

**Subject:** Monday Update - Welcome to Summer Session

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**From:** Rai, Sanjay K

**To:** Rockville Faculty{FT&PT}, Germantown Faculty{FT&PT}, Takoma Park Faculty{FT&PT}, Academic Affairs Staff and Administrators

Colleagues,

I am so excited to greet you on the first day of summer session, which is unlike any summer we have had. When the COVID-19 crisis began, I was concerned that students would not accept a new way of learning, but after only one month of registration, we have already exceeded summer enrollment for 2019. As of today, our seat utilization is 93.1% for Summer I with 371 sections and 7,974 seats filled. Considering we only offered fully online courses for Summer I, this is tremendous. For Summer II, with a month to go, we are offering both online and Structured Remote Teaching, and we are at 77.4% seat utilization with 429 sections and 7,534 seats filled. The combination of Summer I and II 2020 enrollments to-date is 15,508 compared with summer 2019 which had 14,128 – that's a 9.7% increase. I anticipate enrollment for Summer II to continue to grow. This is an expression of hope and optimism, and a statement of our community's trust in Montgomery College and its outstanding faculty and staff.

The response to ELITE's Summer Professional Development Institute has also been overwhelming. More than 700 exceptional faculty declared their commitment to teaching excellence by enrolling in Structured Remote Teaching training. These faculty members will ensure that their students will experience high standards of delivery and rigor in content in every class this summer and fall. Experienced online faculty will participate in the Summer Professional Development Institute advanced workshops beginning in July. Much of the future of education will reside online, and I am proud of our efforts to lead with quality in this space. Just last week, the *Guide to Online Schools* named Montgomery College the top online community college in the state. Congratulations to ELITE and all of the faculty who teach online, have submitted their courses for Quality Matters review, and developed online degrees.

This will be an exceptional summer. We are using this time to ensure that the disruption experienced this spring due to the pandemic is matched by seamless, coordinated transitions to summer sessions and the fall semester. I am so grateful to those who are teaching, those who are training this summer, and those who are working for our return to campus when that day comes. All of this is being done as we try to process and respond to events happening around us, and to find effective means to take action. Your commitment, ingenuity, agility, compassion, and spirit have long inspired me.

Sanjay