

MONTHLY OUTLOOK

A Meeting Preview with Data Insights and MC 2020 Progress

November 2, 2018

November Meeting Highlights—What to Expect and Why

Your next meeting occurs on Monday, November 12. The following are major items and topics planned at this time.

Constituent Conversation. Our Constituent Conversations kick off this month with a focus on student retention. This month we will be joined by members of the collegewide Student Council as well as officers from the campus Student Senates. The session begins at 5:45 p.m. and will feature a brief presentation about retention by Dr. Arlene Blaylock, senior research analyst. The conversation will be facilitated by Dr. Debra Bright, associate dean in student affairs, and Dr. Rebecca Thomas, assistant professor of biology.

Adoption of the FY20 Capital Budget. The proposed FY20 capital budget and six-year FY19-24 capital improvement program (CIP) were presented and discussed at the October 15, 2018, Board of Trustees meeting. The CIP is supported by and implements the College's Facilities Master Plan. The request for FY20 is the second half of the FY19–20 biennial capital budget and totals \$98,232,000.

My Monthly Written Report. My November *President's Focus* report continues with the theme of retention and explores how students, who were successful in going directly into the workplace from MC, stayed in school and finished their academic goals.

Key Reports. In addition to the regular reports at Board meetings, there will be reports from both the Montgomery College Foundation Board liaison and the PIC MC Board liaison, as well as a Board committee report. In addition, the first quarter financial report will be presented.

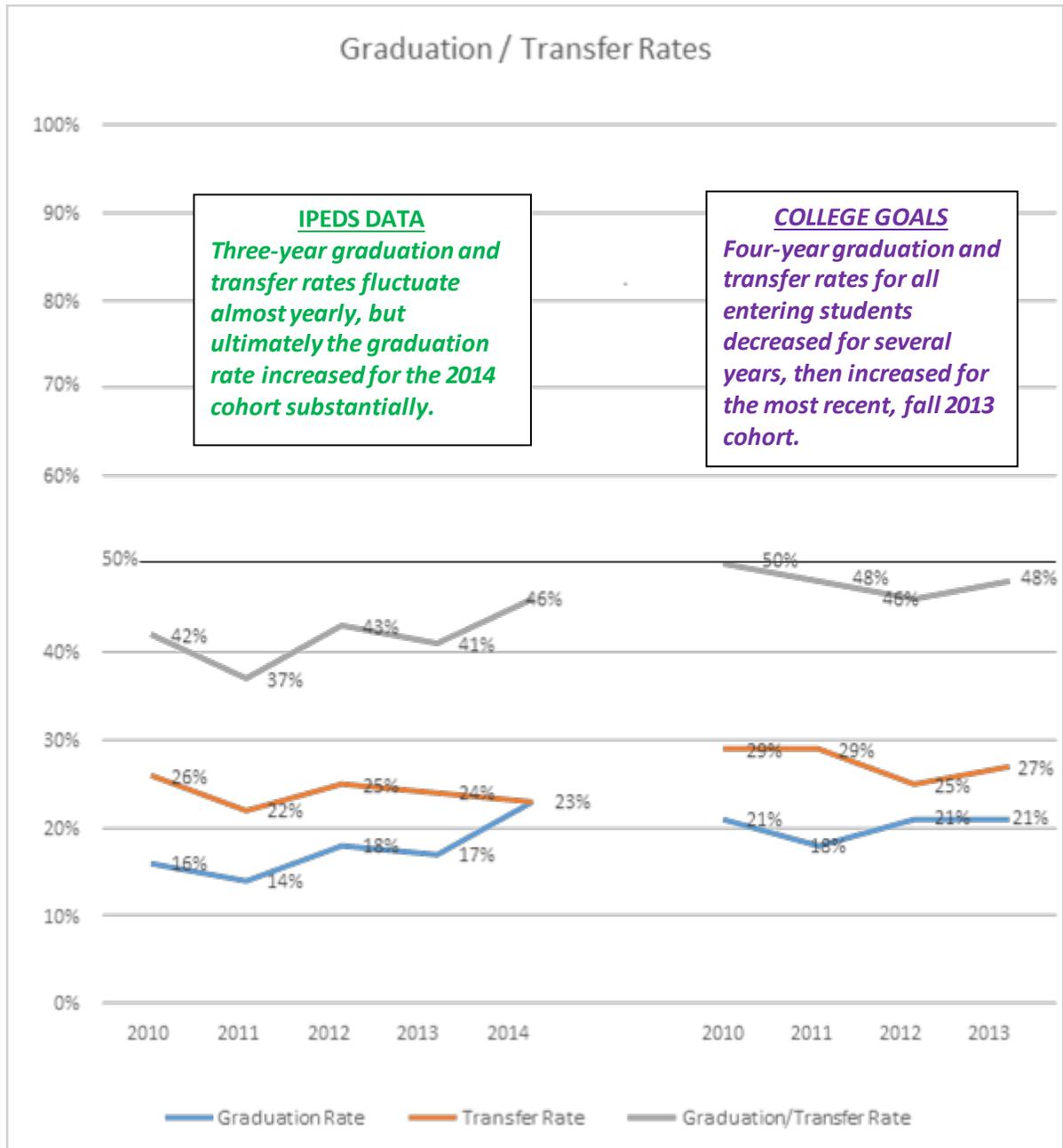
The following items are on your consent calendar:

Personnel Actions Confirmation Report. This is a monthly review of personnel actions documents actions taken in October.

Designated Awareness Days. This action acknowledges special awareness days and months to honor and recognize members of our community. This is a standard annual action.

Modification of Policies. Two policies are on the consent agenda with minor changes—the Sexual Misconduct Policy, and the Tuition, Fees, and Refunds Policy. These include title updates as well as deletion of redundant language.

Data Focus



The [graphs on the left](#) represent IPEDS data: first-time, full-time, degree-seeking students three years after entry. Nationally, our peer institutions have slightly higher graduation rates (15–22 percent), but lower transfer rates (14–16 percent) than MC.

The [graphs on the right](#) plot completion in terms of the new College goals, that is, of all students four years after beginning. The College's combined rates of 50 percent and 48 percent for the 2010 and 2011 cohorts approximates the statewide community college average of 48.3 percent for each of those cohorts.

Montgomery College 2020 Update of the Month



Since 2012, the Montgomery College 2020 strategic plan has driven significant changes in support of student success. The preferred future envisioned under Theme III emphasizes student transition from noncredit to credit programs and the College's work to guide students to careers, in collaboration with our community partners. Filling local workforce development needs while preparing students to enter high-demand areas are critical goals for MC.

Students are moving from noncredit to credit. About 29 percent of the May 2018 Montgomery College graduates had taken at least one course through Workforce Development & Continuing Education (WDCE) programs while they attended MC. Approximately 1,500 students take both a credit and a noncredit course in the same year. A new metric being tracked now shows that over a two year period, between 3,900 and 4,000 students take a noncredit course *before* registering for a credit course.

Health certifications, SAT prep, and driver's ed students make the noncredit-to-credit transition. Students who have recently completed a health career certification course frequently continue toward degree options after securing their initial career position. Students who have recently taken SAT test prep or driver's education also frequently show up as new degree seeking students. Students who have registered in a co-listed credit/noncredit course sometimes become majors in the discipline after a successful learning experience. Co-listed courses are those designated by academic departments as being open to noncredit students on a space available basis. These courses receive increased visibility in the noncredit schedule of classes.

Industry credentials can now contribute to noncredit preparation. This past year the Early Childhood Education program formally recognized the National Child Development Associate Credential (CDA) as equivalent to six college credits. The noncredit courses that prepare individuals to sit for this certification ultimately lead to college credits as a pathway to a degree program.

Additional transition pathways for students exist. Beyond the traditionally recognized open enrollment courses in WDCE—which include 39 percent of our full-time equivalent students (FTE), two other large service areas are connecting community members to noncredit-to-credit college pathways. Our large grant-funded programs (39 percent of FTEs) and contract trainings (22 percent of FTE) are also contributing to successful student transitions. Cyber Advantage grant-funded students learn about credit program options while working on industry certifications and our English language learners are routinely presented with options to continue education as their classes progress. Employees participating in employer-sponsored programs frequently learn of a new credential or program option while in training. In each service area, the College is highlighting opportunities for short term and long term learning possibilities. This increases students' possibilities for training while preparing the county's workforce more thoroughly.

Kind regards,

Stephen D. Cain, PhD

We empower our students to change their lives, and we enrich the life of our community. We are accountable for our results.

