Christopher Geiger**
Iris Reconstruction.
Faculty mentor: Benjamin Fuller, Ph.D.
Computer Science & Engineering

**Jude Icoy**
Learning Genomic Data Science Pipelines to Analyze RNA-Sequencing Data.
Faculty mentor: Karen Menuz, Ph.D.
Physiology and Neurobiology

**Sara Leon**
Faculty mentor: Joseph Johnson, Ph.D.
Computer Science & Engineering

**Joel Lopez**
Efficacy of various allosteric modulators in the treatment of Psychostimulant Use Disorders.
Faculty mentor: Gregory Sartor, Ph.D.
Pharmaceutical Sciences

**Jayla Millender**
Impact of Angiogenic and Osteogenic Factors on Endothelial Cells In Vitro
Faculty mentor: Thanh Nguyen, Ph.D.
Mechanical Engineering/ Materials Science

**Brittany Nelson**
Effect of Tempering Processes on the Mechanical Properties of 4140 Alloy Steel.
Faculty mentor: Lesley Frame, Ph.D.
Materials Science & Engineering

**Pablo Rodriguez**
Routing Security: Sub-Prefix Hidden Hijack Analysis.
Amir Herzberg, Ph.D.
Computer Science & Engineering

**Steven Santos**
Machine Learning and Its Applications.
Faculty mentor: Fei Miao, Ph.D.
Computer Science & Engineering

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**McNair Scholar Virtual Summer Program Components**

- Graduate school application preparatory workshops & 3 draft reviews
- Graduate admissions interview tips
- Twice weekly GRE strategy workshops & practice exams
- Virtual visits with Northeastern University, UMass Amherst, & Tufts University to foster connections with STEM graduate program faculty, admission staff, and Ph.D. students
- Weekly project update group check-ins
- Mindfulness exercises for productivity balance
- McNair Scholar alumni Q&A
- 1:1 graduate school prep & project sessions
- Project communication & poster creation workshop
- Current events conversations
- Elevator pitch practice
- Etiquette dining tutorial
- Game, paint, & movie night community building activities

Many thanks to the faculty, post-doctoral fellow, and graduate student mentors who have assisted in the progress of the McNair Scholars’ projects!

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