The Winthrop McNair Scholars Program prepares first generation, low-income, and underrepresented undergraduates to be successful in PhD programs through a variety of resources and supports including research experience, workshops, graduate admissions assistance, test preparation and travel to present research and explore graduate programs. The program began in fall 2009 with its first federal grant.

Winthrop’s program is funded through 2018 by a renewable TRiO grant from the U.S. Department of Education (PR/Award No.: P217A130111). $220,000 in federal funding is provided each year to help 30 eligible, outstanding students complete research and prepare for graduate study. In 2015-16, federal funds represent approximately 70% of program costs. Winthrop and the Winthrop Foundation will contribute the remaining 30% of the budget with over $95,000 in cash and in-kind matches.

Each year, the twelve-member Winthrop McNair Advisory Board selects new Scholars through a highly competitive application and interview process. All Winthrop McNair Scholars complete an intensive summer research internship in their first year. Several Winthrop Scholars have earned awards for their research and several Scholars’ work has been published or is in preparation for or under review for publication.

Winthrop’s program is successful because of the excellent work and persistence of our Scholars; expertise of our Mentors; dedication of our staff; support from our Dean; funding from the U.S. Department of Education, our institution, and foundation; and guidance from our Advisory Board.

2015-16 Winthrop McNair Advisory Board Members
- Ms. Ashley Causey - McNair Scholar & May 2016 Graduate, Special Education
- Dr. Adolphus Belk - Professor, Political Science
- Dr. Heather Evans-Anderson, Associate Professor, Biology
- Dr. Kareema Gray - Assistant Professor, Social Work
- Ms. Rose Gray - Director, TRiO Student Support Services (SSS) Program
- Dr. Wenonah Haire - DMD; Executive Director of the Catawba Cultural Preservation Project
- Dr. Willis Lewis - Associate Professor; Accounting, Finance & Economics
- Dr. Karen Stock - Associate Professor, Fine Arts
- Dr. Takita Sumter - Professor; Chemistry, Physics, & Geology
- Dr. Will Thacker - Professor; Computer Science & Quantitative Methods
- Dr. Brad Witzel - Professor, Curriculum & Instruction
- Dr. Cheryl Fortner-Wood (ex-Officio) - Director, McNair Scholars Program and Associate Professor, Psychology
- Dr. Gloria Jones (ex-Officio) - Dean, University College

For more information about Winthrop’s program, visit www.winthrop.edu/mcnair, http://digitalcommons.winthrop.edu/mcnair/, or email fortnerc@winthrop.edu.

About the Artwork
The artwork on the cover was created by our Executive Support Specialist, Mrs. Barb Yeager. It is a mosaic of a photograph of the Winthrop McNair Scholars who participated in the 2015 Winthrop McNair Summer Research Experience.