



MESSAGE FROM PRESIDENT BOB KUSTRA

Congratulations to all of the 2007 McNair Scholars for your achievements over the past year. In particular, I want to acknowledge the hard work and accomplishments of the senior Scholars whose research is represented in the papers in this publication. This year's journal showcases numerous promising academic talents from Boise State and marks the culmination of an extensive research experience. I also want to recognize and thank all of the faculty mentors who have worked with our McNair Scholars. It is your patience, guidance and encouragement that facilitates the transformation of these students into scholars.

The Ronald E. McNair Post-Baccalaureate Achievement Program is designed to identify and cultivate aspiring scholars from underrepresented backgrounds, and facilitate their pursuit of doctoral degrees and academic careers in teaching and research. The research presented here signals the arrival of a new group of rising scholars who will carry their talents, enthusiasm and hard work ahead into graduate programs here and across the country. The research and other experiences you have had as undergraduates and McNair Scholars at Boise State University are your first critical steps on this path. As you graduate and move on, I hope that you will continue to aspire, achieve and pursue your dreams.

Again, congratulations and best wishes.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Bob Kustra".

Bob Kustra
President