

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- **Message from the Director—Dr. Lydia Fox**
- **Cohort VIII presents their research at annual SHSU McNair Research Conference**
- **Meet Cohort X**
- **Reade's Corner—Questions to ask at a grad interview**
- **Meet the New Graduate Mentor—Reade**
- **Where are they now?**
- **Cohort X's recent achievements**

Message from the Director

We just began another productive in the McNair Scholars Program at Sam Houston State University. Our scholars (Cohort VIII) have been busy completing their research projects and presenting at research conferences. We are extremely proud of their numerous accomplishments.

In October, we selected a new cohort of scholars, Cohort IX, and they too have been busy with seminars and workshops this fall. They are currently forging

relationships with their faculty mentors and developing topics for their McNair research projects. It is so exciting to see new faces and to establish relationships with them. Personally, it is especially rewarding to be a part of this magnificent program and to share with our scholars as they begin their journey to graduate education. I look forward to being a part of their successful lives.

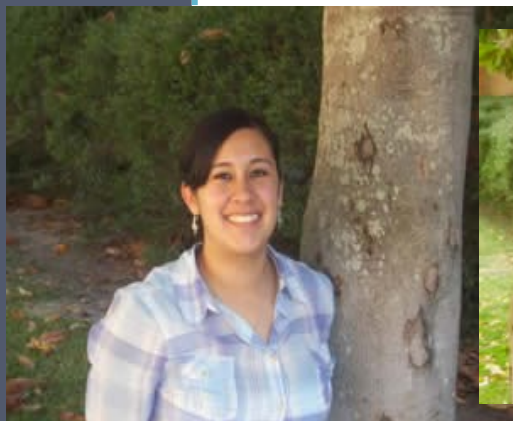
~Dr. Lydia Fox

Congratulations Cohort X!

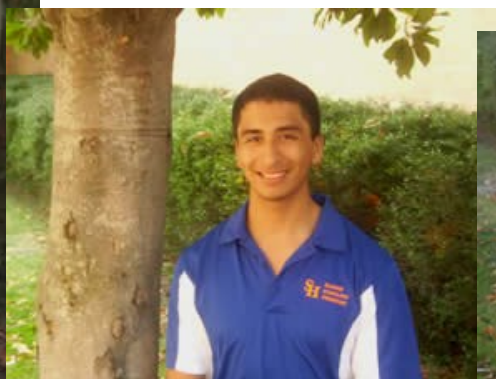


Nine scholars from Cohort VIII successfully presented and completed their McNair Research at our Fall 2011 Conference

Meet Cohort X



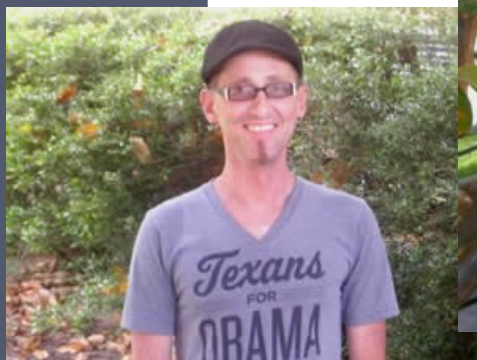
Laura Chavez
Psychology / Spanish
Research Interest:
Thought suppression
Mentor: Dr. Gordon Lamb



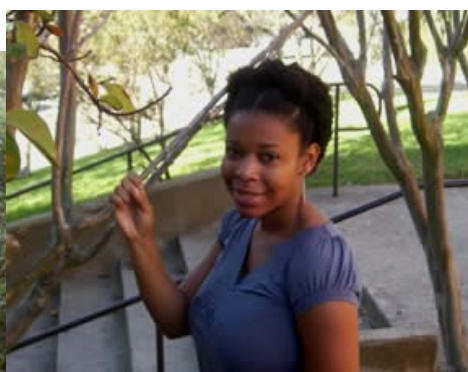
Christopher Cruz
CJ / Middle Eastern Studies
Research Interest: Foreign language
education in American Schools
Mentor: Dr. Andrist



Virginia Curran
Psychology / Philosophy
Research Interest: Aesthetics
Mentor: Dr. Stuart West Gurley



Jimmy Dunham
Psychology / Philosophy
Research Interests: Adolescent
addiction, survivor guilt, jury
selection, LGBT issues
Mentor: Dr. Craig Henderson



Monique Edwards
Psychology
Research Interest: Reactions to the
offers of social support
Mentor: Dr. Rowland Miller



Dustin Hicks
Accounting
Research Interest: Internal control &
height in Corporate America
Mentor: Dr. Bill Brewer



Tony Itzep
CJ / Legal Studies
Research Interest: History of
the police department
Mentor: Dr. Roth



Aurelia Mapps
Biology / Chemistry
Research Interest: Developmental
Biology
Mentor: Dr. Patrick J. Lewis



Paige Martinez
Psychology / Criminal Justice
Research Interest: Human
Trafficking



Ugo Onochie
CJ / Information Assurance &
Middle Eastern Studies
Research Interests: Criminal investi-
gation & Intelligence analysis
Mentor: Dr. Cihan Varol



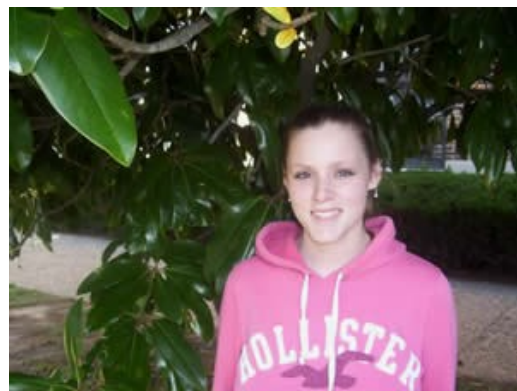
Macie Pena
Nursing
Research Interest: Younger patients'
perception on quality of life while
faced with a terminal illness
Mentor: Dr. Mary Vincent & Dr.
Buccafurni-Huber



Brigitte Pernia
Psychology / Spanish
Research Interest: Psychopathology
and paraphilia
Mentor: Dr. Jorge Varela



Amber Price
Psychology / Criminal Justice
Research Interest: Athlete and
coach relationships and its effect
on in game performance
Mentor: Dr. Bill Hyman



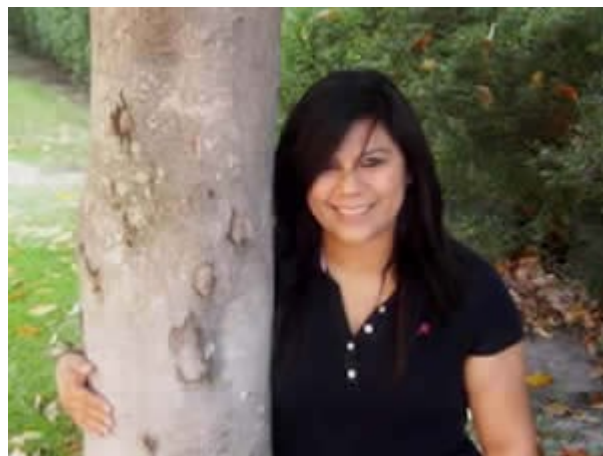
Elizabeth Rahman
Biology / Chemistry
Research Interest: Forensic biology
and disaster victim identification
through the preservation of
DNA samples
Mentor: Dr. Hughes-Stamm



Clarissa Sirmons
Mathematics
Research Interest: Knot theory
Mentor: Dr. Brandi Doleshal



Travis Tate
Biology / Statistics
Research Interest: Ecology of
grasshopper mice & the co-
evolution of bark scorpions
Mentor: Dr. Matthew Rowe



Claudia Zuniga
CJ / Psychology
Research Interest: Women in
drug trafficking business
Mentor: Dr. Howard Henderson

Reade's Corner:

Here is a list of possible questions to ask during a graduate school interview.

They are interviewing you, but remember you are interviewing them to find the best program for you.

1. Where are recent graduates of your program employed?
2. Do most students publish an article before graduation?
3. How long does it take most students to complete the program?
4. What characteristics are specific to this program and distinguish it from other universities.
5. Are assistantships available?
6. What criteria is used for receiving assistantships?
7. Are there teaching opportunities, such as teaching assistantships or adjunct positions?
8. What are some examples of past internship placements?
9. Does the department prefer students right out of undergraduate programs or are applicants with work experience preferred?
10. If applicants with work experience are preferred, what type of experience are you looking for?
11. How are mentoring and advising relationships established?
12. On which campus will most of my classes be taught?
13. How do students qualify for in-state tuition?
14. How do students from this program perform on licensing exams?
15. What is the faculty to student ratio?
16. Are minors available or required?
17. Are there opportunities to present at conferences?
18. How diverse is the student body?
19. Are there support services for minorities and women?
20. Are students admitted as a cohort?
21. May I speak with students who are currently enrolled in your program?
22. What is the thesis or dissertation process like in your program?



Meet the New Graduate Mentor

Reade Dowda grew up on Keystone Lake near Tulsa, Oklahoma and finished his undergraduate work at Oklahoma State University, attaining his B.A. in American Studies. He then moved to Thailand where he taught English and science for 2 years. Reade earned an M.S. in counseling from OSU and completed his internship at the OSU-Tulsa University Counseling

Clinic. He is currently enrolled in SHSU's Counselor Education Doctoral Program and teaches an intro counseling class. Reade's ultimate career goal is to be a professor at a university.

When he is not working or in class, Reade enjoys traveling, cooking and eating new foods, and spending time with family and friends.



Recent Achievements

Ryan Williamson

Obtained his PhD in neuroscience in December 2012.

Cather Fern

Has been accepted into the University of Central Florida's sociology master's program.

Travis Franks

Will be enrolling in an English PhD program in Fall of 2013.

Julius Michael

Obtained a master's degree from Florida Atlantic University in December 2012.

Amber Massey

Has been accepted into the University of Central Florida's clinical psychology master's program.

Cristhian Cadena

Will be attending a summer research program at the University of Pennsylvania

Clarissa Sirmons

Has been accepted into SHSU's mathematics master's program.

Aurelia Mapps

Has been offered a summer research program at Johns Hopkins University

