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# IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY

## GRADUATE COLLEGE

**Iowa State University McNair Program**

**January 2016**

See our new website for the most up to date program information!

<http://www.mcnair.iastate.edu/>

## FALL ACCOMPLISHMENTS

### Angel Raymundo

Angel Raymundo, a senior in psychology, was featured in the Fall 2015 issue of Link Magazine (College of LAS Alumni Magazine) for his participation and leadership in the Bringing Opportunities in Leadership and Diversity (BOLD) Learning Community.

### David Ortiz

This fall, David Ortiz, a senior in environmental science, was the lead individual from Sigma Lambda Beta International Fraternity Inc. who worked on Noche de Reinas and on bringing Jose Antonio Vargas to Campus. Also, David was the newly elected president of Sigma Lambda Beta of the Omicron Chapter at Iowa State University

### Chandler Wilkins

Chandler Wilkins, a junior in community and regional planning, pledged Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc.

## OPPORTUNITIES TO PURSUE A DREAM

**ANGEL RAYMUNDO** says his dream job is "in President Leath's office."

Raymundo, a senior in psychology, is working towards a job in student affairs and has taken advantage of every opportunity LAS has offered to pursue his dream. When Der Vang reached out to tell him about BOLD during his junior year, he was afraid he'd be too busy to add one more thing to his schedule.

However, BOLD turned out to be worth the extra time, and quickly became one of his favorite activities on campus.

"At first, BOLD was a bit intimidating," he said. "You have to get to know a bunch of new students at once, and that can be a big leap for some people. But BOLD ended up being my family away from home and something I looked forward to every week."

This year, Raymundo is one of five team leaders who help guide nearly 70 BOLD students. Each week, he helps edit student blogs, plans social events, and checks up on mentor's relationships with their mentees.

"I've had a few mentorship roles, both in BOLD and in other groups, but this is a new level of leadership," he said. "Working with such a diverse group of people has really helped prepare me for life after college."

After graduating next spring, he plans to attend graduate school to earn a degree in education administration.



**We look forward to seeing what our scholars accomplish this spring!**



## **Dr. Jordan Leaving McNair!**

It is with great sadness that we say goodbye to a very valued team member, Dr. Zayira Jordan. In the two and half years that she's been with us as a post-doc and assistant director, she has clearly made a positive impact on the program and on our students. Zayira has accepted a full-time position here at ISU with Information Technology (IT) as the university's first Website Accessibility Coordinator where she will collaborate with web designers of user accessibility systems working directly with faculty and staff across campus.

During her short time with us, Zayira has made a major impact on McNair. In her work with Ashley Garrin, McNair graduate assistant, our first year classes have been completely restructured to employ leading edge pedagogical methodology: the flipped classroom where our students work in teams to design their own in-class research study on topics related to social identity and social justice issues. Zayira also established a strong assessment plan to inform our program's effectiveness ensuring that our activities are impacting our students and their intentions to be successful graduate students. These are but two examples of all the great things Zayira has done for McNair that also include revamping our website, strengthening the faculty mentor component, establishing a plan for program scholarship, and writing a successful diversity and CIRTTL proposal. Even though Zayira will be moving to a new position, she will continue to collaborate with us on our assessment plan and the collection and analysis of program data.

We will miss Zayira and wish her all the best in her new position where we know that she will continue to do well and achieve major milestones. We feel lucky to have had the opportunity to work with her.

## **ISU McNair Alum Receives University Award**

Raquel Botello-Zamarron (2008 Cohort) is one of twelve women selected for the prestigious 2016 Women Impacting ISU Calendar, officially unveiled on Wednesday, January 13th at a ceremony in the Memorial Union. Raquel (pictured in the middle) was nominated by her major professor, Dr. Meifen Wei (right), and our own Thelma Harding (left) who has known Raquel and maintained contact with her since she applied to McNair in 2008. The Calendar is sponsored by the Carrie Chapman Catt Center for Women and Politics and was developed as a tribute to current students, faculty and staff who distinguished themselves through their accomplishments at ISU. Along with Raquel's photo, the calendar includes the following information taken from her nominations: *As a first generation college student, Raquel is passionate about mentoring other students from diverse backgrounds. She is the co-vice*



*president of the Latina/o Graduate Student Association, mentors first-year McNair Scholars, and engages in outreach workshops for Latino and other ethnic minority students interested in higher education. Raquel co-facilitated ISU's first therapy group aimed at serving students of color who have experienced distress associated with micro aggressions and prejudice. Her myriad of leadership roles have made a positive impact on the climate for underrepresented students at Iowa State.*

Raquel is in her fifth year as a PhD student in Counseling Psychology and is currently applying for the required year-long Counseling Internship. Congratulations Raquel!! We are very proud of you!

## McNair Alum To Do Spring Student Affairs Practicum

Morgan Bartlett, first year masters student in Student Affairs Higher Education and McNair alum from Bemidji State University, has joined the McNair team for spring semester to do a required semester long practicum. Morgan is enrolled in HG ED 591 Student Affairs Practicum, a requirement for all master's students to provide practical duties and functions common in student affairs work beyond their current graduate assistantship experience. In addition to experiences planned for Morgan, she will be coordinating program publicity to assist in recruiting the 2016 cohort, revising our interview and evaluation process, and attending weekly McNair classes to assist students as needed.



We are looking forward to working with Morgan and hope that she will have a great experience with us!

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