



August 28, 2023

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The fall 2023 semester has arrived! I saw some of you at the fantastic Fall Opening Meeting last week. I hope you had a rejuvenating summer. Most of us have already hit the ground running, standing up College resources and events for everyone. I hope you will get engaged early and share your talents and energy with the Raptor community!

### **Welcome Students: Resources at Your Fingertips**

Students, I am so excited that you have chosen Montgomery College. Welcome to our new students, and welcome back to our returning students! We have valuable resources to help you discover your passion and unlock your potential. Academic supports are many: find out if the [library has your textbooks](#) or connect directly with a librarian for [research assistance](#). [Raptor Search](#) is a terrific tool for navigating all the resources at the library.

The [Mobile Markets](#) on all three campuses provide free food packages throughout the year. The first will be held Wednesday, September 6, on the Germantown Campus. Please [check the schedule](#) for the full series, with 12 markets already scheduled for the fall. Last year Mobile Markets helped 34,000 people with food resources. Also, over the summer, more than 700 students were awarded Raptor Ready scholarships for \$500. I encourage students to watch for resources like this and others throughout the year. For students looking for [counseling and advising](#), there are ample resources available. For help with classes, [Learning Centers](#) provide support, including [virtual tutoring](#). If you are looking for employment, keep an eye on our active [Student Career and Employment Services](#). If you don't find what you are looking for in any of these areas, please ask for help—it's a step that is guaranteed to pay off at MC.

### **Welcome Faculty and Staff: Connecting to Our Mission**

As most of you know, this year's [Fall Opening Meeting](#) featured seven MC students with extraordinary stories of achievement. I encourage everyone to take a look at their clips, which are examples of how transformative MC's experience can be. New faculty and staff,

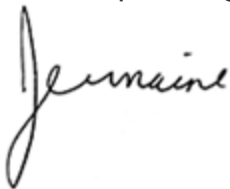
the Raptor community welcomes you! In MC's inclusive environment, you will find connection and belonging. We want to help you maximize your contributions to our mission, so I encourage you to connect with colleagues, the Office of Human Resources and Strategic Talent Management ([HRSTM](#)), and valuable support functions like E-Learning, Innovation, and Teaching Excellence ([ELITE](#)), or the [Institute for Part-time Faculty Engagement and Support](#). You will find your place in [our mission](#) and, in the process, grow your impact on students' success.

### **MC Ranked in Nation's Top Ten Community Colleges**

A very recent point of pride is that Montgomery College was ranked [tenth in the nation](#) among community colleges by WalletHub, which assessed data from 668 community colleges. After analyzing 19 different metrics in three categories—cost and financing, education outcomes, and career outcomes—MC held its place in the top 10 again this year. The assessment tool weighted all three metrics equally when creating its final scores for [these community colleges](#) and subsequently ranking their state systems as well. I know these results are the product of deep commitment by faculty and staff to support our students as they discover their passions and unlock their potential.

Have a terrific first week of classes. I hope faculty and staff will share resources with students that strengthen their success trajectories. To students, the College is poised to support you at every step!

With Raptor Regards,



Dr. Jermaine F. Williams  
President

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