From:	The President
To:	MC Communications List
Subject:	Operating and Capital Budget Actions By County Council
Date:	Thursday, May 19, 2011 5:45:02 PM

MONTGOMERY COLLEGE
Office of the President

May 19, 2011

MEMORANDUM

TO: Montgomery College Colleagues

FROM: Dr. DeRionne P. Pollard, President

SUBJECT: Operating and Capital Budget Actions By County Council

The Montgomery County Council made its final recommendations today for the College's FY12 budget requests, and I am pleased to share that councilmembers unanimously approved restoring $4.7 million to the College's operating budget. I applaud the council for recognizing the value of higher education and for taking courageous action to ensure that our community college remains accessible and affordable for everyone.

With today's actions, the College will open its new Rockville Science Center on time with the necessary funding to hire staff to operate and maintain laboratories within the facility, and we will also continue to support students with high-quality education. Within our operating budget, the College will return $1 million to the county to support the costs of future post-retirement benefits for College faculty, staff, and administrators.

The Council also approved $53.2 million for the College's FY12 capital budget to fund the renovation of the Science East building on the Rockville Campus and essential IT infrastructure projects. With the approval, the Montgomery County Council will help the College maintain the renovation schedule for the Science East and Science West buildings.

While we value the council's support, I would note that we still lost $2.7 million in county funds from FY11. The county's fiscal situation remains a challenge and we must continue to be very deliberate about our funding priorities here at the College.

I am so proud of our advocacy efforts, which demonstrated to the council why Montgomery County needs its community college more than ever. At the same time, I know that each of you has made sacrifices personally and professionally. Thank you for your steadfast support. Thank you for helping the College be a good steward of public resources. And thank you for always putting our students first.