

To: Montgomery College Community
From: Dr. Jermaine F. Williams, President
Subject: Transitions in the Office of Compliance, Risk, and Ethics
Date: March 27, 2023

As I shared on February 27, the College has selected a new chief compliance, risk, and ethics officer (CCREO), Susan V. Watson, who will begin her duties at the end of May. The current interim CCREO, Emmilee Racek, will conclude her duties on March 31 and depart Montgomery College. I have asked Ms. Lynda von Barga, a retired MC employee with extensive experience, to serve as the interim compliance, risk, and ethics officer until Ms. Watson's arrival. Ms. von Barga will step into the role when Ms. Racek departs.

I want to extend my deepest gratitude to Ms. Racek who has served in this role since last year. Ms. Racek has worked at the College for nearly five years and collaborated widely with many offices during this time. Her wealth of legal experience in both the private and public sectors has benefitted the College significantly. She did an excellent job leading the office in a time of transition and change. Ms. Racek maintained a focus on service to employees, responsiveness to reported concerns, proactive risk mitigation, and nurturing an ethical culture for all at the College.

Please join me in extending our thanks to Ms. Racek for her commitment to Montgomery College. We wish her the best in her future endeavors.

I now want to welcome Ms. von Barga, who will be the interim chief compliance, risk, and ethics officer for approximately two months. Prior to her retirement, Ms. von Barga served in a variety of leadership roles in Human Resources and Strategic Talent Management, including business service, human resources, personnel management, and benefits and risk management. These roles and her knowledge of the College give her the depth of experience needed to guide the compliance work. Many of you may already know Ms. von Barga, who has kept in close touch with the College, most recently serving as a consultant in HRSTM. I am pleased that she was willing to return to the College in this interim role. Welcome back, Ms. von Barga. Her office will be in the Central Services Building and she can be reached at lvonbarg@montgomerycollege.edu.