

# President's Corner



**April 20, 2020** We are entering the last full week in April and rounding the curve into May Happy Monday. I hope you were able to get out and get some fresh air, at appropriately safe distances this weekend. Sunday was lovely and the flowers in my neighborhood seemed unaware of the pandemic. They reminded me that we are entering the last full week in April and rounding the curve into May. With the end of the semester in sight, I hope that students are staying focused and that anyone in need of academic support is reaching out. Once again, virtual [tutoring](#) is going strong; [technical support](#) is a click away; and faculty and staff are standing by in [Counseling and Advising](#) and at [MC libraries](#), eager to help.

As you likely heard on Friday, [Montgomery County Public Schools](#) will continue online learning until May 15, 2020. Those of you with school aged children—myself included—will continue to juggle the work-life-school balance, as we have for the last four weeks. I know that MC supervisors are aware of the flexibility that is sometimes needed for us to keep our work flowing while we respond to family needs. I continue to appreciate the patience with which we are all weathering the changes to our work and home lives.

If you followed Governor Larry Hogan's press conference on Friday, he stressed the four elements that will be needed before lowering any of the current restrictions: expansions of testing and hospital surge capacities, increased supplies of personal protective equipment, and a robust contact tracing operation. The governor promised updates on these components early this week, and he will unveil his Maryland Strong: Roadmap to Recovery later in the week. The College will be watching it closely for implications to our own operations. We are expecting more information on the CARES Act funding this week as well, and will provide an update when it arrives. I'll be back in touch on Wednesday and Friday of this week, in the absence of anything more urgent.

Have a safe and healthy week.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "DeRionne". The script is fluid and cursive, with the first letter 'D' being particularly large and stylized.

DeRionne P. Pollard, PhD

*We empower our students to change their lives, and we enrich the life of our community.  
We are accountable for our results.*