

Subject: Tuesday Update - May 12, 2020

Date: Tuesday, May 12, 2020 at 9:00:11 AM Eastern Daylight Time

From: Rai, Sanjay K

To: Rockville Faculty{FT&PT}, Germantown Faculty{FT&PT}, Takoma Park Faculty{FT&PT}, Academic Affairs Staff and Administrators

Colleagues –

This is the culminating week for a journey that began seven weeks ago. This odyssey into remote teaching and learning has been successful in ways that far exceed what I imagined then. I knew that we would not let our students down. I knew that you would rise to the occasion. You tackled each challenge with phenomenal innovation and effort. People have told me how relentless these seven weeks have been. You have been relentless in your response, with your resiliency. I could not have foreseen how high you would rise to lift up our students.

Each spring, we honor excellence. The Outstanding Faculty Awards for AY19-20 were shared on Friday during the president's Closing Meeting. Please join me in congratulating these colleagues.

Faculty of the year:

Full-Time Faculty of the Year

Professor Mario Parcan
Architectural and Construction Technologies

Part-Time Faculty of the Year

Dr. MinhVan Tran
Chemical and Biological Sciences

Excellence in Teaching/Counseling/Academic Advising:

Professor Dana Baker, Full-time, Counseling and Advising
Professor Shelly Caldwell-Bennett, Full-time, Counseling and Advising
Professor Kathrine Collins, Part-time, Engineering, Physical and Computer Sciences
Professor Naomi Daremblum, WD&CE Lifelong Learning Institute
Professor Stephen Gladson, Full-time, English and Reading
Professor Arthur Grinath, Full-time, Business, Economics, Accounting, Management, Computer

Applications and Paralegal Studies

Professor Tamara Henneman, Part-time, ELAP
Professor Barbara LaPilusa, Full-time, Counseling and Advising
Dr. Emily Lichvar, Part-time, Psychology
Professor David Lott, Full-time, ELAP, Linguistics and Communication Studies
Professor Erin Marcinek, Full-time, Counseling and Advising
Professor Andrea Steelman, Full-time, Mathematics
Professor Sharon Teuben-Rowe, Full-time, English and Reading

Excellence in Service to the Institution and/or Community:

Professor Matthew Decker, Full-time, English and Reading
Professor Sharon Piper, Full-time, Health Sciences

Excellence in Scholarly or Professional Accomplishments:

Professor James Hodge, Part-time, Business

Dr. Vedham Karpakakunjaram, Full-time, Biology
Professor Jamie Gillan, Full-time, English and Reading
Dr. Sandra Maley, Part-time, English and Reading

The Awards webpage is being updated this week, and will include a brief synopsis of each awardee's nomination packet. The Full- and Part-time Faculty of the Year recipients, will be recognized in *Intersections* and Inside MC. I also want to acknowledge **Mr. Michael Mehalick, STEM Internship Coordinator, and the recipient of the AY19-20 Montgomery College Staff of the Year Award.** Congratulations to all awardees!

The fall schedule is viewable today. Registration opens on May 18. Just a reminder, looking forward, classes begin August 31. We are proceeding with implementing a no-cut schedule. Many of you have contributed to developing a schedule with the goal of eliminating the disruption caused by the cancellation of classes. I want to thank you for that difficult work. We will closely monitor enrollment and add sections as needed. Please read the [message](#) from Dr. Pollard for further information about the fall semester.

Summer enrollments continue to be very strong. Students are sending us as message. Even as we continue to offer only online and structured remote formats, they are registering. Your embedded, covert lesson taught this spring has been that students can be successful in this different environment. Even as many are eager to return to campus, a higher priority is the continuity of their education. Summer I seat utilizations have already climbed to 83.3%. Based on early, strong enrollment, 61 sections have been added (see [Seat Utilization Reports](#) dated May 1 and May 12). Summer II has reached 50.6% including the addition (to-date) of 14 sections. This makes me very optimistic about the fall.

[Virtual tutoring](#) sessions exceeded one thousand (1,123) last week! This significant, and amazing, surge represents a 25.8% increase over the previous week. Through May 9, Blackboard [course access minutes](#) reached (528,556,543), over half a billion! [Withdrawals](#) are still lower than the same time period last year with 1,212 compared with 2,096. As we anticipated, Withdrawals in Crisis (WC) have increased to 21, up from 15 last week. We know that many students have faced serious challenges during the pandemic. I am grateful to the Academic Regs committee for creating this relief valve that will serve these students well. Additional data can be found on the [Dashboard](#).

Many of you have registered for or completed critical professional development (PD) ensuring that classes offered online and in structured remote formats reflect the best of MC quality. I want to thank our ELITE colleagues who continue to expand and enhance PD opportunities. I have heard from some of you who have completed these trainings – that you have been surprised at how much you have learned and how much you are able to enhance your teaching, fully leveraging the tools available in the remote environment. ELITE will be launching a web page on Wednesday with information about training for teaching in the structured remote environment. I am so impressed by the opportunities many of you will have to learn from our own expert colleagues (who are nationally recognized) as well as from invited national experts in this pedagogy.

MC is everywhere, now - classrooms and offices are in homes across the County. And there are wonderful things happening at MC in so many places and so many ways. You have made this possible. I close, again, by saying thank you.

Sanjay