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| **From:** | The President |
| **To:** | MC Communications List |
| **Subject:** | Operating and Capital Budget Actions by State and County |
| **Date:** | Thursday, May 17, 2012 1:50:22 PM |

**MONTGOMERY COLLEGE**
Office of the President

May 17, 2012

**MEMORANDUM**

To: Montgomery College Colleagues

From: Dr. DeRionne P. Pollard, President

Subject: Operating and Capital Budget Actions by State and County

As we prepare for the commencement, I am pleased to share early budget news that is certainly worth celebrating. The Montgomery County Council and the Maryland General Assembly voted this week in support of Montgomery College's FY13 operating budget and a number of crucial capital projects. Their actions demonstrated their continued commitment to accessible, quality higher education for all Montgomery County residents.

The Montgomery County Council's vote provides $94.8 million in county funding, which is an increase of 0.4 percent from the county. The Maryland General Assembly reversed its budget decisions this week in a special session. State legislators eliminated the 10 percent reduction in operating aid to community colleges, and they did not shift the cost of the pensions to the community colleges. Instead, the College will receive a small increase in direct state aid in comparison to FY12, and the costs of the pensions for our employees will remain a state obligation. These actions bring the College's FY13 current operating fund—county and state aid, plus tuition revenue—total to $218 million, which is a slight increase over last year.

I recognize that these last few years have been personally and professionally difficult, as our organization has sought to recover from the recession. I appreciate your sacrifices in putting students first during these trying times. Several years of cuts in both state and county funding resulted in a net budget decrease of $14.4 million, and we had concerns about our public funding for the coming year. Therefore, the council's action today and the general assembly's work earlier this week is heartening as we plan for the future and the goals we have set as an organization.

With the state and county support, the College will keep tuition affordable for students. The FY13 tuition increases are limited to $2 per credit hour for county residents and county public school graduates.

The council and the general assembly also took action on the College's capital budget program, supporting funding for the design of a new Rockville Campus Student Services Center and the renovation and addition to the Germantown Campus Science and Applied Studies Building. Additionally, the council also voted for partial funding for a new parking

garage at the Rockville Campus with the project beginning in FY14. In total, the council appropriated $37.8 million for the College's FY13 capital budget including $4 million in information technology support.

I would like to thank all who advocated for this budget, including our students and the members of the Board of Trustees, led by Chair Stephen Kaufman. My appreciation for this budget extends to you, the faculty, staff, and administrators who are the backbone of Montgomery College. By serving as careful stewards of public resources, we have all been able to continue preparing students to become the educated workforce of the future. As I remarked at the spring closing meeting yesterday, this year has been quite a journey, and I am glad we took it together. Thank you for your hard work this year.