

Rockville Campus Expansion Task Force

Background

The Rockville Campus, with its central location in the City of Rockville, is the largest of the three campuses of Montgomery College. It offers a wide variety of degrees and certificates that fulfill the needs of students who plan to transfer and pursue a baccalaureate degree as well as those who wish to prepare to enter or advance in the workforce. The campus offerings include exceptional programs in the sciences and engineering, first class programs in the arts, extensive general education offerings, quality programs in technical education through the Gudelsky Institute of Technical Education, a comprehensive general honors program and the Montgomery Scholars Program, a full-time, cohort honors program. In addition to credit and non-credit courses, the campus contributes to the intellectual life of the community as well as providing cultural and recreational offerings and serving as the site for special programs for community organizations.

For some time the Rockville Campus has struggled with serious overcrowding. This overcrowding adversely impacts the quality of campus life as well as the academic programs and activities on the campus. For the almost 15,000 Rockville students and 900 faculty and staff, there is a shortage of laboratory space for the science programs, inadequate classroom space, lack of student study and lounge space, a shortage of faculty and staff office space, and insufficient parking. Although the construction of the new Rockville Science Center will provide some of the needed instructional and office space, it is projected that by the year 2012 there still will be a major shortfall of 325, 596 net assignable square feet.

As the College prepares to update its Facilities Master Plan, it is appropriate to investigate and evaluate options to address overcrowding at the Rockville Campus. Although there are no easy solutions, during the past year a number of potential options have emerged such as structured parking, possible acquisition of the Carver site, moving the Central Administration offices, or reconfiguration of the athletic fields. Thus far, none of these options have been carefully explored or discussed with community leaders, interested parties, and the campus community. In order to explore and discuss options for the Rockville Campus, it is proposed that the College convene a Task Force on the Future of the Rockville Campus.

Rockville Campus Vision

The Rockville Campus of Montgomery College will lead, motivate and inspire our students and partners. As the College's largest and most comprehensive campus, Rockville will remain in the forefront by providing premier learning opportunities for a diverse, dynamic population, offering exciting signature academic and cultural programs, and creating a state-of-the-art, welcoming campus. As the vibrant heart of the College and community, the Rockville Campus strives to never skip a beat in responding to the challenges of our global society.