

Establishing and Fostering Collaborative Relationships to Enhance Diversity Initiatives

(...and a few things about Vanderbilt)

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Enhancing Diversity in Graduate Education (EDGE) Program

- US citizens and permanent residents only
- Ph.D. Programs only (No master's or professional degrees)
- Underrepresented minority students
- First-generation and low-income students
- Women in STEM fields

Disclaimers and Declarations

- **This talk incorporates aspects of MANY (ongoing) conversations with colleagues and collaborators.**
- **This talk shares no secrets.**
- **"You become what you practice."**
- **I'm frank, but hopefully not (too) offensive.**

At The End of This Talk...

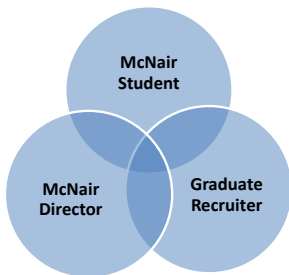
You should know

- What graduate and summer research programs expect from a serious partner (from ourselves and you)
- How to enhance the quality of your collaborations

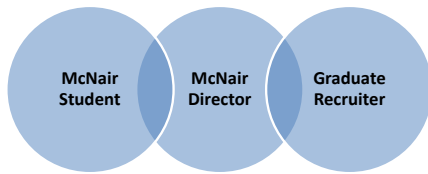
The Stakeholders

- McNair Scholars
- McNair Directors (Staff)
- Graduate Education Representatives (Recruiters)

The Ultimate Interrelationship

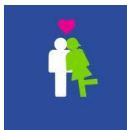


In the Beginning...



Finding The Right Institutions, Programs and Contact Persons Is Like **Online Dating**

Both you and we are seeking the best **FIT and MATCH.**



Selecting Your Partners/Collaborators

Complete Your Profile

Critical Factors to Consider

- Institutional McNair Program Grant
- McNair Scholars
- McNair Staff

McNair Grant Evaluation

(What do I bring to the table?)

- What are the objectives of my McNair Grant?
 - Funding (How much is available this year?)
 - Allocations (How should these funds be spent?)
 - *Student costs
 - *Program costs
 - *Staff costs
 - Outcomes (How do I demonstrate my accomplishments?)

Student Evaluation

(What do I bring to the table?)

- Who are my McNair students?
 - Population (What are their majors?)
 - Coursework (What courses did they take?)
 - Success in courses (Did they do well?)
 - Rigor (How comprehensive was the curriculum?)
 - Research experience (quality and quantity)
 - Aspirations (What are their graduate education plans?)
 - Communication (How well do they articulate plans?)

“Self” Evaluation

(What do I bring to the table?)

- What is the reach of my office?
 - Students (How efficiently and effectively is the communication?)
 - Personal: You and staff (How well connected are you?)
 - Professional (Horizontal and Vertical)
 - *Intra- and Inter-institutional
 - *Interactions (How well connected are they?)

v

Complete The Profile of Your Match

Investigate the Connection

(How do they operate?)

- Where is the institution and what is its overall reputation?
- What are the graduate and summer research programs at the institutions?
- What is his/her title, responsibilities, and purview at the institution?
- How does he/she meet his her goals/objectives?
- What is the commitment (structural and financial) of the administration to research opportunities?
- What are support services available to graduate students?

Fostering Your Relationships

Critical Components of Relationships

- Communication
- Communication
- Communication
- Execution

Keys to Successful Collaborations

(Making it work)

- Bilateral communication: If there's someone or something (on your campus or elsewhere) about which we should know, tell us!
- Bilateral communication: If you want something, ask for it!
- Bilateral communication: If we both want it and doesn't seem to be possible, let's put our heads together and figure out how to make it happen!

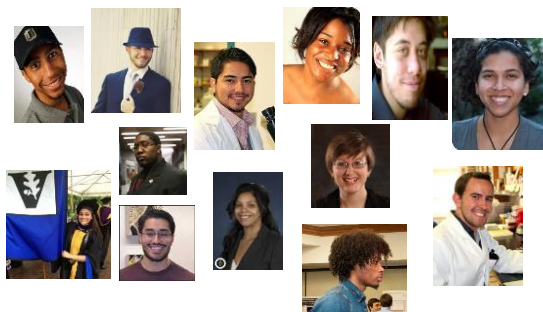
Vanderbilt Partner Universities

- Central Michigan University (Lynn Curry)
- Cornell University (Tremayne Waller)
- Florida International University (George Simms)
- John Jay College of Criminal Justice (Ernest Lee)
- Morehouse College (Brock Mayers)*
- Murray State University (John Mateja)*
- Rider University (Angelica Benitez)*
- Sam Houston State University (Lydia Fox)
- University of Central Florida (Michael Aldarondo-Jeffries)*
- University of Mississippi (Demetria Hereford)
- University of North Texas (Diana Adams-Elrod)*
- University of Texas, Austin (Darren Kelly)*
- Xavier University of Louisiana (Tracie Thomas)

*multi-year, multi-level productivity

The fruits of the labor...

McNair Scholars



Products of Collaborations



Dr. Jerald Dumas, ChBE '11

After completing post-doctoral research studies at Georgia Tech and Emory University, Dr. Dumas has accepted a faculty appointment at Morehouse College

A little about graduate education at Vanderbilt...

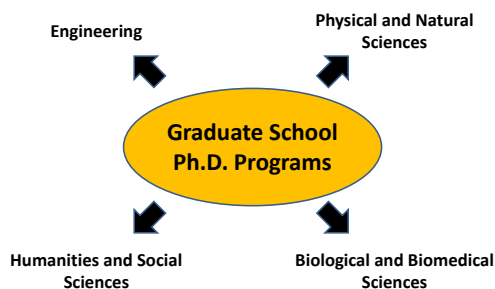
Fourteen "Top-25" Universities*

- Harvard University
- Yale University
- Stanford University
- Massachusetts Institute of Technology
- University of Pennsylvania
- Columbia University
- Duke University
- Washington University
- Johns Hopkins University
- Cornell University
- Vanderbilt University
- University of California, Los Angeles
- University of Southern California
- Northwestern University

*compiled by Dean Dennis Hall

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Physical and Natural Sciences

- Chemistry
- Mathematics
- Physics

Engineering

- Biomedical engineering
- Chemical and biomolecular engineering
- Civil engineering
- Computer science
- Electrical engineering
- Environmental engineering
- Interdisciplinary materials science
- Mechanical engineering

Biological and Biomedical Sciences

- Biochemistry
- Biological sciences
- Biomedical informatics
- Biostatistics
- Cancer biology
- Cell and developmental biology
- Cellular and molecular pathology
- Chemical and physical biology
- Epidemiology
- Hearing and speech sciences
- Human genetics
- Microbiology and immunology
- Molecular physiology and biophysics
- Neuroscience
- Nursing Science
- Pharmacology

Humanities and Social Sciences

- Anthropology
- Community research and action
- Economics
- English
- French
- German
- History
- Law and economics
- Leadership and policy studies
- Learning teaching and diversity
- Philosophy
- Political science
- Psychology
- Psychology and human development
- Religion
- Sociology
- Spanish
- Spanish-Portuguese
- Special Education

The Vanderbilt University Graduate School Application

- Opens in early September
- FREE (no cost) for online application
- Students can apply to up to two graduate programs (Check department/program philosophy on this practice)
- Unofficial transcript for application. Official transcript required for enrollment.
- Deadlines are December 1 through Jan 15 (check with program)

Funding for Vanderbilt University Graduate School Ph.D. Students

- Guaranteed for five years
- Full funding (Tuition, fees, stipend, health insurance)
- Provided annually for nine to twelve months
- Top recruits could win a Topping-up award worth ADDITIONAL \$50,000
- EDGE recruits for Provost's Graduate Fellowship
- Graduate School funds 20 PGF's per year

Final Thoughts

**My sincerest thanks to my
friend and colleague,
Michael Aldarondo-Jeffries!**

QUESTIONS???
