



**MONTGOMERY COLLEGE
TRUSTEE INFORMATION PROGRAM**

GRANTS - FISCAL YEAR 2008

**OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE VICE-PRESIDENT FOR ACADEMIC AND
STUDENT SERVICES**

BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT AND GRANTS OFFICE

Nancy Nuell, Director

October 2008

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

FY2008 proved to be a year of expansion and growth for federal and state grant efforts at Montgomery College with 45 grant proposals submitted during the year and 30 of those grants awarded for a 67% success rate. Although overall federal discretionary grant funding awarded for FY 2008 remained at maintenance level of \$4.5 million; the grant cultivation work done this past year has already resulted in an exponential increase in awarded grant money for FY2009 with \$4,769,000 awarded in the *first quarter* of the new fiscal year. This considerable increase in funding is a reflection of the continuing support of our legislators in advocating for the College's receipt of federally directed funds for critical projects like the Germantown Campus Biosciences Park as well as substantial ongoing funding received through the efforts of Ms. Donna Kinerney and Ms. Emma Wilson, WDCE, by the State of Maryland for enhancing the skills of the workforce and local community through adult literacy education and refugee training programs in English literacy and civics education. Additionally, Montgomery College, under the leadership of Dr. Sanjay Rai, with the excellent grant writing skills of Assistant to the Deans, Ms. Miriam Carter, has established a pipeline of successful federal grant funding for support and expansion of the College's strategies for ensuring successful student outcomes for students in Engineering, Science, Technology, and Math – the STEM disciplines. In this way, Montgomery College is able to continue its aggressive response to the nation's crisis in math and science achievement by underrepresented student populations.

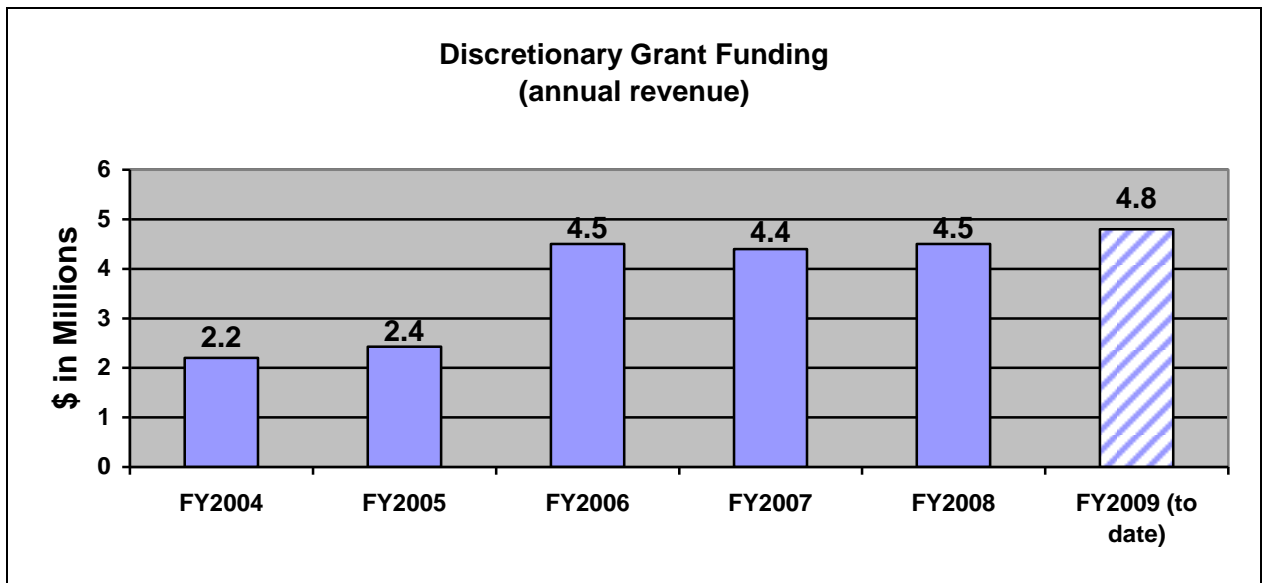
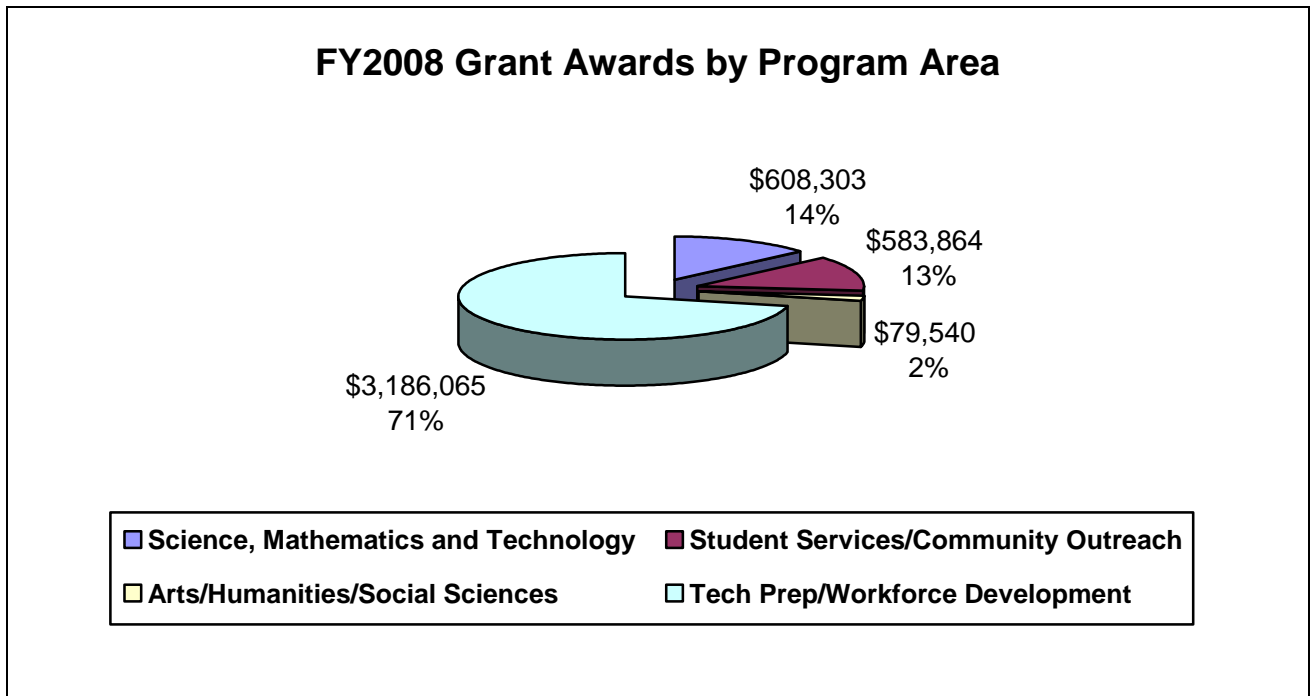
Grant funding in the Arts and Humanities, although still representing a very small percentage of College grants revenue has doubled since 2007 and the Grants office continues to work very closely with both college faculty and federal grant officers at the National Endowment for the Humanities and the National Endowment for the Arts to identify strategies for garnering increased funding to support our stellar arts and humanities programs.

All of Montgomery College's grant monies – regardless of award size – have a profound and lasting impact on our students, and therefore this report includes a sampling of student testimonials about the impact of grant funded projects. Students like those that are represented herein, enable the Office of Business Development and Grants in partnership with numerous grant project directors at the College who give so much of their time and attention to the successful writing and administration of grants to significantly and directly contribute to the College's mission of Changing Lives.

With an ambitious goal of doubling competitive grant revenue in the coming year to \$8 million annually and an increasingly tight federal and state funding environment, the College can only continue to realize its success in the competitive grants arena with strong support and legislative advocacy from the Board of Trustees and all members of the College community. This report is intended to assist in telling the story of grant successes at Montgomery College to strengthen that advocacy mission.

FY2008 Grants Highlights

The charts below depict the distribution of discretionary grant funding for the current fiscal year and the five-year grant funding revenue history for comparative purposes:



FY2008 Grants Highlights (continued)***Ocean Computer Gaming, United States National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Contractual Award (\$4,000 per semester continuing)***

Representing a different type of federal funding mechanism, this subcontract with Earth Resources Technology to fulfill a federal contract with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, has enabled Montgomery College Computer Gaming students to work directly on development of an educational simulation and interactive gaming application for use by middle-school students to teach them about estuary environments. The significance of the modest funding brought to the College for this project is best described by student, Lida Fernandes, who serves as the lead animator on the NOAA project;

“[The experience at NOAA] relates to my program of study at Montgomery College, the Computer Gaming and Simulation: Art and Animation track, because it acquaints me with the game development process and theory, and blends this with improvement of my skills using game-related technology applications. It also exposes me to the process of working with others to design, analyze, and develop a game. It also allows me to build business contacts, and hopefully add a published game to my resume and portfolio when the project is complete, which will help me greatly in attaining gaming jobs in the future. Working for NOAA has not only given me a chance to develop my existing abilities, but has also provided me the opportunity for new experiences, knowledge, and skills. I have also learned crucial aspects of teamwork and time management. Overall, I would consider this to be a very rewarding experience for me. I have learned much more than I expected, and feel more well-rounded as both an artist and a person for having taken it on. Already it is leading to new opportunities for me, as NOAA has offered me more assignments outside of this project that focus on my skills as a traditional artist, 3D modeler, and other abilities. Perhaps the most important thing I have learned from this job is that if I put forth my best effort, it will be appreciated and recognized, and it ultimately rewards not only others but myself as well.”

Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowships, United States Department of Commerce, National Institute of Standards and Technology (\$8,000 for one year)

This long standing grants program supports paid summer research by Montgomery College students at the National Institute of Standards and Technology and provides an outstanding experiential learning opportunity for these students.

Chemistry faculty member, Professor Nevert Tahmazian, encouraged Montgomery College Civil Engineering student Semme Yilma to apply for a summer internship with the National Institute of Standards and Technology funded by a U.S. Department of Commerce Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship grant. Semme was the only MC student awarded the research internship in 2008 and after his summer work at NIST under the direction of Dr Dat Duthinh, he participated in a seminar showcasing his summer research work with the NIST Building and Fire Research Laboratory. Professor Tahmazian attended the presentation and was extremely impressed not only with the quality of work done by Semme but by the self-confidence and assurance he exuded after having been given this unique opportunity. For Semme, who was born and raised in Ethiopia, the NIST experience has served as a stepping stone to a lifelong dream of a career as a research scientist and his hope for a better life for his family.

FY2008 Grants Highlights (continued)

Project Portal to Success in Engineering, Fund for the Improvement of Post Secondary Education (FIPSE), United States Department of Education

(\$472,000 for three years)

Montgomery College's engineering transfer program, one of the largest and most successful programs in the nation is building on and adapting lessons learned from its accomplishments and utilizing this funding to increase the number of women and minority engineering graduates. The success of this project's efforts in intensive mentoring, tutoring, outreach, undergraduate research opportunities and supplemental instruction will not only provide growing opportunities in engineering for underserved student populations at our own institution, but will also serve as a critical model for achievement in this arena for other community colleges.

Student, David Compres says of his involvement with the FIPSE grant funded project -

"The number of events that take place in our lives are countless; however, the number of events that truly impact our lives are relatively few. In May 2007, I was accepted into MC's Project Portal to Success in Engineering funded by a U.S. Department of Education Fund for the Improvement of Post Secondary Education Grant (FIPSE). It gave me essential tools to succeed and I have since been tremendously motivated as a student, grown in maturity, and gained confidence in my abilities. All of these improvements are products of the selected advisors, professors, and mentors who are actively involved in helping me achieve my academic goals. This program resulted in a turning point in my life. During two semesters and summer school, I have maintained a 4.0 GPA in college compared to the 2.6 GPA I graduated with in high school. Getting a bachelor's degree in engineering is now definitely within my reach."

U.S. Refugee Training Programs – English Language, Civics, Job Retention Skills and Targeted Assistance Programs, Maryland State Department of Human Resources

(\$ 816,541 for one year)

Under the Immigration and Nationalization Act of 1984, this program, formerly administered by Montgomery County Public Schools and now overseen by the College's Workforce Development and Continuing Education unit, provides English skills and civics training to preliterate refugees across Montgomery County.

Educational Opportunities Center, United States Department of Education, TRIO Program

(\$ 906,440 over four years)

This TRIO grant supports continuing funding for the College's Educational Opportunities Center Program which provides education about college application and funding opportunities to disadvantaged high school students and families who might not otherwise consider college education to be a viable option.

Performing Arts Center Improvements, Arts and Humanities Council of Montgomery County

(\$69,540 for one year)

This funding provides much needed general operating support to ensure the continued excellence in programming and services offered by the Robert E. Parilla Performing Arts Center.

FY2009 Highlights of Grant Awards to Date

Child Care Career and Professional Development Scholarships (CCCPD), Maryland State Department of Education (\$134,274 over two years)

Through this grant program scholarships for eligible pre-service students and child care providers/teachers who are working toward either the A.A.S. or A.A.T. degrees in Early Childhood Education at Montgomery College will be provided. Students will be eligible to receive up to \$600 per semester for tuition, fees, and textbook costs.

S-STEM - ACCESS Engineering, National Science Foundation (\$600,000 for four years)

ACCESS Engineering seeks to increase the number of underrepresented students earning bachelors degrees in engineering who start their education at a community college. Expanding on best practices and current innovations including subject-matter exposure in high school, intensive peer and faculty support, and strong articulation agreements, it is expected that 150 scholarships will be awarded to students during the grant period.

Consolidated Adult Education and Literacy Services, Maryland State Department of Education

(\$1,735,326 for one year)

This funding supports continuing comprehensive instructional and support services for adult basic education, ESL and literacy services for the community.

2009 Montgomery College Biotechnology Project , Congressionally Directed Appropriation, United States Department of Energy (\$ 1,435,000 for one year)

The 2009 Montgomery College Biotechnology Project will provide planning, design and construction funding for road and utility infrastructure improvements to support the Science and Technology Park at the Germantown campus.