From: MC Communications

To: All Employees Dynamic Grp; All Registered Students

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I was thrilled to attend welcome week activities at each of the campuses last week! What a terrific chance to meet new friends, explore clubs and activities, and connect in ways that lead to completion.

## **Student Resources**

With a new semester up and running, I encourage all students to look at opportunities to grow your skills through leadership development programs such as MC Leads. Internships are also extraordinary opportunities to prepare for future employment, and many are paid. The Hispanic Association of Colleges & Universities' National Internship Program connects students to paid federal internship opportunities year-round—Friday is the registration deadline. Internships related to climate change are open for another seven days.

There are also several financial aid events on the horizon, including one <u>this Thursday</u>, so register and ensure you are getting all the aid for which you are eligible. If you're interested in a job, see the College's student career and employment services for upcoming <u>job fairs</u> and recruitment events. These are terrific opportunities to connect and learn about the job market.

## **Resources for Faculty and Staff**

Faculty and staff are powerful advocates for student success, and several new resources can multiply that impact. The <u>Universal Design Center</u> provides resources and guidance on creating accessible materials. The Montgomery College Foundation's <u>Innovation Fund</u> has up to \$40,000 for projects to enhance the student experience across various learning environments, aiming not just at academic success but also at contributing to a richer community fabric. This year's theme is "Innovations in Connection, Completion, and Community," and an information session on February 20 can help you explore potential ideas. The Library's online platform for tutorials, videos, and quizzes, Credo, has updated several of its existing tutorials with relevant discussions of artificial intelligence and information literacy topics. Please see the MC Library's <u>Tutorials</u>, <u>Videos</u>, and <u>Quizzes for the Faculty page</u> for new content. There is also a fascinating <u>tutorial on fact-checking</u>.

## **Finding Your Place at MC**

As we launch into the second week of classes, I want to express my appreciation for the openness and outreach I have witnessed in so many spaces. Returning students are welcoming new students. Student Life is drawing in all students with a range of activities that create community. Raptor Central, counseling faculty, and financial aid staff are engaging students to help them unlock their potential with resources and guidance. Instructional faculty are investing in experiential learning to build creative pathways to completion. And finally, the College's facilities teams are working diligently to keep our campuses and worksites cleared of snow and ice so that we can show up in person whenever possible. Each of us has a role in creating community at MC, and I'm proud to be watching it blossom.

With Raptor Regards,

Dr. Jermaine F. Williams

President

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