ACM Family,
Allegany College of Maryland hosted our second-ever State of the College program on October 23. We marked the continuation of a new tradition that celebrates who we are, what we've accomplished, and, most importantly, where we're going. Thank you for your ongoing work empowering students to build their futures. We're helping individuals unlock potential, gain confidence, and create opportunity, not just for themselves, but for their families, employers, and communities.

**Faculty/Staff Focus**

We're surrounded by dedicated colleagues who go above and beyond to support ACM and our students every day. I invite you to nominate a faculty or staff member who deserves recognition for their outstanding contributions. Please keep your nomination to three sentences or fewer and email it directly to me.

**ACM Takes the National Stage!**

Allegany College of Maryland was proud to be featured at EAB Connected 2026, sharing our story of innovation and transformation through Navigate360 Enrollment Success! During the session, Transform Application Workflows with Enrollment Success, our team highlighted how ACM is reimagining the student application experience, strengthening internal processes, and creating more personalized pathways to student success.

We're proud of our team (Jennifer E. and Lindsay M.) for helping lead the conversation about the future of student recruitment, enrollment, and success.

💙Small college. Big impact.



**2026 TMA Alan G. Penczek Service-Learning Faculty Award**

Congratulations to Dr. Diane McMahon on being selected as the 2026 TMA Alan G. Penczek Service-Learning Faculty Award for her dedication to integrated service learning. Thanks to

Diane, the College to Community Partnership Center has grown from 353 students and 1,075
service hours in 2015-2016 to 2,137 students and 19,950 hours in 2023-2024, working alongside more than 300 community organizations. Thank you, Diane, for your commitment to student engagement and service in the community.

**WMW Tour**

Join Dr. Kurt Hoffman and the ACM Retirees for a personal tour of ACM's amazing & innovative Western Maryland Works in Lavale. The facility serves not only ACM's needs, but local businesses both small & large as well as providing a space for members of the community to create personal gift items or home decor. Text Cherie Snyder at 240-264-7426 to sign up or for more details.

**A Conversation with MMC**

Join Mountain Maryland Cares on Friday, November 13, in T-121 for a conversation on compassionate end-of-life care. An RSVP is encouraged but not required.




**Registration and Enrollment**

Registration for the intersession and spring 2027 semester opens on November 2, 2026. Please continue to help spread the word and support our enrollment process.
https://www.allegany.edu/registration/index.html

**PTK Induction Ceremony**

Congratulations to our outstanding students who were inducted into PTK membership earlier this week. It was an honor to highlight their scholarship and support their growth as future leaders. Congratulations to advisors Melody G. and Erin Y., as well as all the new inductees.






**Weather and Emergency Communication**

Stay informed with eSAFE, ACM's emergency text messaging service! This system is designed to keep faculty, staff, students, and others updated during major emergencies, crises, disasters, or weather-related closings and delays. If you haven't already, sign up today to receive timely notifications: eSAFE Sign-Up.

**League for Innovation Excellence Awards**

The League for Innovation Excellence Awards, established in 2012, recognize outstanding teaching, leadership, and service by community college administration, faculty, and staff. Recipients receive a specially cast medallion, a certificate from the League, and recognition by the Allegany College of Maryland Board of Trustees. Please submit your nominations by noon on Friday, November 6, 2026, to Lori Spence at lspence@allegany.edu. Nominees will be evaluated and selected by a committee of peers from faculty, associate support staff, and professional and administrative support staff.

**Stay Informed/Remain Engaged - President's Advisory Team (PAT)**

The President's Advisory Team (PAT) meets on November 4th at 3 pm. I encourage you to stay engaged by attending PAT meetings, contacting your affinity group representatives for updates, sharing ideas, and asking questions. Your input is invaluable to shaping the future of our College.

**What a sweet evening at ACM-Willy Wonka and The Chocolate Factory**

It was a pleasure to attend a special gala and dinner featuring performances from the ACM Theatre Club's upcoming production of *Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory*. Our students are incredibly talented, and their musical preview was a wonderful reminder that, as Willy Wonka famously reminds us, *"We are the music makers, and we are the dreamers of dreams."* Last night, our students proved that they are both. Their talent, passion, and hard work were on full display, creating an experience worthy of a golden ticket.

The evening was made even more special by the outstanding meal prepared by our ACM Culinary Arts Program. Thank you to the entire ACM team for providing students with such a meaningful outlet for creative expression and artistic growth.

I encourage everyone in our community to come out and support these talented students on Friday and Saturday, November 13 and 14 at 7:00 p.m., and Sunday, November 15 at 2:00 p.m. Don't miss your chance to grab a golden ticket to an unforgettable ACM performance!



**A Gift for You (Now available in the Campus Store)**

As a gift to the ACM family, a free ACM-branded shirt is being provided to all faculty and staff. They are now available for pickup at the campus store. Please note that this gift is provided by a donor with private funding, with no College funding utilized. Thank you for all you do to support our students (and promote ACM).

**Grant Update (ARC-tober is upon us!)**




There is nothing spooky about grants this October. Throughout ARC-tober, five projects that ACM is pursuing through the Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) have been highlighted. Together, the projects represent more than $1.2 million in potential investment in instructional facilities, workforce training, technology infrastructure, and student access across the College.

**Workforce Training Vehicle**

The final ARC-tober spotlight focuses on our automotive tech program. ACM is pursuing ARC funding to acquire a late-model hybrid-powered light-duty vehicle and related instructional supplies for the Automotive Technology Associate of Applied Science and Certificate programs. ACM's current instructional fleet includes traditional internal-combustion vehicles and two fully electric vehicles but no hybrid vehicle. The project will close that instructional gap by enabling supervised, hands-on training in hybrid powertrain diagnostics, maintenance, repair, and high-voltage safety.

It is a practical investment that would help ACM continue connecting students, employers, and communities with workforce training opportunities.

**Upcoming Events**

· Tues, November 10, Cumberland Campus Open House
· Sat, November 14, Bedford Campus Open House, Bedford Campus
· Mon, November 16, Board of Trustees meeting, Welcome Center 4 p.m.
· Thurs/Fri, November 26 & 27, Thanksgiving Break, college closed
· Mon, December 7, Board of Trustees meeting, Welcome Center, 4 p.m.
· Thurs, December 10, All college staff meeting, Theater, 9 a.m. Holiday reception, 12 p.m.
· Fri, December 11, Commencement, Gymnasium, 7 p.m.

**Cheer on the Trojans**

Join me in supporting our student-athletes. For more details, visit: www.acmtrojans.com

**Campus Conversations**

One of the best aspects of my role is the opportunity to connect directly with our faculty, staff, and students, and I'd welcome your help in making that happen. Whether it's visiting a class, meeting with a club, stopping by a team practice, meeting with a department, or welcoming a group to my office, I'm eager to spend more time with our faculty, staff, and students. If it works best over dinner, I'll even provide the pizza and drinks. These visits are an excellent way for me to listen, answer questions, and share in the experiences that make ACM such a special place.

**On A Personal Note**

This season always brings back fond memories of when my three children were young and eagerly anticipated trick-or-treating in our neighborhood. I can still remember the excitement of helping them choose their costumes and seeing the creativity and imagination that went into each one. Watching children enjoy trick-or-treating today is a reminder of those special family moments and the joy they brought to our home.



With ACM Pride,
David