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SAN JOSÉ STATE UNIVERSITY
McNAIR SCHOLARS
PROGRAM
RESEARCH JOURNAL

* San José State University and McNair

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Since the McNair Scholars Program's inception at SJSU in 1996, McNair has successfully recruited over 300 low-income and first-generation students and individuals who are underrepresented at the doctoral level. Of those who have completed the program, 98% have earned their bachelor's degree, far exceeding the 16% - 20% for this population nationwide. Eighty percent of our SJSU graduates have finished or are pursuing a graduate school degree, and 100% of our students who are in graduate school are continuously enrolled. SJSU has McNair alumni teaching or studying at universities across the United States, as well as in Germany, Columbia, Kenya, Australia, Turkey, and Morocco. We are extremely proud of our students and our program's successes.

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This journal can also be accessed at <http://scholarworks.sjsu.edu/mcnair/>.

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A MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR

The San José State University McNair Scholars Program is pleased to present the fifteenth SJSU McNair Scholars Research Journal. This journal represents the diverse and practical research experiences of the McNair Scholars during the 2018-2019 academic year.

I would like to congratulate the scholars for their hard work, dedication, and accomplishments during the spring course and in the summer research program. I also wish to express my sincere appreciation to the faculty mentors for their guidance, time, and commitment to the scholars, their research, and the program. A particular word of thanks goes out to the families and extended support systems that made these outstanding presentations possible.

This year, we are honoring Andrea Coto, Ling Le, and Angeles De Santos Quezada. Andrea Coto's work is called, "The Effect of Manufacturing Variables on the Mechanical Properties of Biopolymer-bound Soil Composites," and she will be attending Stanford's Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering Master's and PhD program in the fall of 2019. Ling Le's work is called, "Unpacking the Imposter Syndrome and Mental Health as a Person of Color First Generation College Student within Institutions of Higher Education," and she will be attending New York University in fall 2019. Angeles De Santos Quezada's work is called, "English Language Minority Students and Education Policy: A Focus on the Latinx Population," and she will be attending The University of Texas, Austin in the Department of Education.

On the cover of this year's journal, we have highlighted Ling Le and Angeles De Santos Quezada, who both reflect outstanding perseverance, determination, resilience, as well as love and dedication for their work. These students are honored because they are outstanding McNair Scholars and leaders at San José State University. We are so proud of the work these women are doing and will continue to do as PhD scholars.

A special thanks to Sr. Associate Vice President for Enrollment Management Division of Student Affairs, Dr. Sharon Willey, and to our former Associate Vice President of Student Faculty and Success, Stacy Gleixner for sponsoring the McNair Scholars Journal at San José State University.

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