From: The President
To: MC Communications List
Subject: Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs
Date: Tuesday, February 28, 2012 2:27:14 PM

MONTGOMERY COLLEGE
Office of the President

February 28, 2012

MEMORANDUM

To: Montgomery College Colleagues

From: Dr. DeRionne P. Pollard, President

Subject: Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs

After a successful nationwide search, I am pleased to announce the appointment of a new senior vice president for academic affairs. Along with the excitement and anticipation that accompanies a new appointment come mixed emotions in saying farewell to a friend, as Interim Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs Paula Matuskey takes her retirement after so ably serving Montgomery College just three months short of 45 years.

Departing the College will be Paula Matuskey who has held the position of interim senior vice president for academic affairs (previously interim senior vice president for academic and student services) since July 2009. It has been my privilege to work with her. She was instrumental in my transition as president and continues to be a key member of my senior leadership team. Ms. Matuskey's last day at Montgomery College will be March 30.

With almost 45 years of service, Ms. Matuskey has changed the lives of many students, faculty, staff, and community members. Many of you know her from her previous role as dean of arts, humanities, and social sciences at the Takoma Park/Silver Spring Campus. What you may not know is that, prior to being dean, she also served as a campus registrar and as the College's director of marketing, as well as in other positions throughout the organization. In addition, she has been a very active member of the College's Speakers Bureau and has represented the College in that manner for more than 30 years. Perhaps even more noteworthy is that among her college degrees, Ms. Matuskey stands out as an alumna of Montgomery College with an associate of arts degree, having attended the Rockville Campus when it first opened in 1965. In 1981, Ms. Matuskey was one of the first staff members at the College to be awarded self-improvement leave for a full-semester of academic work during which time she completed her bachelor's degree.

Ms. Matuskey will leave a legacy of service, achievement, and accomplishment. I hope you will join me for a special recognition event in her honor on Monday, March 26, from 2–4 p.m. in The Morris and Gwendolyn Cafritz Foundation Arts Center at the Takoma Park/Silver Spring Campus.

After a nationwide search process that culminated in campus visits by three excellent finalists earlier this month, I am pleased to announce the appointment of Dr. Donald M. Pearl to be

the College's next senior vice president for academic affairs. He will begin his duties on April 9.

Dr. Pearl has many years of experience as a professor in the classroom and an academic leader in higher education. Among his prior roles, Dr. Pearl served as the chair of the science department, and then as the academic dean at the Clarkston Campus of Georgia Perimeter College, a multi-campus institution in suburban Atlanta, Georgia; as the academic vice president at Sauk Valley Community College in Illinois; and most recently, as the vice president of instructional programs at Central Arizona College in Arizona. He holds a bachelor's degree in physics from Western State College of Colorado, a master of science in mathematics from New Mexico Tech, and a Ph.D. in atomic and molecular physics from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln.

Please join me in both welcoming Dr. Pearl to Montgomery College, and in wishing Paula Matuskey good health and much happiness in her well-deserved retirement.