

MONTHLY OUTLOOK

A Meeting Preview with Data Insights and MC 2020 Progress

November 6, 2015

November Meeting Highlights—What to Expect and Why

Your next meeting occurs on Monday, November 16. Following are major items and topics planned at this time.

Constituent Conversation. This month's constituent conversation will be with students from across the College. We continue the discussion on the theme of Achieving the Promise with facilitation by Dr. Tacy Holliday.

My Monthly Written Report. My November Focus report will continue my look at the pathways theme in the book *Redesigning America's Community Colleges* and explore our general studies degree program. Recall that this is our largest enrolled program.

Achieving the Dream. A group of faculty and deans will make a presentation regarding the Achieving the Dream program and the College's planned application to join ATD. The ATD organization will want evidence of Board endorsement, such as a letter from the Board chair, before accepting the application.

Contract to Host College-owned Asset Management Helpdesk Software. This competitively bid contract for your consideration is for the purchase of a cloud-based hosting service for asset management software, which supports the College's information technology help desk services, asset inventory management, and associated contract management database. This service is hosted by the vendor via cloud-based services.

Centralized Waste and Trash Structure. This competitively bid contract provides for the construction of a centralized waste and trash collection structure on the Germantown Campus. The new aesthetically appropriate structure will consolidate the collection of waste and recycling materials and allow trash compactors to efficiently manage the waste stream on the campus.

Fall Graduates. You are asked to ratify the completion of the students who are expected to graduate with a degree or certificate at the end of this fall semester. This is a standard end-of-semester action and will be on your consent calendar.

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 that will be on your consent calendar.

FY17 Capital Budget. The FY17 capital budget and six-year FY17–22 capital improvements program will be presented for your vote. The \$68,000,000 capital budget was presented in detail at your meeting last month.

Data Focus of the Month

A Look at the College's Fall Credit Enrollment



While enrollments were down at virtually all of the state's community colleges this fall, the Montgomery College enrollment of 25,320 credit students was close to last fall's. The number of students collegewide was down by 0.7 percent—197 students. The Germantown and Rockville campuses each had slightly fewer students than last fall, while Takoma Park/Silver Spring Campus increased its student headcount by 4.9 percent.

Some key data about fall credit students include the following.

- Returning students: **73%**—*staying in college increases the likelihood of completion*
- New-to-college students: **19%**—*new students are beginning their college journey*
- Non-white: **75%**—*our diversity remains strong with no majority race*

The complete collegewide data on these major aspects are shown in this table:

	GERMANTOWN	ROCKVILLE	TAKOMA PARK/ SILVER SPRING	COLLEGEWIDE
STUDENTS	7,307	16,286	7,875	25,320
Full-time	40.0%	39.6%	33.9%	35.1%
New	17.1%	18.1%	17.7%	18.8%
Returning	74.6%	74.8%	73.7%	73.1%
Female	53.1%	50.3%	58.1%	52.7%
Foreign	8.1%	11.5%	8.6%	10.1%
Hispanic	22.3%	23.6%	20.4%	22.6%
Black	24.5%	23.5%	44.7%	28.3%
Asian	11.6%	12.0%	7.6%	10.7%
White	29.5%	26.1%	16.4%	24.8%
Unknown/Other	4.1%	3.4%	2.4%	3.4%

About seven percent of all students are learning entirely off-campus or online. In addition, many students attend multiple campuses: 3,518 students—almost 15 percent—take classes on more than one campus. Not surprisingly, the two most common combinations are Germantown-Rockville and Rockville-Takoma Park/Silver Spring. However, nearly 100 of these multiple-campus students are taking courses at all three campuses this fall.

The top 10 enrolled courses this fall, as shown in the following table, include three English courses and three math courses. Asterisks mark the two developmental courses on the list.

COURSE	TITLE	ENROLLMENTS
ENGL 101.....	Introduction to College Writing	2,627
MATH 080*	Mathematics Prep.....	2,538
ENGL 102.....	Critical Reading, Writing, and Research.....	2,277
PSYC 102.....	General Psychology.....	2,233
COMM 108	Introduction to Human Communication.....	2,020
SOCY 100	Introduction to Sociology.....	1,585
MATH 096*	Intermediate Algebra	1,552
ENGL 101A.....	Introduction to College Writing (with extra module)	1,179
BIOL 150	Principles of Biology I	1,068
MATH 117	Elements of Statistics	1,053

Montgomery College 2020 Update of the Month



The *Montgomery College 2020* strategic plan is a seven-year effort that began in Fiscal Year 2013. The preferred future envisioned under Theme II, Access, Affordability, and Success, stated that “Montgomery College will provide students with a successful experience, from the first connection through the completion of students’ desired goals.” For many students, the completion of their desired goals (transfer or degree completion) occurs with the ACES program.

What is the ACES program and when did it begin? The ACES program— Achieving Collegiate Excellence and Success—is a collaborative effort of Montgomery College, Montgomery County Public Schools, and the Universities at Shady Grove to support students and provide a seamless path to a bachelor’s degree. The program began in fall 2013.

How does it support students? The ACES program provides academic coaches to targeted high school students in 10 Montgomery County Public Schools, at all three MC campus locations, and at USG. The coaches provide both academic and student support through a case management approach. Coaches meet individually with students and provide test preparation, tutoring, assistance with college applications and financial aid/scholarship applications, college visits, college transfer workshops, and other support services as needed. ACES coaches identify and address barriers to student success that may prevent a student from degree completion.

How are ACES students doing this year? Now in its third year, the program is up to 1,710 students with 584 seniors and 645 juniors at the partner high schools and 481 ACES students currently enrolled at the College. These numbers are up from last year when there were 1,333 students in the program—430 high school seniors, 563 juniors, and 329 degree-seeking students at MC.

How did the 2014–2015 ACES students do at MC? The first cohort of ACES students enrolled at Montgomery College in 2014–2015 showed great promise for the program and for themselves. They exceeded other recent high school graduates at the College on numerous measures, including course pass rate (77 percent for ACES, 72 percent for others), GPA (2.65 for ACES, 2.12 for others), and fall-to-spring retention (91 percent for ACES, 71 percent for others).

What kind of financial aid do ACES students receive? Four hundred ACES students completed the FAFSA this year and 102 have full tuition from federal and/or state sources. The Montgomery College Foundation provided scholarships to 116 ACES students.

What are the next steps? At this time, our plan is to add an additional high school in the near future—pending funding—and to reach the goal of providing scholarships for 100 percent of the students who have financial need.

Be well,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'DeRionne'.

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.