From: The President
To: MC Communications List
Subject: College Update
Date: Monday, September 27, 2010 1:46:19 PM

MONTGOMERY COLLEGE
Office of the President

September 27, 2010

MEMORANDUM

To: The Montgomery College Community

From: Dr. DeRionne P. Pollard, President

Subject: College Update

After almost two months serving as president of Montgomery College, I firmly believe that I have found myself in the right place at the right time. I am thrilled about the opportunities created for me to meet with students, faculty, and staff, as well as the College's external community of supporters. I am also grateful for the efforts of the Presidential Transition Advisory Committee, which has been providing me with critical feedback about where to focus my energy over the next year. Much of their feedback has come from their knowledge of the college and their solicitation of insight from members of the College community. For a more detailed accounting of my recent activities, I invite you to view my video blogs, which are posted to *Inside MC Online* each Friday and archived on the president's web site.

One issue that requires our collective attention is the College's fiscal situation. I am studying recent financial forecasts from the County and State for both this fiscal year and the next. I will soon send an additional memo to the college community regarding our preparations for Fiscal Year 2012. Based on early budget projections, we will need to be realistic in our expectations and have a plan in place to meet anticipated shortfalls. Our future actions must be equally informed by both our passion for actualizing our mission and our commitment to demonstrating superior stewardship of the resources that have been invested in our organization.

While fiscal issues figure prominently in discussions about the future of Montgomery College, I have come to find that you have much more insight to share with me. As such, I am excited about upcoming opportunities to elicit more feedback from members of the College community. In October, I plan to set aside time on each campus for a series of discussions about my vision of Montgomery College as *"the most relevant community college in the country."* I want to hear your ideas about what is "relevant" to our students and our community today. Your input will help me prepare for my inauguration speech on October 29 when I plan to further articulate the key themes that will shape the future of Montgomery College. Following my inauguration, I look forward to sharing with you detailed goals that will be established with input from many members of the College community, the Presidential Transition Advisory Committee, and the Board of Trustees. With the help of the College community, we will develop implementation plans to continue meet the needs of our students and the community—and exceed their expectations.

I am proud to join you in the business of changing lives. My passion for our mission, students, and community fuels my sense of urgency for the future of our college. Based on what I have seen and heard thus far, I know I am not alone. By working together, Montgomery College will continue to shine as a beacon for individuals and organizations who hope to reach their full potential. Please keep an eye on your email and *Inside MC Online* for more information about these critical topics.