
Chapter: Public Safety, Health, & Emergency Management

Modification No. 001

Subject: **Drone/Unmanned Aerial Vehicle Use**

- I. The Board of Trustees recognizes that the use of unmanned aerial vehicles (“UAVs”) along with aerial vehicles known as “drones” can make significant contributions to College operations and service/outreach in a variety of disciplines. Additionally, aerial photography with UAVs can potentially assist in College land management, athletics, safety and other support functions.
- II. UAV regulation is emerging and multi-faceted, and public concern with privacy as it relates to the use of UAVs is well documented. UAV operational safety, entailing both UAV equipment and use, is regulated by the FAA, and the College’s location in the Washington D.C. metropolitan area presents additional regulatory challenges.
- III. Therefore, it is the policy of Montgomery College that flying unmanned aerial vehicles of any type on all College property is prohibited except for approved operational or instructional use. Individual students, staff or outside entities may not operate unmanned aircraft/drones on College-owned property, interiors or exteriors.
- IV. The College may require additional insurance provisions for operational and instructional use to ensure compliance with legal obligations and to reduce risks to safety, security and privacy.
- V. The use of UAVs of any type is prohibited inside College-owned buildings unless used under the auspices of an academic program or individual with specific authorization from the appropriate provost in consultation with the campus facilities manager. UAVs shall not be used to monitor or record areas where there is a reasonable expectation of privacy in accordance with accepted social norms. These areas include but are not limited to restrooms, locker rooms, and private offices. UAVs shall not be used to monitor or record sensitive institutional or personal information which may be found, for example, on an individual’s workspaces, on computer or other electronic displays.
- VI. The College reserves the right to immediately shut down the operation of an UAV if it creates any type of electronic interference, poses a hazard to sensitive campus equipment, or interferes with any college activity.
- VII. Local Law Enforcement use of UAV technology in execution of a search warrant or as part of a tactical response to an immediate threat is automatically authorized, subject to applicable law and government regulations.
- VIII. The President is authorized and directed to establish procedures to implement this policy.

Board Approval: January 23, 2017