

To: Montgomery College Community

From: Dr. DeRionne P. Pollard, President

Subject: Resources and Remote Teaching

Date: July 6, 2020

Good afternoon. I hope you had a safe and restful July Fourth weekend.

As we enter this final week of the first summer session, I want to remind students of those resources that may help them finish strong, including [virtual tutoring](#), which is available in many subjects. For those of you still considering summer II or fall classes, [counseling and advising](#) are just a click away. There are also numerous [food distribution](#) events around Montgomery County in July, as well as special food delivery options for seniors and minors.

For faculty and staff, I want to point you to a wonderful piece in the *Montgomery College Innovation Journal* by faculty member Jennifer Lee: [Seen, Heard, and Empowered: Meeting Student Needs in Our Remote Learning Classrooms](#). While remote teaching may seem like old hat now, Professor Lee's insights on how the needs of first-generation students are exacerbated by the pandemic are spot on. She has some excellent observations about how acknowledging their vulnerability in our current circumstances can help them cope, and even thrive. While the pandemic has created some unique challenges for instructors, I have been deeply impressed with how our faculty and staff have increased their service to students and their sense of community with colleagues. Some are helping their fellow instructors with technology, others with content, and others with emotional support. We are truly a model for students of what a community can accomplish.

As we continue our COVID-19 related planning for the fall, we will hold another Conversation with Leadership on Wednesday, July 29, at 1 p.m. Please watch for details on how to connect with this virtual event and learn more about the College's plans.

I wish you well wrapping up summer session I classes this week. Please stay healthy, and watch out for the heat this week.