

Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi

The Island University

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Texas A&M-Corpus Christi McNair Scholars Present at Penn State McNair Summer Research Conference

CORPUS CHRISTI, Texas – Six McNair Scholars from Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi will participate in the 17th annual Ronald E. McNair Scholars Program at the Penn State Summer Research Conference Friday, July 17, through Sunday, July 19, in State College, Pa.

The scholars will give the following presentations.

- **Laura Villalobos**, a junior nursing major – “The Contribution of the Stress Hormone to the Pathogenicity of Neisseria Meningitides.”
- **Chenika Fowler**, a senior psychology major – “Relation Duration/Type Effects on Maintenance Expectations.”
- **Brenda Vela**, a junior sociology major – “Perceptions of Women in Male-Dominated Majors: Do Classroom Experiences Change the Perceptions of Womanhood?”
- **Oscar Villarreal**, a junior math and computer science major – “Synthesis, Characterization and Utilization of Branched Amino Acid Based Surfactants as Pseudostationary Phases for the Enantiomeric Separation of Chiral Compounds with Capillary Electrophoresis.”
- **Martha Ruiz**, a junior history major – “Magic in My Neighborhood: Curanderas and Folk Healing in the Late Twentieth Century Corpus Christi, Texas.”
- **Meagan Bryand**, a senior communications major – “Off the Wall: An Application of Communication Privacy Management on College Students’ Self-Disclosure toward Professors on Facebook.”

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The group will travel with Dr. Steven Seidel, McNair Scholars evaluation coordinator, and Priscilla Herrera, McNair Scholars program coordinator.

The McNair Scholars program is a federally-funded program that provides first-generation, low-income, minority college students with paid internships and mentoring to prepare for enrollment in graduate programs and to obtain a Ph.D.

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