This is our third issue of the Boise State McNair Scholars Research Journal and we believe it is our best effort so far. Though still a young program, having begun operation in early 2004, we have learned more each year about how to help enrich the scholarly lives of students on our campus as well as how to better produce a journal. Two years ago we published our first McNair Research Journal because we knew it was an important thing to do, to show the scholarly community the work that is representative of undergraduates who participate in the McNair Scholars Program.

We are very happy and proud to see the research displayed in this our third Boise State McNair Scholars Research Journal. It presents research conducted in the summer of 2006. It is a great accomplishment for these Scholars. They have worked long hours, sweated over IRBs, met consistently with McNair staff – in most cases for the better part of two full academic years, spent a considerable time in the offices of faculty mentors consulting over numerous research issues, and have had opportunities to present their work at various conferences around the country. All this culminates in deserved recognition of their work through this McNair Journal. We are especially proud to see how these students have grown as researchers and scholars.

We want to thank the fine group of Boise State faculty for their guidance, caring and expertise in their work with this group of Scholars. We have also been fortunate to have the support of various caring staff members who have worked in various capacities to improve the capabilities of our students. You have given of your time and provided tremendous support, for this we are quite thankful.

Gregory Martinez     David Hall
Director      Program Coordinator