Dear Prospective McNair Scholar,

The Ronald E. McNair Post Baccalaureate Achievement Program (McNair Scholars Program) offers UNC-CH students the opportunity to be competitive applicants for Ph.D. programs and to become the next great Scholars of our Nation. The McNair Scholars Program builds participants’ skills and knowledge of academia to ensure their matriculation into the doctoral program of their choice. The overall focus of the Program is to introduce the Scholars to the joy and rigor of research and scholarship. The program provides an encouraging and supportive culture that will assist Scholars throughout their journey.

The McNair Scholars Program is committed to creating a pipeline of underrepresented students to Ph.D. programs to better serve our nation’s colleges and universities. McNair Scholars MUST meet the following criteria:

- Be first-generation AND low-income
  - The Federal Guidelines define the term “first generation college student” as
    a) an individual both of whose parents did not complete a baccalaureate degree; or
    b) in the case of any individual who regularly resided with and received support from only one
       parent, an individual whose only such parent did not complete a baccalaureate degree.
  - Department of Education Low-Income Guidelines
- Be a member of a group traditionally underrepresented in graduate education (African-American, American Indian/Alaskan Native, Hispanic/Latino, or Pacific Islander)

In addition, McNair Scholars MUST also:

- Have a minimum of a 3.0 GPA
- Be enrolled as a fulltime student at UNC-Chapel Hill and a rising Junior
- Be a US Citizen or Permanent Resident

We believe the next great Scholars of the world are here at UNC Chapel Hill. We hope that you will take advantage of this great opportunity to contribute your talents to our society. Please contact us with any questions or concerns. We look forward to receiving your application!

Sincerely,

Jonathan Earnest, MA
Director of TRiO Programs
Instructions for Completing the Application Process

1. Download and complete the application. Please answer every question.

2. Type and submit your responses to the two essay questions fond on page 7 of the application.

3. The following supplemental items are also required to complete the application process. Be sure to include your name on all documents.

   Upload the following files at http://mcnair.web.unc.edu/apply/:
   - Resume
   - Writing sample of at least a two page course paper that was completed within the last year. Please provide the context of the paper and assignment.

   Fill out an online request for the following at http://mcnair.web.unc.edu/apply/:
   - Faculty Recommendation Form from a professor/teacher who has taught you at the college level
   - Character Recommendation Form from a professional who has worked closely with you (coach, supervisor, teacher, professor, etc.)

   Mail/ deliver/email the following to the office address below. (Block out social security numbers on any information submitted by email.):
   - Signed copy of parent’s 1040, 1040A, or 1040EZ Income Tax Return for the most recent year (or yours if you are an independent student)
   - Unofficial Transcript

Application materials may be mailed or delivered to the address below. In addition, you may scan and email them to mcnairprogram@unc.edu.

McNair Scholars Program, UNC Chapel Hill
385 Manning Drive, SASB South, Suite 2301
Campus Box 8010
Chapel Hill, NC  27599-8010

All materials must be submitted or postmarked no later than Friday, February 26, 2016 at 5:00 p.m.

Please Note: Applications will be reviewed on a rolling-admission basis. Therefore, the sooner you submit a completed application, the earlier you will hear from the Admissions Committee regarding your admissions status. Finalists will be contacted to interview.