



THEME II: ACCESS, AFFORDABILITY & SUCCESS

Montgomery College will provide affordable access for its communities and ensure student success and completion.

OVERVIEW

In 2012, Montgomery College began its journey to reimagine the community college required for the 21st century. Dramatic growth and demographic changes resulted in a more diverse County, and yet the need and desire for education and opportunity remained constant. To respond, the College committed itself to reinventing institutional roles to provide a consistent, common student experience among its three campuses and noncredit classes. When redesigning students' experiences, it was imperative that the College be sensitive to the changing needs of students and the expanding population base, while protecting affordability. This is the second celebration in our MC 2020 Milestones Marathon series.

MESSAGE FROM DR. BROWN, SVP STUDENT AFFAIRS



"In 2012, a group of students, faculty, staff, and administrators worked together to develop the Seven Truths for a Common Student Experience to establish a set of truths that every student can expect from the College on every campus. To that end, the Welcome Centers were created to serve as an entry point for students. A developmental advising model was designed to better assist students in achieving their educational goals. The Achieving Collegiate Excellence and Success (ACES) was developed as a collaborative effort among Montgomery County Public Schools, Montgomery College, and the Universities at Shady Grove, designed to provide students with a seamless and supportive pathway to a bachelor's degree. In 2014 the Student Services Division was rebranded the Student Affairs Division to represent the student development and student services aspects of our collective work, and the division was realigned to advance the One College model. In 2018, we developed the Student Affairs Master Plan (StAMP), with initiatives designed to enhance the student experience and address the varied and evolving needs of our students, which advances the work that began in 2012 to intentionally foster and promote student development and learning."

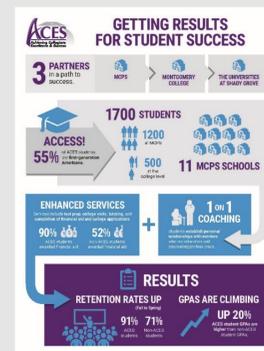
INITIATIVE SPOTLIGHT

- Creation of the Student Affairs Master Plan
- Implementation of the Achieving Collegiate Excellence and Success (ACES) Program
- Opened Welcome Centers on all three campuses
- Adopted a holistic developmental model for advising
- Established the Center for Women Veterans as part of the award-winning Combat2College program
- Creation of the Student Health and Wellness (SHaW) Center for success



CELEBRATING SUCCESS

- 5,700 students accepted to ACES with fall-to-fall retention rates (79%) and GPAs (2.41) higher than non-ACES students
- 48,000 students served by collegewide Welcome Centers
- Fall-to-spring retention rate of 81% for students participating in the Mandatory Advising and Assigned Counselor initiative
- 94% student satisfaction rate for Counseling and Advising
- Scholarship dollars to students from all sources increased 15.4% since 2015



In their own words: Student Perspective



"I like to think of ACES as my second family. I am thankful for the support and guidance of my mentors and the friendship I have made. Choosing the USG campus to complete my bachelor's degree is one of the best decisions I have made."

-- Jathselle Pierre-Louis

In their own words: Faculty Perspective



I try to meet students where they are, infusing an approach of challenge and support. The concept of challenge and support is important to the success of all students, but particularly first-year students as they transition in to higher education, as well as learn and develop skills to persist and complete. It is this concept that guides my overall work with students."

-- Professor Tyra Peanort