



**OEAWARDS**  
FOR EXCELLENCE

**OPEN PEDAGOGY**  
**Award for Excellence**  
**2020**



**UN Sustainable**  
**Development Goals**  
**Open Pedagogy**  
**Fellowship**

MONTGOMERY COLLEGE

incorporates openness in several levels of the learning processes. Engaging not only in the production, use and reuse of content but also promoting effective open teaching practices.”

The College has offered the summer fellowship for three years. This year Montgomery College faculty partnered with faculty from Kwantlen Polytechnic University in Vancouver, Canada, and the Maricopa Community Colleges system in Arizona.

OE Global is a global, non-profit organization supporting the development and use of open education around the world.

More information about the award can be found at <https://awards.oeglobal.org>. Information about the fellowship is available at <https://www.montgomerycollege.edu/offices/elite/unesco/>

## Open Education Global Award

Montgomery College has been recognized by the Open Education Global consortium (OE Global) for its United Nations Sustainable Development Goals Open Pedagogy Fellowship.

The College was named by the international consortium the winner in the Open Pedagogy category of the 2020 Open Education Awards for Excellence. The fellowship allows faculty to learn more about open pedagogy and how to create open assignments linked to the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals.

According to OE Global, the award is for “an innovative open teaching practice that

## In this issue...

Open Education Global Award.....	1
Microcredentials at MC.....	2
ELITE Welcomes New Professional Development Director.....	2
Spring 2021 Professional Week: MC Proud, Strong, and Resilient!.....	3
Faculty Spotlight: Raluca Teodorescu.....	3
MC Learns Through Workday Transition.....	4
Online Learning is Booming at MC!.....	5
Professional Development Cohorts/Pathways Available.....	6
Tips for a Successful Virtual Presentation.....	6
MC Offers New Fully-Online Degree and Certificate Programs.....	6
Digital Learning Center Offers Instructional Support to Employees and Students.....	6
ELITE 2nd Quarter Professional Development Report.....	7

## Microcredentials at MC



Montgomery College (MC) offers programs, units, and discipline areas the opportunity to create microcredentials. A microcredential is a digital form of certification, also known as a badge, that assesses specific competencies. They represent certain skillsets that align educational programming with business needs and allow badge earners to validate specific career readiness competencies through attainment. The badge certifies that the earner has demonstrated specific skills/competencies and the badge becomes part of the earner's personal digital portfolio. By clicking on the badge icon, shared in a resume or online profile, the reader will see the list of competencies and what is required of the earner to attain the badge. For a full listing of current badges visit [MC's Acclaim Platform](#).



As of today, 100 badges have been issued to MC students and employees, 78 of which were earned in 2020! These range from employees completing the LDI program and earning a Leadership badge to students earning the Interculturalist badge through the Anthropology department. The interest in badging continues to grow as it becomes increasingly apparent that the development of microcredentials is beneficial to MC's employees, students, and external future employers. The microcredentials initiative helps future job seekers, also known as our students, stand out during recruitment and potentially closes any "skill-gaps" that current valued MC employees are experiencing.

To find out more visit [Microcredentials at MC](#), or contact [Christine Crefton](#) for information on how to apply, and/or attend an upcoming information session.

## ELITE Welcomes New Professional Development Director

ELITE welcomed Dr. Paul D. Miller in the Fall 2020 semester to its team. We wish him well in his new role and hope that you get a chance to meet him too.

Dr. Miller has extensive experience in STEM instruction; K-12 curriculum development; instructional design and teaching methodologies; project evaluation; inclusive professional learning/development; and instructional technology integration. He has worked with school systems in 28 states and presented internationally at conferences.

Additionally, Dr. Miller has also worked at the Success for All Foundation and Johns Hopkins University, where he led the development of technology-based learning materials, piloted web-based professional development and personalized learning systems, and developed training workshops for teachers and administrators. Before joining the College, Dr. Miller led the design and development of a statewide micro-credentialing program and provided professional development support to meet the needs of students with disabilities.

He holds an Ed.D. with a focus on Instructional Design for Online Teaching and Learning from Johns Hopkins University and an M.A. in Instructional Systems Development from the University of Maryland Baltimore County.



You can contact Dr. Miller at [Paul.Miller@montgomerycollege.edu](mailto:Paul.Miller@montgomerycollege.edu).



## Spring 2021 Professional Week: MC Proud, Strong, and Resilient!

On January 19, 2021, Spring Professional Week officially began with a welcome message from Dr. Pollard and other members of the Montgomery College leadership team celebrating how **MC is Proud, Strong, and Resilient!**

Included in their message was a video showcasing some of the innovative ideas that faculty acquired through the Structured Remote Teaching (SRT) training to engage students in a virtual environment. This video reinforced the critical role that the ELITE Professional Development team play in supporting the college community.

Profession Week not only kicked off the Spring 2021 semester but provided faculty and staff with a variety of professional development workshops sponsored by ELITE. Approximately 600 faculty and staff participated in discussions, workshops, and demonstrations designed to support the continuum of teaching and learning as the college community continues to offer remote instruction in response to the COVID-19 Pandemic.

“We are thrilled with the results of Professional Day this semester,” said Dr. Michael Mills, ELITE Vice President. “The panel discussions created a great conversation between faculty and students, and the various workshops provided opportunities for faculty and staff to learn how to engage students further.”

At the heart of this year’s professional development opportunity was faculty and staff agency, which is *the power to act* in selecting authentic and meaningful professional development aligned to personal and professional goals. Many of these sessions, including the faculty, staff, and student panel discussions on **Teaching and Learning Best Practices in Accelerated Courses** and **Best Practices in having Conversations around Social Justice**, are now available on-demand to support your professional development needs.

Visit the [Spring 2021 Professional Week page on The Hub](#) to view workshop presentations and videos currently available.

### Faculty Spotlight: Raluca Teodorescu

Professor Raluca Teodorescu received her PhD in Physics from George Washington University and continued with a postdoc at MIT. Later, she became a faculty at George Washington University. She joined Montgomery College in 2015 and began teaching in the Physics and Engineering department.

Dr. Teodorescu liked mathematics and physics throughout middle and high school because she had dedicated and inspiring teachers. They helped her build fundamental knowledge and confidence. The choice of a physics-related career was a gradual process. Slowly, as years went by, she discovered that she understood and could perform well in math and physics. Thus, when it was time to apply for college, it came natural for her to pursue a physics major.

During college, Dr. Teodorescu discovered that she enjoyed teaching while tutoring students. She tried to emulate her physics teachers and professors and had rewarding results, but realized that she was attracted to modern methods of teaching. She started her PhD at GW with the goal to become a modern physics professor



with traditional expectations. That is why she chose to complete her PhD research in physics education. In that period, the online physics education emerged. This new way of teaching caught her attention, especially when she understood that the Internet could provide access to any student (from any part of the world) to the explanations offered by the most gifted and respected professors on the planet.

Dr. Teodorescu became interested in personalized student learning, which requires understanding the relationship between the thinking processes that take place while learning physics and the tasks we offer to our students. Based on this understanding, she developed teaching strategies, course materials, and assessments to address students' unique thinking abilities.

Recently, she became a member of the development team of the Living Physics Portal and is currently the content director. This is a collaborative effort of the American Association of Physics Teachers and eight colleges and universities, including Montgomery College. The Portal hosts an online open-source, peer-reviewed, and innovatively structured environment for content related to introductory physics for life sciences courses. The site serves as an archive, a dissemination tool, and a course-building interface for faculty. Instructors are supported in creating innovative and individualized courses, mixing and matching from multiple sources tuned to their needs, and offering a flexible and low-cost alternative to traditional textbooks.

In her teaching, Dr. Teodorescu received tremendous support from her physics and engineering colleagues that include Dr. Max Nam (our physics coordinator), chairs Dr. David Hall, Dr. Alla Webb and Dr. Nawal Benmouna, and Dean Dr. Kehnemouyi. She feels fortunate to work with such great students and inspiring and supportive colleagues. None of her results would be possible without the help she receives within the College.

P.S. As Newton's first law explains: "An object at rest stays at rest and an object in motion stays in motion with the same speed and in the same direction unless acted upon by an unbalanced force." Dr. Teodorescu, may there be no unbalanced forces in your way as you move forward in your career. ELITE would like to thank you for sharing your story, and we wish you the best of luck this semester.

## MC Learns Through Workday

The transition to MC Learns through Workday, which went live on December 18, 2020, marks another milestone in the College's Workday project. Among its many features, MC Learns through Workday offers a modern and intuitive user-interface that features search functionality to easily browse courses and classes, MC-required training located in one place, and a new learning dashboard that will help manage individual preferences and interests.

The transition to MC Learns through Workday is the result of many hours of collaboration between ELITE, Human Resources and Strategic Talent Management, and Information Technology. To learn more about MC Learns through Workday, as well as the overall status and remaining phases of the Workday project, please visit [Workday at MC](#).

Please use MC Learns through Workday to register for workshops, classes, and programs that are offered by ELITE and other departments at the College. Additional information about each workshop can be found in Workday.

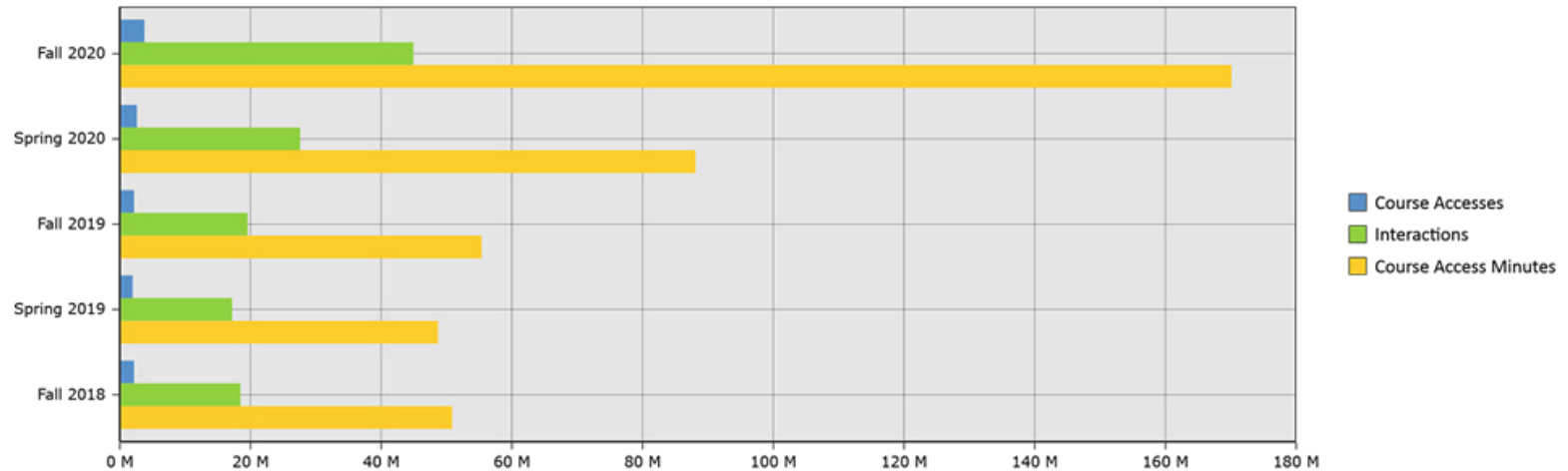
### MC Learns Through Workday Video Tutorials

Employees can use MC Learns through Workday to register for all workshops. Log into MyMC, select the Training and Professional Development tab, and then click on the MC Learns through Workday icon. You can visit and bookmark the [ELITE's website to view video tutorials](#) on MC Learns through Workday.

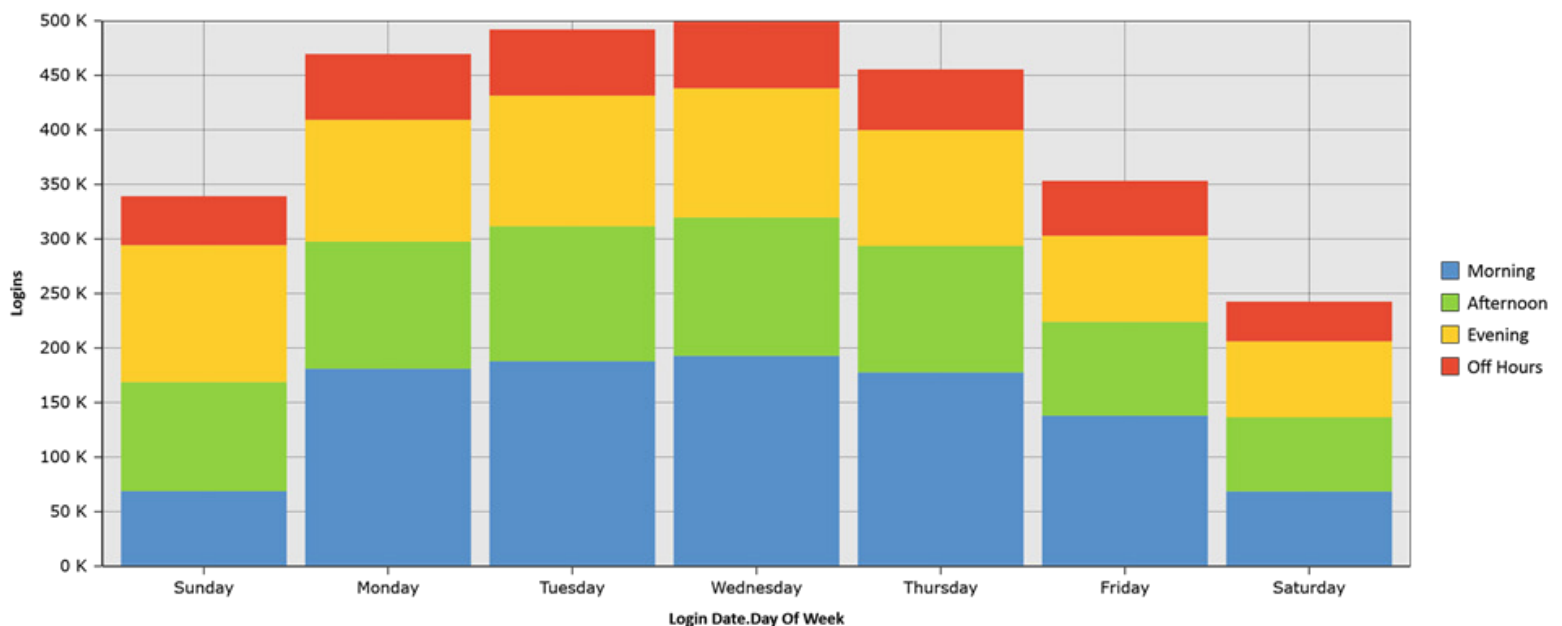
## Online Learning is Booming at MC!

It is common knowledge that online learning is growing strong all across the world. At MC online learning, as reflected in the use of Blackboard, hits a new high every semester. And with the pandemic driving both faculty and students alike even further towards online and remote learning the numbers are more than just impressive.

Faculty, take a look at when your students are signing on. Librarians and staff, look at how many online learners are using Blackboard, which means, how many will want and need online services from you. The pictures below tell the story.



	Course Accesses	Interactions	Course Access Minutes
Fall 2018	2,180,456	18,455,705	50,844,127.40
Spring 2019	1,959,043	17,182,780	48,676,242.40
Fall 2019	2,178,635	19,550,878	55,365,268.40
Spring 2020	2,618,842	27,587,579	88,076,490.10
Fall 2020	3,762,662	44,932,342	170,115,614.20



## Professional Development Cohorts/Pathways Available

Cohorts will begin in the Spring semester with all online classes until June. The Leadership Development Institute will not be offered in FY21. Watch for it in FY22!

Register for the cohort programs and pathways below using MC Learns through Workday. You must register for the cohort to obtain an application and follow the instructions.

### Cohort Programs

- [Developing the Skillful Supervisor](#) (New)
- [MC Management](#)
- [Tapestry Institute for Intercultural Intelligence](#)
- [Global Leadership Cohort](#) (New)

### Learning Pathways

- [Change Management: Moving to the Next Level](#)
- [Communicating Professionally in the Workplace](#) (New)
- [Communication and Conflict](#)
- [Customer Service](#)
- [Effective Committees](#)
- [Equity and Inclusion](#)
- [Management](#)
- [Media and Information Literacies](#) (New)
- [The Valuable Employee](#) (e-courses)

You can visit the [ELITE Employees Professional Development webpage](#) to obtain details about these cohort programs and learning pathways!

## Tips for a Successful Virtual Presentation

As we at MC have been conducting virtual meetings and professional development for 10 months, some expertise on how best to conduct these types of sessions has emerged. The [Tips for a Successful Virtual Presentation video](#) shows one and all how to get the most out of their virtual presentations. It is time well invested to view this video if you are going to present virtually.

## MC Offers New Fully-Online Degree and Certificate Programs

The College recently added one new fully-online degree program (Criminal Justice, Area of Concentration, Arts and Sciences) and two fully-online certificate programs (Hospitality Supervision and Leadership and Women's and Gender Studies). With this new degree program option, MC now offers a total of six associate's degrees and two certificate programs fully online. Visit the [ELITE's Fully-Online Degrees/Certificate website](#) for more information.

## Digital Learning Center Offers Instructional Support to Employees and Students

The Digital Learning Center (DLC) is open to faculty, staff, and all currently enrolled Montgomery College students. The DLC offers instructional support with a variety of common student use applications and provides online presentations in a variety of topics. User assistance and presentations are delivered using Zoom software and other learning management tools. [View the DLC brochure](#).

# ELITE 2nd Quarter Professional Development Report

October 1, 2020 – December 31, 2020

## Executive Summary

In FY 2021's 2nd Quarter, ELITE offered **49** workshops with a total attendance of **786** faculty, staff and administrators. In addition, **13** workshops were offered in collaboration with other departments/offices that had an attendance of **516**. Together, the total number of workshops was **62** with **1,302** attendance.

All workshops were offered online. MC transitioned to MC Learns through Workday on December 18, 2020.

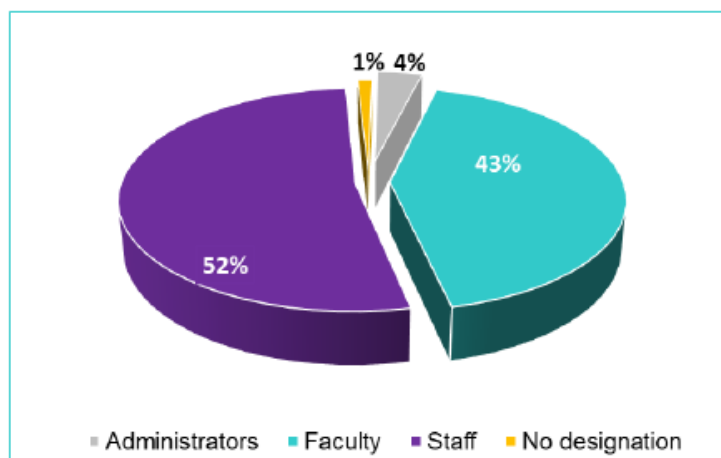
Three MC-required asynchronous workshops (*Return to Campus Webinar for Employees-COVID-19*; *DataSecurity@MC - Annual Review*; *Annual Ethics Training: Conflicts of Interest*) had an attendance of **768**. These are not included in the attendance total.

## New Workshops in Q2

- Engage Students in Video Discussions: Flipgrid Basics (Attendance – 13)
- Lunch and Learn: Decolonizing Higher Education – (43)
- Microsoft Teams Basics for SRT Classes – (19)
- Presidential Election Fundamentals - 4 sessions – (77)
- Zoom Room: An Informal Conversation about the Current Tip of the Week (7)

## Summary Data

Employee Type	
Administrators	47
Faculty	556
Staff	684
No designation	15



## Highlights

- Academy Fall 2020 (4 sessions) – 32 completions
- Crucial Conversations – 78
- Faculty Showcase – Remote Teaching: Highlights of Effective Faculty Practice – 71
- Getting Things Done – 56
- Pedagogical Discussions – 35
- Pronoun Usage and Scholarly Writing (3 sessions) – 53
- Webinar: Are you in Control of Your Email? – 30
- White Fragility and its Critics – 25
- World Access to Higher Education Day 2020 – 47

## Collaborations with the Following Departments

- Athenaeum Symposia, English and Reading, HRSTM, Libraries, Office of Compliance, Risk & Ethics, Office of Equity and Inclusion, OIT, WDCE, WRL Center