

### October 7, 2016

## **October Meeting Highlights—What to Expect and Why**

Your next meeting occurs on Monday, October 17. Following are major items and topics planned at this time.

**Constituent Conversation.** The second constituent conversation of the year will be held with the Faculty Council. Table groups will play Achieving the Dream's "Finish Line Game," which will serve as the basis for the conversation to be facilitated by two faculty members, Dr. Denise Simmons Graves and Professor Shinta Hernandez.

**Biennial Capital Budget.** The FY18 capital budget reflects the second year of the FY17–18 biennial capital budget of the six year FY17–22 capital improvements program (CIP). The FY18 budget is made up of 26 projects and totals \$38,242,000. After reviewing the budget at your October meeting, you will vote on adoption in November.

*Financial Sustainability SWOT.* The first of a series of SWOTs under the Board's Envisioning the Future effort will be presented in October. This SWOT—strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats—addresses issues related to the financial sustainability of the College.

**Focus Report.** My *President's Focus* report this month will continue with the theme of impacts and look this month at the College's reorganizations: why they were important, what they have accomplished, and how they are supporting student success. In addition, a brief video will be shown to highlight the report.

*Self-Study Update.* The co-chairs of the College's Middle States Self-Study Steering Committee will provide an update on the work being done to develop the College's Self-Study for our 2018 reaccreditation.

**Policy Matters.** Three policy matters are on the agenda—one new policy and two policy modifications. The new policy is Acquisition, Sale, and Disposal of College Real Property and reflects the authority of community college boards as defined in state law. This new policy covers all property possibilities and more clearly articulates the Board's authority. The modification to the Student Cumulative Records policy incorporates new language on confidentiality. And the third matter concerns the policy addressing fund balance in which the terms are changed to mirror those used by the county government.

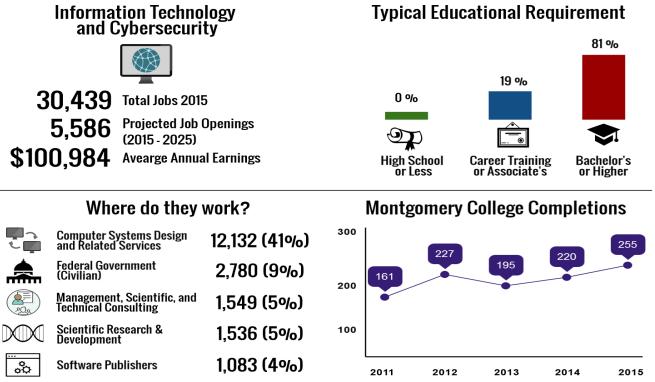
Landmark Gateway Signage, Rockville Campus. This competitively bid contract will construct a gateway onto the Rockville Campus at the North Campus Drive entrance off of Frederick Road, Route 355. Project elements include an LED sign, a changeable banner sign, and large stainless steel letters spelling "Montgomery College," which sit atop a curved stone wall. This matches the elements that are at the South Campus Drive entrance to the campus.

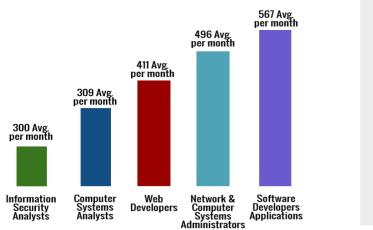
*Award Presentation.* Leaders of the Federal Asian Pacific American Council will present a special award to the College during the Board meeting.

*Retirement Recognitions.* Retirement recognition resolutions, including medallion recognitions, come for your consideration in October for College employees who retired on or after July 1.

## **Data Focus of the Month** Preparing Students for Jobs in Information Technology and Cybersecurity

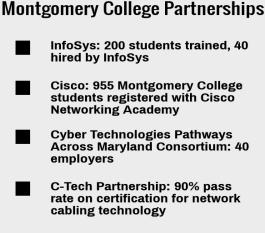
IT and cybersecurity are critical to the workforce in Montgomery County. A dearth of skilled workers in these fields has inspired the College to build new programs such our cybersecurity program which began offering an AAS in 2008. Enrollment in the program has grown to more than five times what it was five years ago. The College also partners with other educational institutions, such as the Cyber Watch consortium (2003), and secures federal funding such as the \$15 million Trade Adjustment Assistance Community College and Career Training (TAACCCT) grant and \$4 million TecHire grant. Among many employers in the county, Booz Allen, Hughes Networking, IBM, and Lockheed Martin are just a few for which IT and cybersecurity skills are in high demand.





### Most Unfilled Jobs in 2015





Data Sources: Economic Modeling Specialists, International; Maryland Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation; U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics; U.S. Census Bureau.

# Montgomery College 2020 Update of the Month



The College has been implementing the strategic plan *Montgomery College 2020* since 2012 and it has driven significant changes in support of student success. Theme II of the plan, Access, Affordability, and Success, states that "by 2020, Montgomery College will provide students with a successful experience, from the first connection through to the completion of students' desired goals." Enrollment management is an important part of these efforts as it impacts how many students enroll, which disciplines are marketed, how many courses students take, and how well students are retained.

*How is MC recruiting students more successfully?* Some students apply to MC, are admitted, but then don't register for classes. Several strategies were put in place to remedy this, with the goal of increasing our draw rate of students from the public schools from 25 percent to 30 percent. The College is expanding its Summer Bridge Program, a one-credit course that allows students to experience the college environment prior to the fall term. In 2016 two kinds of bridges were offered: First Year Experience Summer Bridge Program and a GT-STEP Summer Bridge, just for STEM students. The College also held a Parent Night for MCPS students and parents this spring, and will be offering it again in 2017. In FY16, the rate of admitted students who applied for financial aid and then actually enrolled at the College increased by one percent, reversing a four-year trend of declines.

*How is MC increasing the number of dual enrolled students?* Several strategies are moving the College toward the goal of increasing the sections of dual enrollment from 16 to 22. Developing stronger relationships with high school principals is key and is being accomplished gradually. Revising internal policies and procedures that can be barriers to high school students is another ongoing initiative.

*How is MC increasing course enrollment for individual students?* Research shows that students who enroll full time are more likely to complete in a timely manner. Since one of the barriers to this dynamic is financial hardship, the College developed scholarships to incentivize students to enroll full time. The goal is to provide 300 students with \$500 per semester to incentivize them to take 15 credits hours at once. A web scholarship application has been created and outreach to eligible students is being conducted, with the first awards for fall 2016 in process now.

*How is MC improving its marketing?* The College plans to increase enrollment by more intensively marketing the seven most rapidly growing disciplines: engineering, computer science, biotechnology, health, hospitality, business and cybersecurity. The new website has already given a new face to the College and is expanding to the disciplines.

Be well,

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DeRionne P. Pollard, PhD

We empower our students to change their lives, and we enrich the life of our community. We are accountable for our results.