University of Washington
EIP PRESIDENTIAL SCHOLARSHIP

APPLICATION AND AWARD SCHEDULE

Application Deadline	Friday, June 30, 2008
Notification of Awards	September, 2008
Beginning Date for Tenure of Awards	Wednesday, September 30, 2008

GENERAL INFORMATION

DESCRIPTION OF THE AWARD

The Presidential Scholarship is intended to support students who have clearly demonstrated scholastic achievement, an interest in research, and graduate degree goals. The award will be $5,000 for the 2008-2009 academic year. Upon receipt of the award, students will be expected to submit a formal research proposal, conduct three consecutive quarters of research, meet regularly with the EIP staff, present their year's work at both the Undergraduate Research Symposium and the joint Early Identification/McNair Program Annual Spring Research Conference, and comply with the other requirements of Presidential Scholars. Awards are contingent upon the continued availability of funds.

APPLICANT ELIGIBILITY:

An applicant should be either an Early Identification Program or Ronald E. McNair Program student who:

1. Is interested in conducting a research project with the supervision of a faculty member for the three consecutive quarters of the 2008-2009 academic year;
2. Plans to attend graduate school; and
3. Has a minimum of 125 credits.

We give priority to students with a minimum GPA of 3.0, and who regularly use the services of our programs.

APPLICATION PROCESS

Students who wish to apply for this award are required to:

1. Discuss their interest in the scholarship with an EIP or McNair staff member (in person);
2. Construct a research project to be conducted over a three-quarter time period;
3. Contact a faculty member to supervise their research; and
4. Submit by **June 30, 2008**:
    a. A completed application form (application form included in this packet);
    b. A preliminary proposal detailing the nature of the research problem to be studied, how this project prepares you for your present or future course of study, and your personal goals;
    c. Two letters of recommendation (one must come from a faculty member who will serve as your project advisor; the other may be a professor, lecturer, instructor, teaching assistant, academic counselor, undergraduate advisor, or employer);
    d. An official University of Washington transcript; and
    e. A resume.

PRESIDENTIAL SCHOLARSHIP REQUIREMENTS AND RESTRICTIONS

REQUIREMENTS

1. All scholarships involve three consecutive quarters of work by a student on a specific research project.
2. All projects require a project advisor with knowledge and qualifications in a discipline appropriate to the student's project that will work closely with the student. EIP/McNair suggests a minimum of two student-advisor meetings per month and requires that these meetings be conducted in person.
3. The applicant may list only one person as the official project advisor, and the advisor must have a faculty appointment at the University of Washington.
4. Recipients of the scholarship must submit a final research proposal, including the project's prediction(s), specific aims, methodology, and timeline signed by the student and the faculty advisor, to EIP/McNair in early Fall Quarter.
5. All projects are expected to result in a substantial research paper that must be submitted to the student's faculty advisor and EIP/McNair for evaluation.
6. All scholarship recipients are expected to present their research findings in a formal oral or poster presentation at the annual UW Undergraduate Research Symposium.
7. All scholarship recipients are expected to orally present their research findings and experiences at the EIP/McNair Annual Spring Research Conference (to be held in May 2009).
8. All scholarship recipients are expected to attend the EIP/McNair scholars' seminars.
9. The project's faculty advisor must submit an assessment of the student's work at the end of the scholarship period.
10. All scholarship recipients must enroll in an independent study course listed by the faculty sponsor's department.
11. Failure to abide by or perform any of these requirements will result in termination of the scholar's tuition and stipend award.

RESTRICTIONS

1. Parents, guardians, other immediate relatives of applicants, and EIP/McNair staff members may not write reference letters or serve as the applicant's advisor on the Presidential Scholarship.
2. No advisor may work with more than one EIP/McNair Presidential Scholar.
3. Students may only submit one application.
4. Joint projects by two or more students may not be submitted.

HOW APPLICATIONS ARE EVALUATED

A committee composed of EIP/McNair staff and University of Washington faculty members will evaluate each application submitted for consideration. These persons are asked for their judgments about the quality and significance of the proposed project. The scholarship committee represents a diversity of disciplinary and cultural backgrounds.

Evaluators will consider the following issues:

1. The topic's potential to significantly enhance the intellectual development of the applicant.
2. A clearly defined scope for the project and the feasibility of attaining the project's objectives within the scholarship period.
3. The logic and rigor of the project.
4. The compatibility of the applicant's demonstrated ability and academic background with the project's demands.
5. The topic's originality.
6. The strength of the faculty and reference letters.
7. The applicant's academic record.
8. The applicant's level of involvement with EIP or McNair.

COMPREHENSIVE DESCRIPTION OF APPLICATION

PRELIMINARY PROPOSAL

The preliminary proposal should be written without jargon in plain language and should be no more than eight single-spaced typewritten pages with a ninth page devoted to a bibliography or reference section. The preliminary proposal should be organized under the following headings:

1. Statement of Qualifications

   Applicants should describe their:

   a. Educational background;
   b. Specific project-related experience;
   c. Major intellectual interests; and
   d. How these previous items have prepared the student for conducting the specific research being proposed.

   This statement should be no longer than one page.

2. Background and Definition of the Project

   Applicants should state the general research topic planned for the scholarship period, explaining:

   a. The theoretical or practical impetus for the research (i.e., what led to this proposed inquiry);
   b. The basic ideas or questions to be explored;
   c. The planned approach and rationale; and
   d. The overall significance of the work to theory or practice (i.e., why this research is important).

   If an applicant is awarded a Presidential Scholarship, a formal research proposal, including the project's hypothesis, specific aims, methodology, and timeline signed by the student and the project's faculty advisor, must be submitted to EIP/McNair in early Fall Quarter.

3. Bibliography

   Applicants should include a one-page, carefully selected bibliography of the journal articles or books of greatest relevance for the project and a short list of other resources or collections to be used.

REFERENCE LETTERS

One letter of reference should be from the faculty project advisor. Students are encouraged to immediately find and secure a commitment from an advisor to work closely with them on a project. Applicants should provide the project advisor with the Reference Letter Form (enclosed) and a copy of this packet. Letters of recommendation should be sent either to the student—in a sealed envelope signed across the seal—for inclusion in the student's application package, or directly to the EIP/McNair office.

The second letter should be from a professor, lecturer, instructor, teaching assistant, academic counselor, undergraduate advisor, or employer. This person should know the student well enough to speak about her/his scholarship, personality, integrity, and professional promise.

APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS

All applications should be word processed with the pages numbered.

An application sheet is enclosed in this packet.

CHECKLIST OF APPLICATION MATERIALS

[ ] The original copy of the completed application sheet;

[ ] The project description, which includes:
   a. A statement of qualifications
   b. A comprehensive description of the proposed research project, not to exceed 8 pages
   c. A bibliography or reference section for the project;

[ ] A reference letter from the project advisor in a sealed envelope, signed across the seal;

[ ] A second letter of reference in a sealed envelope, signed across the seal;

[ ] A resume; and

[ ] An official University of Washington transcript.

SEND COMPLETED APPLICATIONS IN A PACKAGE TO

EIP/McNair Program
Presidential Scholars Review Committee
University of Washington
Box 355845
Seattle, WA 98195-5845

For questions about the application process, please contact Dr. Gabriel Gallardo at 206-221-2834 or through e-mail at eip@u.washington.edu.

Applications must be postmarked no later than **June 30, 2008**. There will be no extensions. Students selected to receive an award will be notified in early September, 2008.

PREVIOUS PRESIDENTIAL SCHOLARS

In the past, students have proposed research projects over a wide range of topics. Some examples of successful applicants' projects are given below. *EIP/McNair encourages students from all disciplines to submit research proposals for this award*.

"Gender Roles in Filipino Culture and Their Manifestations in Folk Dance." An examination of how gender is traditionally depicted in dance. The student examined the role and significance of this and other depictions of gender play in the customs, traditions, and beliefs of Filipino dance.

"From Enclaves to Mexican American Towns." An investigation of the patterns of population growth and community development within four Latino communities in the lower Yakima Valley of Eastern Washington. The student looked at particular influences, motivations and experiences that led individuals to settle in this area and develop their communities in spite of social, economic, and political pressures.

"A Comparison of the Social and Legal Aspects of Indian Identity." A comparison of federally acknowledged Indian Tribes and those not federally recognized in the Puget Sound Region of Washington State. The student identified how Indians, treaties, and tribes are defined in a social and legal context.

"A Molecular Phylogeny of New World Jays." An examination of the cooperative breeding habits and other social organizations of birds. The student examined how Phylogeny, a technique based on the control region of mitochondrial DNA, can help in the investigation of the behavioral characteristics of birds.

"The Study of Experimental Traumatic Brain Injury in Wild-Type and Genetically-Altered Mice." Traumatic brain injury (TBI) affects close to 500,000 people in the United States annually. Using the fluid percussion injury device recently adapted to the mouse, we characterize neurological, histopathological, and behavioral consequences of experimental TBI. In light of these data, examination of the potential directions for further study, with an emphasis on the molecular pathobiology of memory deficits, is made.

"The Music of True Urban Sociologists: A Two-Part Analysis of Popular Rap Music in Attempt to Understand its Major Themes." The rap music industry has been a very lucrative, popular and controversial business in the 1990s. Through a close content analysis of popular rap songs in the first five years of 1990, taken from Billboard Magazine's year in review, the student examined the overall themes contained within these songs. Three focus groups were then conducted with high school students, initiating dialogue about their music in an attempt to create a better understanding of what meanings and feelings these listeners derive from the lyrics.

"Design and Analysis of a Regulatory Cassette for Muscle Gene Therapies." The mechanisms that control the development of a mammal from a fertilized egg to a complete organism has been an active area of research. The project focuses on one aspect of this research, the processes that create differentiated muscle cells. The student investigated the enhancer region of the muscle creatine kinase gene and explored its tissue specificity. It is hoped that this research will have applications in the treatment of muscle diseases.

"Infant Pigtailed Macaque Monkeys' Recognition of Invariant Representation of Faces." The purpose of this study was to examine infant monkeys' face recognition abilities. A visual paired comparison task was used to assess infant pigtailed macaque monkeys' ability to recognize faces across invariant transformations of line-drawing representation and rotation. Infant monkeys' recognition for faces of their own species, another monkey species, and humans was also examined.

"Isolation of Novel Isoforms of Synaptic Vesicle Protein 2." The focus of this project is to identify specific isoforms of the Synaptic Vesicle Protein 2 (SV2). SV2 is a synaptic vesicle protein which is related to the transportation of proteins found throughout the body. To date, SV2 is known to be expressed only in neurons and endocrine cells. However, an exhaustive search for other SV2 isoforms has not been done. Identifying all of the isoforms of SV2 and determining where they are localized is therefore important to developing and testing hypotheses of its function.

2008-2009 EIP/McNAIR PRESIDENTIAL SCHOLARSHIP
APPLICATION SHEET

1. **Name** _____
   (last) (first) (middle initial)

2. **Email Address** _____

3. **Address** _____

   _____
   (city) (state) (zip code)

4. **Telephone Number** _____
   (one where you can be reached through September, 2008)

5. **Number of Credits** _____
   (as of Spring Quarter 2008)

6. **GPA** _____
   (as of Spring Quarter 2008)

7. **Major** _____

8. **Intended Year of Application to Graduate School** _____

9. **Intended Program Interest for Graduate School** _____

10. **Descriptive Title of Project**

_____

_____

_____

_____

11. **Faculty Sponsor**

    Name _____

    Department _____

    Phone Number _____ **E-Mail** _____

University of Washington
Office of Minority Affairs

FACULTY RECOMMENDATION FORM
EARLY IDENTIFICATION PROGRAM/McNAIR PROGRAM
PRESIDENTIAL SCHOLARSHIP

EIP/McNair Program
Presidential Scholars Review Committee
Box 355845
Seattle, WA 98195-5845
206.543.6460

This section to be completed by the applicant. Please type.

Last name _____ First name _____ Middle Initial _____

Date _____ Signature _____

Faculty Advisor Name _____

Title _____

Department _____

Work Address _____

Telephone Number _____

Email Address _____

EIP/McNair expects the student to enroll in an independent study course (preferably one listed in your department) each quarter and to submit to their advisor a written research paper at the project's conclusion. EIP/McNair requires that the students present their research at the joint EIP and McNair Annual Spring Research Conference, and that the advisor submit to EIP/McNair an evaluation of the student's performance at the end of the scholarship period.

If this student is selected as a 2008-2009 Presidential Scholar, I agree to serve as a faculty advisor of this student's work.

Signature of Faculty Advisor _____

Letter of Reference
Please write a letter on behalf of this student. We expect that you will have seen a written narrative or discussed in great detail the student's proposed project before writing this letter. In your letter, please:

1. Assess the value of the project and comment on the applicant's ability to carry out the project,
2. Comment on your willingness to meet with this student and your availability for mentoring her or him during the academic year; and
3. Comment on how long and how well you have known the applicant.

Please submit this form to the EIP/McNair Program no later than **Friday, June 30, 2008**.

University of Washington
Office of Minority Affairs

REFERENCE LETTER FORM
EARLY IDENTIFICATION PROGRAM/McNAIR PROGRAM
PRESIDENTIAL SCHOLARSHIP

EIP/McNair Program
Presidential Scholars Review Committee
Box 355845
Seattle, WA 98195-5845
206.543.6460

This section to be completed by the applicant. Please type.

Last name _____ First name _____ Middle Initial _____

Date _____ Signature _____

Project Title _____

Waiver: Your applicant evaluation forms must be accessible to you if you are selected as a Presidential Scholar. We request, but do not require, that you waive your right of access in order to facilitate a completely candid appraisal. If you choose to waive your right of access, please sign below.

Signature of Applicant _____

Reference Name _____

Address _____

Telephone Number _____

Signature _____

Letter of Reference
The person named above has applied for the Presidential Scholarship, which is intended to support a student who has demonstrated scholastic achievement, an interest in research, and graduate degree plans. On your letterhead please comment on the applicant's scholarship, personality, integrity, and professional promise. Please include an assessment of the student's strengths and weaknesses. Thank you.

Please submit this form and reference letter to the EIP/McNair Program no later than **Friday, June 30, 2008**.