



MCRPA Member Spotlight

October 2019

Patricia Polimadei

1. **What is your role at Montgomery College?**

Currently, I am a Community Engagement Specialist II for the Office of Advancement & Community Engagement.

2. **How long have you been in your current profession?**

I have been in this role at Montgomery College for three years. I have close to twenty years of experience working with diverse populations in Montgomery County, including positions in Corrections & Rehabilitation and Mental Health.

3. **How do you define success?**

I measure success through the positive impact I have on the lives of others.

4. **What do you enjoy most about Montgomery College students?**

I love their energy; no matter what the barriers they are willing to overcome them and keep moving forward.

5. **What are you currently passionate about?**

Working with ELITE in leading and co-leading trainings for faculty and staff on customer service practices and our evolving community demographics.

6. **What is one goal you hope to achieve this year?**

I just started working on my Ph.D. in Community Engagement at Point Park University in Pittsburgh, PA. My goal for the year is to balance my time well between my family, career, and education.

7. **What is your favorite quote?**

"You can't connect the dots looking forward; you can only connect them looking backward. So you have to trust that the dots will somehow connect in your future." Steve Jobs

8. **What hobby would you get into if time and money weren't an issue?**

I would love to travel the world and immerse myself in different cultures; not only visit the tourist spots but experience their communities.

9. **They say that everyone has a book in them. What would be the title of your book?**

"Fail Forward without Fear"

Determining what went wrong in a situation has value. But taking that analysis another step and figuring out how to use it to your benefit is the real difference-maker when it comes to failing forward. Do not let your learning lead to knowledge; let your learning lead to action!

10. **What do you want to be remembered for?**

I want to be remembered for my perseverance, my energetic-spirit, and my determination; I want my two sons to know their mom overcame many barriers and never gave up on her goals. I want to leave the world a little bit better than how I found it.