

# MONTHLY OUTLOOK

*A Meeting Preview with Data Insights and MC 2020 Progress*

January 11, 2019

## January Meeting Highlights—What to Expect and Why

Happy new year! Your next board meeting occurs on Wednesday, January 23, and includes these major items and topics at this time:

**Constituent Conversation.** This month's constituent conversation will be held with the Administrator Council. Dr. Debra Bright and Dr. Rebecca Thomas will facilitate the discussion as we continue our consideration of student retention.

**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.

**Online Degree.** This action would provide for the early childhood education technology AAS degree to be offered online. This program prepares students to work with individuals from infancy through age 8 in a variety of early childhood settings. Upon the Board's approval, the online offering will be submitted to the Maryland Higher Education Commission for final approval. This will be the fifth MC degree to be offered completely online.

**Adoption of the FY20 Operating Budget.** At your meeting in December, the proposed Fiscal Year 2020 operating budget was presented for your review and discussion. As discussed at your December 2018 meeting, the proposed budget expresses the Board's and president's commitment to student learning, access and completion, and the commitment to support salary improvements as well as benefit increases. After your action, this budget will be submitted to the county executive and county council for their review and action.

**Contract Change Order for Information Technology Products and Services.** This change order request is for an increase in the total annual estimated award amount of multiple award of contracts for network and infrastructure products and services. Since the original award of these multiple contracts in June 2016, the Office of Information Technology has identified additional equipment needs related to IT network infrastructure lifecycle management, IT data center infrastructure lifecycle management, facilities renovation and new building IT infrastructure, essential IT infrastructure contracted consulting services, planned IT security hardware and software solutions, and other collegewide initiatives requiring IT infrastructure hardware.

**Construction Manager for the Catherine and Isiah Leggett Math and Science Building.** Phase I of this competitively bid contract is for the appointment of a "construction manager at risk" for the Catherine and Isiah Leggett Math and Science Building. The contract includes preconstruction services.

### The following item is on your consent calendar:

**Personnel Actions Confirmation Report.** This is a review of personnel actions documents actions taken in December.

## Data Focus of the Month



In the 2018 fall semester, 4,033 MC students were new-to-college students. That means that these students were brand new college students, sometimes referred to as “first-time-in-college” (FTIC) students. Most importantly for MC, these students are the first cohort upon which the College’s student success goals for completion and transfer—30 percent and 50 percent, respectively—will be based.

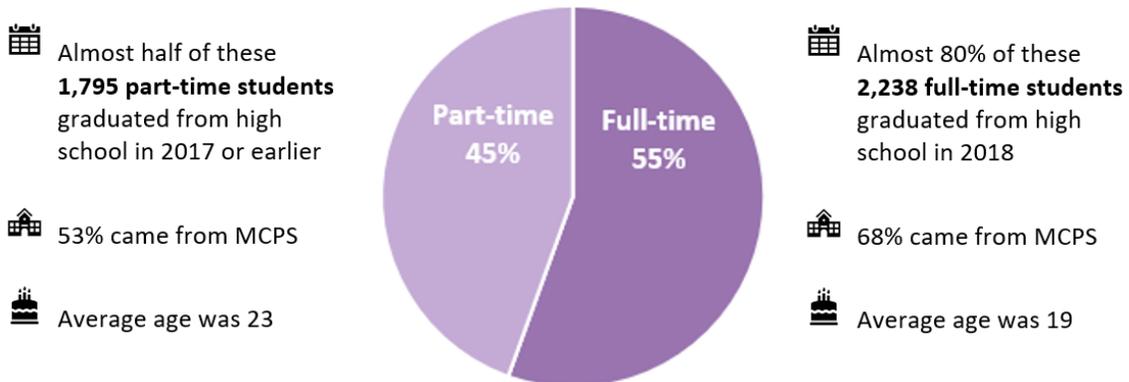
The cohort is five percent smaller than the fall 2017 cohort, when there were 4,228 FTIC students, but is a slightly larger proportion of the total student body. The fall 2017 cohort made up 18.5 percent of all students, the fall 2018 cohort is 18.9 percent of the 21,270 students.

| The Fall 2018 First-Time-in-College Student Cohort |      |  |     |
|--|------|--|-----|
| <b>4,033 students</b>                              |      | <b>Graduated high school</b>               |     |
|  |      | <i>In 2018.....</i>                        | 68% |
| <b>Gender</b>                                      |      | <i>1-3 years ago.....</i>                  | 15% |
| <i>Female.....</i>                                 | 50%  | <i>More than 3 years ago.....</i>          | 16% |
| <i>Male.....</i>                                   | 50%  | <b>Graduated from</b>                      |     |
| <b>Average Age.....</b>                            |      | <i>MCPS high school.....</i>               | 62% |
|  | 20.6 | <i>Other Maryland.....</i>                 | 16% |
|  |      | <i>Foreign/International.....</i>          | 14% |
|  |      | <i>Other (e.g., GED, home school).....</i> | 8%  |

There are 112 countries of origin represented by the new students, with El Salvador, Ethiopia, Cameroon, Peru, and Honduras being the countries with the largest numbers of students. Some 380 of the new students had earned MC credits while in high school. Almost one-third (29 percent) of the students were first-generation in college students. In addition, one-third (32 percent) of this cohort qualified for Pell grants.

While 10 percent of the fall 2018 cohort was enrolled in an English language courses for speakers of other languages, a large number of the new students were engaged in other college preparatory coursework as well—34 percent and 31 percent, respectively, were taking English or mathematics coursework that provided supplemental support based on assessment and placement measurements. As the graphic below illustrates, there were interesting differences between full-time and part-time students, where full-time status is defined as being enrolled in 12 credits or more.

### Comparing Full-time and Part-time First-Time-in-College Students at MC *Fall 2018*



## Montgomery College 2020 Update of the Month



Since 2012, the *Montgomery College 2020* strategic plan has driven significant changes in support of student success. The preferred future envisioned under Theme II, Access, Affordability, and Success states that the “College will provide affordable access for its communities and ensure student success and completion.” The Student Affairs Master Plan (StAMP) was launched in spring 2018 to support this goal, among others, in the strategic plan. Below are some brief updates on how StAMP initiatives are supporting students as they access college, get proper academic guidance, and find financial support.

**Work is progressing on StAMP’s advising goals.** The Comprehensive Advising planning team prioritized the cohorts of first-time, degree-seeking students by program of study to begin assigning counseling faculty to the groups. Counseling chairs convened a collegewide workgroup that met throughout 2018 to focus on advising outcomes and assessment. In addition, the College partnered with two coaches from the American Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers (AACRAO) to provide advice on our strategic enrollment management planning. On-site meetings with various College offices and units were held last fall. The AACRAO coaches submitted a recommendations report, which is being reviewed and shared this spring. To help students receiving financial aid stay on track, a training program was designed for the first Academic Program Compliance and Academic Progress (APCAP) coaches to help students with satisfactory academic progress and program of study issues. The search process for the APCAP coaches is underway.

**Recruiting efforts reach high school students with comprehensive information.** The Office of Recruitment initiated the “Raptors Rising” pilot program last year at MCPS high schools to simplify onboarding and provide early engagement between potential MC students and College faculty and staff. Students were able to apply to MC and complete enrollment steps at the event on-site at their high schools, as well as learn about financial aid and academic offerings.

**The StAMP vision for supporting students’ wellness needs is taking root.** The Student Health and Wellness Center (SHaW) partnered with Adventist Health to host a health and wellness services kickoff fair at the Rockville Campus. Free flu shots for students and wellness services were offered on all three campuses throughout the semester. The ShaW Center mobile markets on all three campuses are well known and supply fresh fruit, vegetables, and other food to thousands of students and community members.

**Athletics is advancing with move to Division I and II.** Athletics is an important student activity where student-athletes learn teamwork, sharpen their skills on the court or field, and excel in the classroom. The College’s athletics division change from III to I and II became official on July 1, 2018. The College secured approval for two athletic scholarship proposals and the first athletic scholarships were awarded to students in the fall semester, with 10 full tuition and fees scholarships offered to student athletes. In addition, the Montgomery College Foundation approved \$30,000 for athletic scholarships covering tuition, books, and other educational expenses.

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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.*