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| **From:** | The President |
| **To:** | MC Communications List |
| **Subject:** | Update on the India Grant Initiative |
| **Date:** | Tuesday, February 15, 2011 1:51:38 PM |

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**MONTGOMERY COLLEGE**
Office of the President

February 15, 2011

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** The College Community

**FROM:** Dr. DeRionne P. Pollard, President

**SUBJECT:** Update on the India Grant Initiative

I am pleased to share the latest news about the grant awarded to Montgomery College by the U.S. India Educational Foundation (USIEF) Fulbright Commission. The grant will enable our College to lead a two-day National Symposium on 21st Century Community Colleges from March 14–15, 2011, in Delhi, India. Following this event, the College team—along with other community college leaders and partners—will visit three educational institutions to further demonstrate what our institution does best and to learn about the best practices in India's own higher education system. The grant will cover 100 percent of the College's expenses.

The India initiative allows the College to support the United States government's relationship with India, share the community college mission, and enhance our own teaching and learning. It also uniquely positions our community college for other international grants and revenue-enhancing opportunities. Throughout the experience, Montgomery College team members will share their own reflections at: www.montgomerycollege.edu/indiainitiative.

The National Symposium on 21st Century Community Colleges will focus on the community college model, workforce development, and business partnerships. I will deliver the symposium's keynote address on the first day, which will be an in-depth analysis on the American community college. Based on the grant's requested outcomes, other presenters will represent the College's higher education expertise in automotive technology, construction management, biotechnology, workforce development, and developmental education. In addition, the College invited the campus Faculty Councils and the Staff Senate to nominate one representative each.

Members of the Montgomery College travel team have assigned roles and responsibilities that will help the College achieve its grant outcomes, including conducting on-site assessments, evaluating and analyzing assessment tools, writing reports, and preparing a post-trip white paper.

The Montgomery College faculty, staff, and administrators traveling to India are as follows:

- Debra Anderson, professor and automotive technology program director;
- Miriam Carter, grant project manager and assistant to the deans at Rockville;

- Steve Greenfield, dean of business, information technology, and safety for Workforce Development and Continuing Education;
- John Hamman, professor and chair of Germantown Mathematics Department;
- Aggie Harrell, LCPC, professor and counselor and Rockville Faculty Council representative;
- Elizabeth Homan, associate communications director;
- Dr. Lori Kelman, professor of biotechnology and chair of the Germantown Natural Sciences Department;
- Dr. Rita Kranidis, professor of English and Takoma Park/Silver Spring Faculty Council representative;
- Margaret Latimer, associate dean for instructional programs;
- Andrea Lucido, administrative support specialist and Staff Senate representative;
- Joan Naake, professor of English and Germantown Faculty Council representative;
- Mario Parcan, professor and construction management program coordinator; and
- John Phillips, professor and building and construction technology program director;
- Dr. Sanjay Rai, grant project director and vice president and provost of Germantown; and
- Ed Roberts, instructional dean of the Gudelsky Institute for Technical Education (GITE).

We are also honored that Steve Kaufman, first vice chair of the Montgomery College Board of Trustees, supports the College's efforts in India and will cover his own expenses to represent the College.

In addition, several other grant-funded participants—Dr. Sunita Cooke, president of Grossmont College and a former associate vice chancellor of workforce development in the North Harris Montgomery *Community College* District, and Dr. Richard Haney, vice president for educational affairs at the College of Lake County—will present at the symposium.

Dr. Molly Teas, senior advisor for education at the Bureau of South and Central *Asian* Affairs with the U.S. State Department, and Charlie Rose, general counsel for the U.S. Department of Education, will also provide remarks in support of India's development of community colleges and the important role the College will play in helping India achieve its goal.

Through our biotechnology program, Montgomery College has developed a partnership with Human Genome Sciences, and the company has agreed to pay for the travel and related expenses of Dr. Niall Carolan, associate director of technical services at HGS, to join the trip. Dr. Carolan and Dr. Lori Kelman will present a case study on Montgomery College's ongoing involvement in growing a biotechnology workforce. The College has also invited Dr. Ajay Kela, president and CEO of the Wadhwani Foundation, to participate in a roundtable discussion.

After the symposium, the College team will travel to educational institutions representing government and industry— Guru Gobind Government Polytechnic and the Industrial Training Institute in Kurukshetra, and the OP Jindal Institute of Technology and Skills in Raigarh. These institutions represent differently resourced approaches to education and training. The visits will provide a unique opportunity to learn from our counterparts in India and to talk with faculty and staff from these institutions about enhancing their curricula in the

technological trades and strengthening student support services. I want to thank the team from OP Jindal Institute of Technology and Skills, which has been an engaged and supportive partner.

This experience allows us to position the College as a thought leader in higher education both in the United States and abroad. With the door open to international exchange, I hope that this will be the first of many more instances of the College receiving international grants and other revenue-enhancing opportunities.

My goal, as well as the goal of USIEF in selecting our College, is to develop a long-term, sustained partnership between our College and higher education institutions in India. I look forward to welcoming representatives from India to our campuses next fall to continue this crucial conversation.

I encourage you to visit www.montgomerycollege.edu/indiainitiative, a special College Web site set up specifically to keep you informed about the grant, the symposium, and future educational exchanges. On the site, you will be able to follow along on the March trip through daily blogs, photographs, and news links.

I am grateful for this tremendous opportunity for the College to support the United States government's efforts to further develop its relationship with India and to enhance our institution's own teaching and learning. I appreciate your support of this important initiative, and I look forward to keeping you up to date about our progress.