From: MC Communications

To: All Employees Dynamic Grp; All Registered Students

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As we dive into the second week of February, opportunities for growth and connection are everywhere! Last week, I had the pleasure of visiting MC's East County Education Center (ECEC) and witnessed firsthand how community outreach is connecting our new site with future students. With classes growing, financial literacy events, mental health resources, and immigration discussions, ECEC is buzzing with engagement.

Senior Vice President for Student Affairs Forums Rescheduled

Out of an abundance of caution with possible inclement weather this week, the open forums for the senior vice president for student affairs have been moved to later this month. The forums provide an opportunity to meet the candidates, welcome them to Montgomery College, and share in a discussion about every aspect of the student experience—recruitment, registration, counseling, advising, Raptor Central, financial aid, athletics, Student Life, veterans' services, and more. An in-person forum is planned at each campus with a remote option as well. More details about the forums can be found here. Faculty, staff, and students are welcome.

Plan for Success

Looking ahead is essential for post-completion success. I encourage all students to tap into MC tools — counseling and advising and transfer fairs to help you shape a professional path that reflects your unique talents and interests. Also, check out the spring volunteer fairs on each campus— Germantown's is tomorrow—to make new connections and build new skills.

Professor at Sea Maps Marine Life

MC Biology Professor Kiersten Newtoff returned last week from an exciting 21-day adventure on the *Pisces* ship as part of the Teacher at Sea program offered by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). Professor Newtoff participated in the Atlantic Marine Assessment Program for Protected Species, which collects data on marine mammals, turtles, and seabirds, <u>creating maps</u> that show their distribution. She maintained a <u>vibrant blog</u> about her experience and is now working to disseminate lesson plans based upon her experiences. She will also share her experiences in a presentation at the <u>Maryland Collegiate STEM Conference</u>. Congratulations to Professor Newtoff for her pursuits that will benefit species protection as well as her students!

Have a wonderful week!

With Raptor Regards,

Dr. Jermaine F. Williams President

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