

# **Undergraduate and Ronald E. McNair Research Conference**

**Thursday, May 31, 2007**

**8:00 am – 3:30 pm**

Registration and Refreshments at 8 am



**Smith Memorial  
Student Union**

Portland State University  
1825 SW Broadway

**Rooms 294, 298, 333**

**All undergraduates, graduate students, and faculty from Portland State University and campuses in the area are encouraged to attend.**

For the conference agenda and list of presentation abstracts, please visit [www.mcnair-program.pdx.edu](http://www.mcnair-program.pdx.edu)

**Conference Registration is free!**

The Ronald E. McNair Post-Baccalaureate Program is funded by a Four-year \$880,000 US Department of Education grant and PSU cost-share funds.

**Undergraduate and Ronald E. McNair Research Conference  
Portland State University**

**Conference Agenda**

*Thursday, May 31, 2007  
Smith Memorial Student Union, Rooms 294, 298, 333*

8:00 am – 8:45 am

**Registration and Refreshments**

**Opening Remarks, Dr. Shawn Smallman**

Vice Provost for Curriculum and Dean of Undergraduate Studies

**Program Overview**

SMSU 294

9:00 am – 10:00 am

**Exploring the Real and Perceived Roles of African-Americans: Past, Present and Future**

*Session I-A, SMSU 298*

*Moderator: Jenn Roark*

**Clare Washington, McNair Scholar**

“Shades of the Old West: Black Cowboys and Cowgirls Who Blazed the Way”

**Foday Darboe, McNair Scholar**

“Africans and African-Americans: Conflicts, Stereotypes, and Grudges”

**Chyerel R. Mayes, McNair Scholar**

“African American Grandparents Raising Their Grandchildren”

9:00 am – 10:00 am

**Exploitation of Children: Perceptions of Sex Abusers and the Objectification of the Child Body**

*Session I-B, SMSU 333*

*Moderators: Juliana Ee, PhD & Don Schweitzer, MSW*

**Harmony Eberhardt**

“Sally Mann and Representations of the Child Body”

**Gloria Jean Coleman, McNair Scholar**

“Communities Living Among Sex Offenders”

**Julie Yagoda, McNair Scholar**

“Prevention of Child Sexual Abuse: Identifying Social Norms and Misperceptions in Parents”

10:15 am – 11:15 am

**Media Madness: Bodies, Dating, and Marketing**

*Session 2-A, SMSU 298*

*Moderator: Tina Burdsall*

**Kelsey Kahle**

“Crawl Before You Walk the Runway: Baby Steps towards Addressing Eating Disorder”

**Dona C. Miller**

“Deconstructing the Dream: A Critical Analysis of Kahlúa’s 1999 Advertising Campaign”

**Jenny Mau**

“Cyber Affection”

10:15 am – 11:15 am

**The Natural Environment and the Human Response**

*Session 2-B, SMSU 333*

*Moderator: Chuck Fisher, MUP, AICP*

**Jacqueline Marcotte, McNair Scholar**

“Submerged Cultural Resources and the Community: Working Together toward Protection and Preservation”

**Mike Smith**

“Northwest Wind Power Resources in a Changing Climate”

**Wendy Ann Wright, McNair Scholar**

“Faunal Remains from Two Historic Period Refuse Features Dating from 1875 to 1914, Vancouver, Washington”

11:30 am – 12:15 pm

**Royalty, Witches, and Whores: Historical Perspectives on Women’s Power**

*Session 3-A, SMSU 298*

*Moderator: Renee Honn*

**Nick Walden Poublon**

“Arbella Stuart: Royal Birth, Noble Exile, and Claimant to the English Succession”

**Janette Crume-Centeno, McNair Scholar**

“A Contradiction in Terms: A Study of Gender and Sexual Identity of Early American Ladies”

11:30 am – 12:15 pm

**Magnetic Fields and Electrical Resistance: Carbon Nanotubes and Ball Lightning**

*Session 3-B, SMSU 333*

*Moderator: Daniel Tobin*

**Steven Youkey, Jeff Doughty, Dr. Eric Sanchez**

“The Production and Study of Laboratory Ball Lightning”

**Rebecca Schaller, Devon McClain, Dr. Jiao**

“Chemical Vapor Deposition Synthesis and Characterization of Carbon Nanotubes”

**Conference Luncheon from 12:15 am – 1:00 pm**  
SMSU 294

1:15 pm – 2:15 pm

**Religion, Revolution, and Righteousness**

*Session 4-A, SMSU 298*

*Moderator: Jeffer Daykin*

**Heather McCambly, McNair Scholar**

"The Creation Dome at San Marco: A Summary of the Role of the Creation Mosaics in Appropriating an early Christian Past"

**Martin Patail**

"Up from Under the Kyffhäuser: A Reassessment of Frederick Barbarossa's Motivations and Death on the Third Crusade"

**José Garcia, McNair Scholar**

"*Un soldado en cada hijo te dio*: The military as a vessel for nationalizing the masses in revolutionary Mexico"

1:15 pm – 2:15 pm

**Brave New World: Global Systems and Capitalism**

*Session 4-B, SMSU 333*

*Moderator: Stephanie Kirmer*

**Matthew Blackmore & Signe Spencer**

"World-Systems Analysis: What Next?"

**Adam Brewer**

"Lutheranism and the Spirit of Capitalism"

2:30 pm – 3:30 pm

**Peace, Policy, and Violence: The Line between Security and Freedom**

*Session 5-A, room SMSU 298*

*Moderator: David Chittenden*

**Kristie Atkins**

"International Law and Peace Building"

**Marchelle Foster, McNair Scholar**

"The Impact of Language Policy on Native American Language Rights: A Historical Perspective"

**Jessica Espinoza, McNair Scholar**

"*Las Desaparicidas*: A feminist perspective at how intersecting factors influence violence toward women in Mexico"

**Special thank you to:**

President Daniel O. Bernstine  
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**Conference Planning Committee and Volunteers:**

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Heather McCambly, McNair Scholar  
Marchelle Foster, McNair Scholar  
Gloria Jean Coleman, McNair Scholar  
Wendy Ann Wright, McNair Scholar  
Shannon White, McNair Scholar  
Rebecca Marrall, McNair Scholar  
Mahad Hassan, McNair Scholar  
Jacqueline Marcotte, McNair Scholar

**McNair Scholars Program Information**

*Office Location:* SMSU, M302

*Website:* [www.mcnair-program.pdx.edu](http://www.mcnair-program.pdx.edu)

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The Ronald E. McNair Scholars Program at Portland State University works with students who want to pursue PhDs. It introduces juniors and seniors who are first-generation and low-income or members of under-represented groups to academic research and to effective strategies for getting into and graduating from PhD programs.

The McNair Scholars Program has academic-year activities and a full-time summer research internship. Scholars take academic and skills-building seminars and workshops during the year, and each scholar works closely with a faculty mentor on original research in the summer. Scholars present their research findings at the McNair Summer Symposium and at other conferences, and are encouraged to publish their papers in the McNair Journal and other scholarly publications.

The Ronald E. McNair Post-baccalaureate Achievement Program was established in 1986 by the U.S. Department of Education and named in honor of Challenger Space Shuttle astronaut Dr. Ronald E. McNair.

The Ronald E. McNair Post-Baccalaureate Program is funded by a  
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Funding for this conference was provided by the Office of Academic Affairs.

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**Presentation Schedule and Abstracts**

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**Exploring the Real and Perceived Roles of African-Americans: Past, Present and Future**

*Session I-A, SMSU 298*

*Moderator: Jenn Roark*

**Clare Washington, McNair Scholar**

“Shades of the Old West: Black Cowboys and Cowgirls Who Blazed the Way”

Almost totally missing from the traditional history of the American West is the role of the Black cowboys and cowgirls, as well as other Black pioneers. They traveled through and settled during the nineteenth century in the vast territory west of the Mississippi River that extended from the Rio Grande along the Mexico border northward to the Canadian border. Why were the Black cowboys and cowgirls overlooked? There appears to have been a deliberate exclusion by the historians, writers, artists, and photographers, who may have thought that certain categories of people were unworthy of being recorded in the history books despite their participation and contribution. This paper re-examines the contributions of other cowboys, and emphasizes their continued contributions to the history of the American West.

**Foday Darboe, McNair Scholar**

“Africans and African-Americans: Conflicts, Stereotypes, and Grudges”

My research will focus on the relationship between Africans and African Americans in the United States. It will examine the stereotypes, conflicts and grudges and how they impact co-existence as well as how they adapt to each other. As history tells us, African Americans are considered primary descendants of enslaved Africans transported via the trans-Atlantic slave trade to the United States.

In contemporary African and African-American-relationship studies, there has been a lot said about these two groups in the United States. It is assumed that since both are descendant from the same roots, they would adapt and co-exist in harmony. However, doubts have been cast on this co-existence. My central objectives are to probe the issues between these two groups and whether the conflicts, stereotypes, and grudges are in fact true or false. What are the issues at stake? Are both sides vulnerable to the stereotypes? Are there any cultural differences, and how do they interact in general? Can both sides adopt mutual understanding? These are some of the questions that this research will address. Suggestion will be made accordingly.

**Chyerel R. Mayes, McNair Scholar**

“African American Grandparents Raising Their Grandchildren”

More than one-in-ten African American grandchildren is being raised by grandparents in parent-absent households. This paper will discuss the custodial shift and its impact on the lives of African American grandparents, particularly single grandmothers. The social-cultural changes and the coping mechanisms used to meet demands of raising their grandchildren, as well as assuming the responsibility as a caregiver and custodial parent. Prior research findings, individual interviews, benefits, and disadvantages of parenting grandchildren as an alternative of placing them in foster care will also be discussed in this paper.

9:00 am – 10:00 am

**Exploitation of Children: Perceptions of Sex Abusers and the Objectification of the Child Body**

*Session 1-B, SMSU 333*

*Moderators: Juliana Ee, PhD & Don Schweitzer, MSW*

**Harmony Eberhardt**

“Sally Mann and Representations of the Child Body”

This paper is an examination of the photographic works of Sally Mann. In the 1980’s, Mann took a series of photographs of her three children, which were published in her book *Immediate Family*. I seek to unpack the charged nature of photographing children, specifically when representations involve explicit nudity or ambiguous content. I examine how the viewer’s relationship to artistic representations of the child nude is distinct from the historically ubiquitous adult (most often female) nude. I also examine the scopophilic implications of photography as a medium and the charged subject positions of adult viewer and child subject.

**Gloria Jean Coleman, McNair Scholar**

“Communities Living Among Sex Offenders”

The purpose of the current study is to examine knowledge of sexual child abuse and stereotypes and attitudes towards sex offenders. Specifically, this research will examine whether participants have different perspectives on offenders’ guilt based on stereotype consistent and inconsistent vignettes, their knowledge of child abuse, their attitudes toward sex offenders, and their individual differences (e.g., based on age, gender, parenting status, etc.). Participants will include students from randomly selected Psychology classes at Portland State University. Participants will be asked to complete three questionnaires: the *Stereotypes of Sex Offenders Questionnaire* (Sanghara & Wilson, 2006); *Attitudes towards Sex Offenders Scale* (Hogue, 1993) and *Knowledge of Sexual Child Abuse Questionnaire* (Sanghara & Wilson, 2006), along with a demographic questionnaire. Data will be analyzed to examine group differences and correlations among measures. Results will inform our knowledge of attitudes towards and stereotypes of sex offenders.

**Julie Yagoda, McNair Scholar**

“Prevention of Child Sexual Abuse: Identifying Social Norms and Misperceptions in Parents”

Estimates suggest that child sexual abuse is a significant problem with over a million children affected, but only 100,000 cases reported to police or other authorities (Gallup Pole, 1995). Victims and their families experience a broad array of difficulties including short-term (depression, anxiety, self-destructive behaviors) and long-term impacts (e.g., sexual acting out, criminal behavior) (Goldstein, 1999; Kendall-Tackett, Williams, & Finkelhor, 1993; Widom, 1995). While there is a great deal of need for sexual abuse prevention efforts, at present, most programs are geared toward treatment of the victims and/or offenders. In part, prevention efforts have been limited by a lack of guiding theories.

The Social Norms Theory holds great promise as a framework for encouraging prevention approaches. The Social Norms Theory suggests that individuals often conform to a belief system (or “social norms”) that they feel are held by the majority of their peers; however, many people’s perception of societal beliefs and actions are often exaggerated and/or inaccurate. These misperceptions often lead to the perpetuation of destructive behaviors in others and in themselves. To date, researchers have not explored applying this powerful theory to the prevention of child sexual abuse. The first step in deciding if the Social Norms Theory will be useful is to determine if misperceptions are present in regard to child sexual

abuse. Once identified, misperceptions can form the foundation for prevention strategies to correct the erroneous beliefs that create vulnerabilities to child sex abuse.

10:15 am – 11:15 am

### **Media Madness: Bodies, Dating, and Marketing**

*Session 2-A, SMSU 298*

*Moderator: Tina Burdsall*

#### **Kelsey Kahle**

“Crawl Before You Walk the Runway: Baby Steps towards Addressing Eating Disorder”

With all the hype about being thin as a means of acceptance in our society, eating disorders are on the rise. Shows like VH1 and E exhibit specials on celebrities with eating disorders which only glorifies the problem. Since media will not slow its invasive portrayal of Hollywood’s thin celebrities, one must focus on the solution to this mental illness. Currently there exist some in-patient facilities for people suffering from eating disorders; however, many insurance companies do not support mental illness the way they would physical. To maintain its thin culture while supporting healthy teens, America must pass the parity law nationwide.

#### **Dona C. Miller**

“Deconstructing the Dream: A Critical Analysis of Kahlúa’s 1999 Advertising Campaign”

The literature suggests that the media have become the primary pedagogical force within our culture (Katz, 1999; Jhally 1990). It has become imperative, therefore, to understand the ideology communicated and reinforced through media messages. Utilizing a framework for media analysis, proposed by Art Silverblatt, Jane Ferry, and Barbara Finan (1999), this essay demonstrates how messages communicated through four print advertisements – appearing as part of Kahlúa’s 1999/2000 “Anything Goes” advertising campaign – reinforce cultural stereotypes based on race, sex, and gender, and support hegemonic ideologies such as: a world of immediate gratification, and a world satisfied with the status quo.

#### **Jenny Mau**

“Cyber Affection”

Matchmaking on an internet-facilitated arena is an exciting new realm in finding romance. There are many opportunities that allow people to first meet online, and then to build a relationship offline with each other, which may potentially lead to an exclusive relationship. Since online dating proudly features a broader and diversified user base and the endless possibilities to the technological capabilities provided, practically everything is made readily available and easily accessible to internet users. The use of online dating is one of the most profitable forms of paid subscription on the web in the United States.

10:15 am – 11:15 am

### **The Natural Environment and the Human Response**

*Session 2-B, SMSU 333*

*Moderator: Chuck Fisher, MUP, AICP*

#### **Jacqueline Marcotte, McNair Scholar**

“Submerged Cultural Resources and the Community: Working Together toward Protection and Preservation”

A re-survey of the Hudson’s Bay Company (HBC) waterfront, located on the lower Columbia River at Fort Vancouver National Historic Reserve, aids in the archaeological Site Condition Assessment by evaluating impacts on the site from natural and cultural factors. The waterfront has three *submerged* sites: the Benoit Observation, a historic site from the U.S. Army occupation; the Quartermaster East, a combination of HBC and U.S. Army era artifacts; and a Pre-Contact site that has yet to be investigated. The scope of the research includes: (1) setting up an underwater grid; (2) recording of historical and pre-contact artifacts and features; (3) spatial analysis of artifacts; and (4) determination of the Quartermaster East site location with Global Positioning System (GPS) technology.

Aside from assisting the National Park's Site Condition Assessment, this survey brings together local divers and archaeologists in a collaborative effort toward fostering awareness of our non-renewable historic resources, preserving and protecting submerged archaeological sites, and reducing the damage done by looters. Volunteer divers will be trained in methods of underwater archaeological survey, including grid setup, artifact identification, spatial analysis, and mapping. Terrestrial archaeologists will also map and illustrate the shoreline of the Hudson's Bay Company Waterfront.

**Mike Smith**

“Northwest Wind Power Resources in a Changing Climate”

Climate change scenarios from four general circulation models (GCM) were used to investigate potential impacts on wind power generation potential in the northwest region of the United States. While the analysis focused on wind data at specific airport locations in Idaho, Montana, Oregon, Washington, and Wyoming, the results are believed to be applicable to the Northwest in general. Statistically downscaled GCM output for the current climate was in good agreement with observations. Downscaled future predictions were consistent among the four downscaled models for all cities with expected future decreases in wind power potential as much as 60%.

**Wendy Ann Wright, McNair Scholar**

“Faunal Remains from Two Historic Period Refuse Features Dating from 1875 to 1914, Vancouver, Washington”

Primarily using faunal analysis to determine socioeconomic status has been neglected in favor of using other artifacts specific to historic sites, such as ceramics and bottles. Analysis of faunal remains from Historic sites can address questions of ethnicity, health, economic status, distribution systems, and social composition of past inhabitants. Within site variation of the distribution of meat cuts and taxa may be used to determine site formation, changes in the use of various areas, and refuse disposal practices. A recent archaeological excavation of a late 19th century Vancouver, Washington household has generated a large quantity of faunal remains that can be used to address some of these issues.

This analysis concentrates on two refuse pit features associated with separate residences. Over 500 skeletal elements representing a minimum of eight taxa were recovered. Analysis of two pit features was chosen as a representative sample of more than 60 similar features. Faunal remains, and their associated meat cuts, should indicate socioeconomic status and can then be tested against the known historical record. Identification of the animals used and various cuts of meat attributed to the individual skeletal elements provide direct evidence of socioeconomic status. Future work could also be conducted to study waste disposal practices, household composition, and the ethnicity of households.

11:30 am – 12:15 pm

**Royalty, Witches, and Whores: Historical Perspectives on Women's Power**

*Session 3-A, SMSU 298*

*Moderator: Renee Honn*

**Nick Walden Poublon**

“Arbella Stuart: Royal Birth, Noble Exile, and Claimant to the English Succession”

The Early Modern period of English history is rich in the power of women. For the past two years, I have been working on a History Honors thesis in which I have been studying the Lady Arbella Stuart, a cousin and close kin to all of the powerful female figures of the period. By looking at crucial letters written by Arbella Stuart in 1602 and 1603, previously unstudied by modern historians, my research has been able to offer key insights and controversial theories as to the true meaning of this misunderstood noble exile and claimant to the English throne.

**Janette Crume-Centeno, McNair Scholar**

“A Contradiction in Terms: A Study of Gender and Sexual Identity of Early American Ladies”

The identity of the early American woman was indistinguishable from those permitted to females throughout early Western history – wife, mother, daughter, or whore. The functions that she filled in Early America were manifestations or combinations of either labor, sexual, or subordinate (in the great scheme of things). There were few exceptions where a woman or girl could aspire to and accomplish an independent, thinking, dreaming, and successful personality. There were many more instances where a woman’s own family, community, and church condemned her for attempting a role outside of their narrow expectations of what a woman should be. Female innovation and imagination could be rewarded with either a death sentence; or her profits and property stripped and awarded to the State or given to a close male relative.

White females were considered a commodity whose value as wives and workers would change with the demands of the market. I will first explore the exploitation of the colonial prostitute, segue to indentured servitude, briefly visit the Salem witch hunts, and look at the results of women attempting to become an economic force in Colonial America. Finally, I will explore and compare sex crimes, cultural differences, and peaceful protests, and I will demonstrate how women effectively used the Anglo male delusion of dominance to their own advantage.

11:30 am – 12:15 pm

**Magnetic Fields and Electrical Resistance: Carbon Nanotubes and Ball Lightning**

*Session 3-B, SMSU 333*

*Moderator: Daniel Tobin*

**Steven Youkey, Jeff Doughty, Dr. Eric Sanchez**

“The Production and Study of Laboratory Ball Lightning”

Ball lightning is currently an unexplained naturally occurring phenomenon in the form of glowing usually-spherical balls hovering in air, or bouncing along the ground. One recent theory suggests that the balls are plasmas consisting of silicon particles vaporized by lightning strikes. In this experiment, we will test this theory by vaporizing small amounts of silicon wafer by an arc discharge method. The effects of wind currents and extraordinary magnetic fields will be studied, and the resulting plasma balls will be observed and analyzed, in comparison to accounts of naturally occurring ball lightning.

**Rebecca Schaller, Devon McClain, Dr. Jiao**

“Chemical Vapor Deposition Synthesis and Characterization of Carbon Nanotubes”

Carbon nanotubes (CNTs), with intriguing characteristics such as high tensile strength and low electrical resistance, have become an important area of research in recent years. They have the potential for use in a variety of applications including components in electrical circuits, structural tools, microscopy and field emission-based flat panel displays. Success in any one of these fields would make CNTs an important material in tomorrow’s technology. However, a consistent process of large scale production of CNTs has yet to be developed. We report here the process of synthesis of CNTs through chemical vapor deposition on lithographically patterned catalyst. Through electron microscopy we are able to analyze the impact of various catalyst patterns and growth times on the CNTs morphology.

**Conference Luncheon from 12:15 am – 1:00 pm**

SMSU 294

1:15 pm – 2:15 pm

**Religion, Revolution, and Righteousness**

*Session 4-A, SMSU 298*

*Moderator: Jeffer Daykin*

**Heather McCambly, McNair Scholar**

"The Creation Dome at San Marco: A Summary of the Role of the Creation Mosaics in Appropriating an early Christian Past"

This presentation will be a summary of research done concerning how the program of San Marco was used to enhance the mythogenesis created with the translation of the relics of St. Mark from Alexandria. This presentation is made through the analysis of the Creation Cupola's imitation of the past through the use of the "Cotton Genesis" miniatures as models, as well as the reasons behind deviations from the model. This analysis approaches the way in which this culture appropriated historical visual languages to illustrate their beliefs and apostolic right to ecclesiastical independence—a concern of interest in our current culture of ever-shifting visual messages and manipulation.

**Martin Patail**

"Up from Under the Kyffhäuser: A Reassessment of Frederick Barbarossa's Motivations and Death on the Third Crusade"

The failed expedition of Frederick Barbarossa to the Holy Land in 1189 and 1190 is a neglected event in the history of crusading. Many of the same assumptions about it have persisted since the nineteenth century when German historians, enamored by the legendary figure of Barbarossa, first formulated them. With their distortions in mind, this paper revisits the crusade and its textual sources with a view to reassessing Frederick's motivations and goals. These were less romantic than previously assumed. Further, this paper reconsiders the effect of Frederick's death on the crusade and the subsequent dissipation of the army.

**José Garcia, McNair Scholar**

"*Un soldado en cada hijo te dio*: The military as a vessel for nationalizing the masses in revolutionary Mexico"

During the late 20's and early 30's under the Secretary of Defense Mexico was able to successfully create a strong federal military that served the fatherland. Modern literature remains fixated on the reforms that professionalized Mexico's military and particularly the fact that the creation of a loyal federal military, disengaged from the political arena, helped ease Mexico out of its revolutionary period. It can not be argued that military reforms made Mexico's military a professional fighting force, but how than were the greater masses of society made to accept the military machine? There still existed the remains of many revolutionary forces in form of armed agrarians. These armed agrarians caused many problems for a government who was in the process of centralizing power. My paper focuses one of the many methods of indoctrinating the masses the government engaged upon, the utilization of the newly created national military as a vessel to make armed agrarians subservient to the *patria*.

1:15 pm – 2:15 pm

**Brave New World: Global Systems and Capitalism**

*Session 4-B, SMSU 333*

*Moderator: Stephanie Kirmer*

**Matthew Blackmore & Signe Spencer**

"World-Systems Analysis: What Next?"

What is the future of our world system? Will we shift paradigms into a global economy, or something much different? Using the ideas of Immanuel Wallerstein from his book *World Systems Analysis* as a basis, the concepts of where and when the idea of world systems emerged, how it has evolved, and where it is going will be unraveled. The contrast of the medieval university versus the modern university and the global transition into a corporate entity will be used as touchstones during this discussion of the future of our society.

**Adam Brewer**

“Lutheranism and the Spirit of Capitalism”

In *The Protestant Ethic*, Max Weber points out that because of Luther’s disdain for making a profit, he can not be claimed for the spirit of capitalism; Weber instead points to Calvinism. My paper examines Luther’s beliefs on profit and labor, and intends to show how they are similar to, and how they could be transformed, into the basic tenets of Calvinism. Through this analysis I intend to strengthen Weber’s theory by showing that Luther can be claimed for the development the spirit of capitalism.

2:30 pm – 3:30 pm

**Peace, Policy, and Violence: The Line between Security and Freedom**

*Session 5-A, SMSU 298*

*Moderator: David Chittenden*

**Kristie Atkins**

“International Law and Peace Building”

This paper will examine the role of international law in the process of peace building. I will argue that international law, in itself, does not create peace, but when coupled with relationship building and socio-economic agendas, it can be quite effective. The peacekeeping nature of international law and relationships will be explored through filters and international organizations such as the League of Nations, the Nuremberg Principles, the United Nations, the Council of Europe, the European Union and the World Trade Organization.

**Marchelle Foster, McNair Scholar**

“The Impact of Language Policy on Native American Language Rights: A Historical Perspective”

Native American language policy is inherently bound to the history of colonialism and United States Federal Indian policy. The purpose of this study is to look at the historical implications of colonialism in regards to Native American language policy and language rights.

Using a historical investigative framework enables me to focus my research on the history of language policy as mandated by the federal government towards Native Americans. I am interested in the intersection between past and current language policy and the hegemony of western culture and ideology, specifically how language policy impacts the language rights of Native Americans to preserve, revitalize, and maintain their Native languages.

**Jessica Espinoza, McNair Scholar**

“*Las Desaparecidas*: A feminist perspective at how intersecting factors influence violence toward women in Mexico”

This paper argues that the social structures of the state of Mexico, specifically the dominant culture of misogyny, is causing the perpetuation of femicide among low income, low class, indigenous women because of the relationship between the state and the insidious corruptive influence of drug trafficking. This research explores how economic, political, and social factors connect to create a unique situation which encourages the disappearances of this vulnerable group of women.