January 12, 2018

January Meeting Highlights—What to Expect and Why

Your next meeting occurs on Wednesday, January 24, 2018. Following are the activities, reports, and resolutions planned at this time.

Constituent Conversation with Administrator Council. Your evening begins with a constituent conversation with members of the Administrators Council, one of the councils in our participatory governance system. This year's theme continues to focus on preparing for the next strategic plan, which will launch when *Montgomery College 2020* concludes.

Acceptance of the College's Self-Study. The College's 2018 Self-Study, as prepared for submission to the Middle States Commission on Higher Education, is presented for your acceptance. As you know, the Self-Study has been several years in the making and is the result of extensive research, communication, and review. Upon your action, the report will be submitted to the Commission, and then to the members of our visiting team, who will come to the College in March.

Montgomery College 2020 *Update.* Our annual report on *Montgomery College 2020*, the College's strategic plan, will be presented in a video. In addition to my monthly updates on progress regarding the plan, this annual video features progress and activities across the College. Please note that this report will be given in lieu of my regular monthly written *President's Focus* report, which will return in February.

Adoption of the FY19 Current, Enterprise, and Other Funds Budget. The proposed Fiscal Year 2019 current, enterprise, and other funds budget comes to the Board for adoption. As discussed at your December 2017 meeting, the proposed budget expresses the Board's and president's commitment to student learning, access and completion, and safety and security. Furthermore, the proposed budget demonstrates the Board's and president's commitment to employee salary improvements and associated benefit increases. After your action, this budget will be submitted to the county executive and county council for their review and action.

Policy Matters. Three new policy proposals will be presented. The first is a new policy on medical examinations and fitness for duty. The second concerns field trips and requires that they be planned to maximize student learning and minimize risk. The third new proposed policy relates to corporate sponsorships, establishing parameters for selecting them and authorizing the Office of Advancement and Community Engagement to oversee their execution.

Data Focus

This month provides an update on the work of the two Community Engagement Centers in Gaithersburg and the East County, which opened in 2014 and 2015, respectively.

Community Engagement Centers

Two Locations

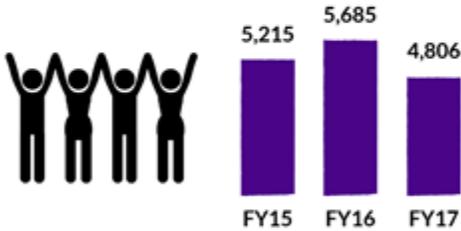Charles E. Gilchrist Immigrant Resource Center at the Gaithersburg Library

East County Community Engagement Center at Eastern Montgomery Regional Service Center
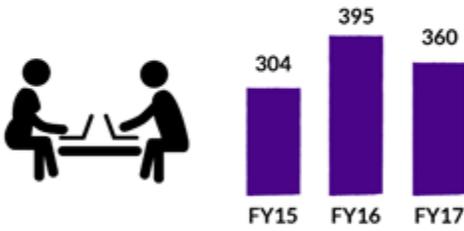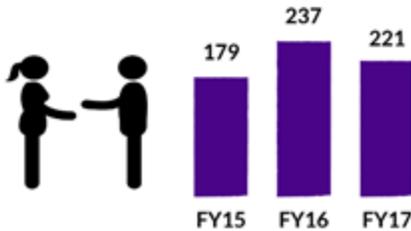
15,706
TOTAL RESIDENTS VISITED CENTERS

5,215 — FY15
5,685 — FY16
4,806 — FY17

1,059
ATTENDED INFORMATION SESSION ABOUT COLLEGE PROGRAMS

304 — FY15
395 — FY16
360 — FY17

637
ONE-ON-ONE ADVISER MEETINGS

179 — FY15
237 — FY16
221 — FY17

666
STUDENTS TOOK A CLASS AT CENTERS

227 — FY15
331 — FY16
108 — FY17

College 2020 Update of the Month

Since 2012, the *Montgomery College 2020* strategic plan has driven significant changes in support of student success. Theme II, Access, Affordability, and Success, states that "Montgomery College will provide students with a successful experience, from the first connection through the completion of students' desired goals." For students in the Achieving Collegiate Excellence and Success (ACES) program, that first connection occurs at Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS).

When did the ACES program begin? The ACES program began in fall 2013 and is a collaborative partnership among MCPS, Montgomery College, and the Universities at Shady Grove (USG), designed to provide a seamless supportive pathway to a baccalaureate degree.

How do the academic coaches assist students? The ACES program utilizes a case management approach to provide structured college readiness activities, ongoing academic coaching, and individualized support services for students at their respective high school or college campus. There are 13 high school coaches, five campus coaches at Montgomery College, and one success coach at USG.

How many students are served by the ACES program? Since the program's inception, ACES has served more than 3,500 students. Currently, there are more than 1,500 students being served at 13 high schools. There are almost 800 students being served at MC and more than 40 students attending the Universities at Shady Grove. Among the students currently being served, approximately 70 percent of them are first generation college students, 89 percent fall into an underrepresented category, and 62 percent are considered low income.

How are ACES students performing? The overall fall-to-fall retention rate for ACES students is 82 percent with an average grade point average of 2.41. As of summer 2017, 99 students had graduated from Montgomery College, several earning more than one credential. Forty-two students have transferred to a four-year institution prior to completing an associate's degree. Ten of the 40 students attending USG are on track to graduate in May 2018 with baccalaureate degrees.

What are students saying? Some samples of feedback from online student surveys:
- "The ACES program is the only reason I can go to college and I know I am on the right path!"
- "Thank God for my ACES Coach, she was available for me without judgment!"
- "They are so helpful, they care about us, and they know what they're talking about."
- "The workshops are really helpful, lots of scholarship opportunities."

What is the next step for the ACES Program? Adding services that offer career coaching, leadership training opportunities, and parent education workshops are planned in the next phase of growth.

Be well,

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.