

MONTHLY OUTLOOK

A Meeting Preview with Data Insights and MC 2020 Progress

March 8, 2019

March Meeting Highlights—What to Expect and Why

Your next board meeting occurs on March 18 and includes these major items and topics at this time.

Student Recognition. At each Board meeting, we will acknowledge a student or group of students who have accomplished some feat, either academic, athletic, artistic, or community-oriented. This month we will feature Carol Wall, an MC student who spoke at the recent Achieving the Dream conference.

Tributes. A tribute is a recognition of an employee who has passed away while on the job. This month, two employees, one staff member and one faculty member, will be honored with tributes for their service to the College.

Constituent Conversation. This month's constituent conversation—the final of the fiscal year—will be held with the College Council and again facilitated by Dr. Debra Bright, associate dean of student affairs, and Dr. Rebecca Thomas, biology department chair. Our discussion of student retention continues. We expect up to 13 guests where four of them may be familiar: the chairs of the Student, Staff, Faculty, and Administrator Councils, who attended with their constituent groups earlier in the year.

My Monthly Written Report. My March *President's Focus* will continue to examine retention, this time through the lens of academic support. As you know, the College has designed a number of programs that provide academic support to students, with the aim of keeping them enrolled and progressing.

Response to Mandatory Referral Recommendations. I will bring a resolution to you regarding the College's required response to the Montgomery County Planning Board's review of the Catherine and Isiah Leggett Math and Science Building under the mandatory referral process for public facilities. The Planning Board approved the project and offered 14 recommendations. Overall, the Colleges welcomes the feedback, and I will recommend that we pursue the majority of the recommendations, minus those beyond the scope of the project and not within the purview of the College.

Next Year's Board Calendar. Your FY20 calendar of meetings and events is presented for approval.

The following items are on your consent calendar:

Personnel Actions Confirmation Report. This is a review of personnel actions taken in February.

Honorary Degrees. This action will determine the Board's intention to award honorary degrees to individuals at the commencement ceremony in May. Honorary degrees are recommended for people who have shown a history of leadership and service to the community; have acquired a national or international reputation in a selected field; hold a distinguished record of public or community service or service in education; have provided exceptional educational service to enhance the success of individuals at any and all levels of education; have made a notable donation to Montgomery College or one of its affiliates; or have given significant volunteer service to Montgomery College.

Data Focus of the Month

Dual Enrollment Programs Are Growing



Montgomery College operates three “[dual enrollment](#)” models for high school students to take Montgomery College courses. In fall 2018, dual enrollment accounted for three percent of the College’s credit enrollment. The three models for high school students are:

- Individual courses to accelerate college completion
- A program of courses to earn an associate’s degree, where the courses are offered within the high school (called “Middle College”)
- A program of courses to earn an associate’s degree at a Montgomery College campus (“Early College”)

This month, we look at the models taught in high schools. The individual course model was the first to take root and in fall 2018, 14 high schools offered 39 college classes, all taught by MC faculty, with courses ranging from human communication to multivariable calculus. In FY18, 546 high school students participated in these options with 967 enrollments. Since 2013, there has been a 109 percent increase in dual enrollment.

Middle College programs are offered at two high schools. Two MCPS high schools, Northwest and Northwood, host Middle College programs where students can earn a high school diploma and an associate’s degree simultaneously. College classes are delivered at the schools for students in grades 10 and 11 with students coming to MC in grade 12 for their final year of college classes.

Eight high school students earned an associate’s degree in 2018—more are coming! At Northwest High School, there are currently 58 enrollees in Middle College, where they are taking classes for an associate of science in general engineering. Three students graduated in 2018. Northwood High School offers five degrees in humanities, interdisciplinary studies, social sciences, STEM, and general studies. Last year, five Northwood students graduated with associate’s degrees, and there are 156 students enrolled this year. Although the numbers started off small, they are rising dramatically, with 460 students applying to the Northwest program for the 2019–2020 school year and 362 applying to Northwood.

Dual enrollment students excel. Academic achievement data has been promising for dual enrollment students, who have an overall GPA of 3.12 in MC course work with 91 percent completing the course earning a grade of C or better. This success rate is higher than that for our students on our campuses.

The P-TECH program serves 58 students. One additional dual enrollment program is run at Clarksburg High School, where 58 students are studying for their associate of applied science in network and information technologies. The Pathways in Network and Information Technology Program (P-TECH) allows students in four districts to apply and begin taking network classes in grades 10 and 11 at Clarksburg, with students coming onto the MC campus in grade 12 for their college classes. Already there have been 172 applicants for FY20, which will host its first classes at the MC-Germantown Campus in fall of 2020.

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 an expansion of the financial resource base to advance the mission of the College. In that way, philanthropy has touched upon all five themes within the strategic plan. The Montgomery College Foundation has raised over \$23.1 million in cash and pledges towards the \$30 million goal to be completed by June 30, 2020.

For what purposes are the funds being given and used? Of the \$23.1 million raised, \$8.5 million is directed to support programs. More than 50 percent of the programmatic funds are for the ACES program. Other top funded programs include Global Humanities Institute, STEM and workforce development programs. Of the total, \$14.1 million is designated for scholarships, with 30 percent of the funding designated for ACES scholarships. The Macklin Business Institute, Hillman Entrepreneurs Program, and STEM and Workforce Development are other areas where donors have directed scholarship funding.

How do these campaign funds impact student completion? Initial research suggests that student recipients of donor-given scholarships graduate and transfer at a much higher rate than non-recipients who may have other forms of financial aid. For instance, in the 2007–2008 cohort, of the students who received foundation scholarships, 82 percent received a degree or certificate or transferred compared to 51 percent for non-recipients.

What can people do to help close out the campaign and help students at the same time? Members of the College community can do several things to help the Montgomery College Foundation raise the remaining \$6.9 million by June 30, 2020:

- ***Identify prospects:*** *If you know someone who is passionate about MC and interested in providing support, please share the name with the development staff to set up a meeting to discuss the possibilities.*
- ***Be willing to go on donor visits:*** *If you want to gain experience with philanthropy and assist in the effort, offer to go on a visit with a staff member to a donor you know or with whom you have something in common.*
- ***Host an event:*** *You can host an event at your home, office, or favorite restaurant for a group of donors at a size that works for you. Hosting an event is a great way to create a calm atmosphere about giving.*
- ***Communicate about impact:*** *Share the success stories you hear of foundation scholarship recipients.*

What is new and next for the campaign? The development office will welcome a vice president for development and alumni relations to the College in the early spring. The individual will lead efforts to close the campaign and begin plans to align the new strategic plan with the work of the foundation and to its next philanthropic priorities.

Be well,



DeRionne P. Pollard, PhD

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