Chapter: Educational Program Academic Affairs Modification No. <u>0042</u>

Subject: Academic Affairs Philosophy, Purposes, and Program Commitments

I. Philosophy

Montgomery College is founded on the principle that Tthe vitality of American society and the advancement of its the quality of life of its members depend on require the sustained development of the capacities and abilities of all persons in order that they may realize their individual potential. goals and best contribute to the common welfare. Montgomery Accordingly, the College is committed to educational programs that advance personal growth and civic contribution. was established and continues to be developed on the basis of this principle.

II. The College is committed strives to providing offer an enriching and comprehensive personal learning that actively engages experience to students, faculty, staff, and the broader community. At our core, we believe in fostering a sense of belonging by ensuring access and welcoming all individuals into a diverse and inclusive community. We are dedicated to The national, international, and ethnic heritage of the community ensuring that every person receives the support they need to succeed and complete their educational journey with purpose and impact. We uphold excellence and integrity in our teaching and service duties, striving to meet the highest standards in our learning environments and curricula, as reflected in the student body contributes to the learning experience, offering a unique opportunity for students to increase their interest in and appreciation of diverse cultures. Encouragement of such intercultural understanding enhances the ability to appreciate individual differences and to communicate ideas for solving local, national, and international problems.

The College as an educational resource center, is committed to extend its services into the community and to lend assistance in the search for solutions to community problems. In providing these services, the College acknowledges its responsibility and desire to participate actively with public, private, civic, and governmental agencies.

- III. Through deeply situated student focused partnerships with educational entities, business and industry, and community organizations, the College responds with purpose and intentionality to educational, social, and economic challenges.
- IV. The College is committed to educational programs that ensure post-completion success, advance personal growth, equity, inclusion, social justice, and civic contribution, and regularly reviews and renews its catalog of educational programs with a critical lens which focuses on effecting transformation at scale.
- V. The College provides exceptional comprehensive educational experiences for students, faculty, staff, and the broader community, provides students with support that authentically aligns with their need, and regularly renews programs and curricula to ensure currency and relevance.

II. Purposes

VI. Montgomery College is a public, multicampus, comprehensive community college established and supported by Montgomery County and the State of Maryland for the

primary purpose of providing <u>accessible</u>, <u>high-quality education</u>, <u>appropriate and essential education</u> and training <u>that prepares out students for post-completion success in the workforce</u>, at transfer institutions, and/or in their personal, social, and civic lives. <u>beyond high school</u>. The College's policies and purposes are intended to be consistent with its philosophy and with the relevant laws and regulations of the State of Maryland.

- VII. In keeping with its philosophy, Montgomery College has an obligation to will:
 - A. Maintain an <u>excellentexceptional</u> comprehensive educational program <u>designed</u> to <u>meet_responsive to</u> the <u>diverse and changing</u> educational, social, economic, and cultural needs of the community.
 - B. Maintain an open admissions policy programs which shall provide educational opportunities for all eligible citizens who desire to enroll., regardless of their educational background. ranging from those with exceptional high school records to those who lack a high school diploma.
 - C. Maintain Continue its commitment to an equal opportunity/affirmative action_in student admissions and other student-related policies and procedures, in accordance with Policy 41002: Equal Education and Non-Discrimination Policy. program. The College widely publicizes its programs and services and seeks out and encourages admittance of those whose background might otherwise have precluded development of a desire for self-improvement at the college level. The College assures equal opportunity to all in the admissions process, in student financial assistance, in other student services and procedures, and in employment, without regard to age, sex, race, color, handicap, religious belief, or national origin.
 - D. <u>Promote Require and facilitate high qualitystandards for academic performance and foster a culture of sustained, rigorous intellectual engagement in alignment with the College's mission of access. discipline.</u>
 - E. Provide student instructional and nonacademic co-curricular support services designed to assist students in their educational development, in their determination of realistic their educational goals, and in the ir achievement of theose goals.
 - F. Provide a <u>supportive favorable</u> learning <u>environment climate to meet the needs of a diverse student body</u> by maintaining <u>a close studentteacher strong student-teacher</u> relationships, <u>individualized instruction</u>, and <u>above all, aensuring a</u> faculty and administration mutually committed to provid<u>inge</u> quality <u>educational experiences and instruction and continued improvement in teaching methods research, and application of inclusive, culturally responsive, and equity-focused instructional methods that meet the needs of diverse learners.</u>
 - G. Build into the framework of College programs and curriculums: (I) A recognition that many problems and ideas are global in scope, and (2) an appreciation of the intercultural variances and richness within and beyond our own community.
 - <u>G</u>H. Provide for professional growth opportunities for the College's faculty, administrators, and staff <u>designed to support and improve educational programs and student success outcomes.</u>

102 Hŧ. Take a data-driven informed approach to Continually reviewing the College's 103 programs and services in order to provide high quality educational experiences in 104 the most effective and economical fiscally prudent manner. 105 106 Through the implementation of these policies, Montgomery College endeavors to provide 107 an educational environment for each student to: that contributes to the creation of a 108 college-going culture and ensures students receive educational experiences of economic, 109 social and community impact such that they are able to discover their passions and 110 unlock their potential to transform lives, enrich the community, and change the world. 111 112 Accurately and open-mindedly appraise people, goals, abilities, achievements, values, 113 and behavior and to make decisions and base his/her conduct on such appraisals. 114 115 Expand knowledge, understanding, and appreciation of the world. 116 Develop the skills and basic intellectual qualities required for productive participation in 117 118 further higher education experiences, continuing education, work with occupational 119 proficiency, and to enjoy life as a mature person. 120 121 Develop social responsibilities and leadership characteristics and to learn the economic. 122 political, and social frameworks of our county, state and nation in order to establish a firm 123 foundation for effective participation in a democratic society. 124 125 Program Commitments 126 127 Consistent with its philosophy, policies, and purposes, Montgomery College offers a high 128 quality educational program which includes: 129 130 Curricula preparing students for transfer to upper-division degree studies at universities 131 and other colleges. 132 133 Technical and semiprofessional curricula for students wishing to prepare for immediate 134 employment. 135 136 A broad-based general educational curriculum upon which students with undecided 137 objectives can build. 138 139 Credit and noncredit courses which may be utilized for enhancing employment, 140 reemployment, retraining, and exploring interests in various professional and 141 semiprofessional fields. 142 143 A community services program which extends the resources of the College into the 144 community. 145 146 Forums, lectures, short courses, concerts, dramatic productions, art exhibits, athletics, 147 and other activities, the purpose of which is to add balance to the total instructional 148 program of the College. 149 150 Academically and also vocationally oriented counseling services. 151 152 A program designed to identify and help remedy students' academic deficiencies. 153 154 An early placement program for qualified high school seniors wishing to supplement their

155 156		secondary school courses and/or accelerate their college studies.
157 158	J.	An honors program for students of outstanding ability.
159 160 161 162	K.	An extensive summer program for students enrolled at the College, for undergraduates from other institutions, and for high school graduates who wish to begin their college studies.
163 164 165		In all of the above programs and services, aimed at the development of the intellectual and cultural interests of its students, the College strives to be a vital multicampus, educational and cultural center of the community.
166 167 168 169	<u>₩III.</u>	The Board of Trustees authorizes the president to establish any procedures necessary to implement this policy
170	Board	Approval: June 26, 1978; DATE.