

From: [DeRionne Pollard, Montgomery College President](#)
To: [MC Communications!](#)
Subject: Fiscal Year 2017 Budget Decisions by the County Council
Date: Thursday, May 19, 2016 4:37:47 PM

MONTGOMERY COLLEGE
Office of the President

May 19, 2016

MEMORANDUM

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To: Montgomery College Colleagues
From: Dr. DeRionne P. Pollard, President
Subject: Fiscal Year 2017 Budget Decisions by the County Council

This morning the Montgomery County Council made its funding decisions for the largest source of funds for the College's budget—county support. I am pleased to report that the council voted for an additional \$4.5 million in new county resources to help fund our FY17 operating budget. These resources are in addition to the \$2 million recommended by the county executive. This represents a total increase in county funds of \$6.5 million, which is a 5.1 percent increase over last year's county contribution. These funds represent a substantial investment by the county in our College, and are most appreciated, especially given the fiscal constraints decision-makers faced.

The council's vote will allow us to keep tuition affordable and advance programs that enhance student achievement, including the Achieving Collegiate Excellence and Success (ACES) program and the Achieving the Promise Academy. The funds will also enable us to open the Early Learning Laboratory on the Germantown Campus to enhance our teacher education program. Also included in the approved budget is funding for the Maryland Integrated Basic Education and Skills Training (MI-BEST) program. As always, the council recognized the importance of affordability and funded \$1.0 million to enhance scholarships. These investments of public resources are vital to keeping the College affordable while closing the achievement gap.

The College can now afford to provide the pay increases recently renegotiated with our collective bargaining units. These are comparable to those planned for public employees in the county. The Office of Human Resources and Strategic Talent Management will announce the details of salary changes and benefits in late June. The council and the county executive clearly recognized the deep commitment of our employees to the success of students.

The council also made decisions about the College's capital budget, voting to provide resources for the Student Services Center on the Rockville Campus, the renovation of the Science and Applied Studies Building on the Germantown Campus, and the design of the Math and Science Building on the Takoma Park/Silver Spring Campus. Overall, the county has invested \$333,268,000 in the College's capital improvements program over six years.

We are extremely grateful to the county executive and the county council for their support and belief in the College's mission. The state has also been a strong supporter of our efforts, contributing an additional \$2.2 million in aid for FY17. I want to thank our many employees and advocates who helped to develop this budget and support it. Underlying all of these

efforts has been the leadership of our Board of Trustees. Our trustees were committed to seeking resources to enhance student success, support our employees, protect affordability, and fuel our economy with ready workers. They supported this budget tirelessly and deeply engaged in efforts to win new resources.

To our faculty and staff: your unwavering commitment to our students and our mission are what make this process worthwhile. I also want to thank the leaders of our collective bargaining units and all of our employees for your willingness to renegotiate pay raises. I continue to be grateful for your focus on student academic success and your commitment—far beyond the classroom—to empowering our students to change their lives.