

ACM Family,

As August approaches and we prepare for another fall semester, I want to thank you all for a wonderful summer semester. I encourage everyone to keep up the hard work and momentum.

Vote ACM

Allegany College of Maryland ACM has been nominated for the Cumberland Times-News Reader's Choice Award for Favorite Local Major Employer. Please consider joining me in casting your vote for ACM (and sharing this with others).

<https://thecumberlandtimes-news.secondstreetapp.com/Readers-Choice-2026/gallery/>



Carnegie Elective Classification for Community Engagement - 2026



Thanks to Dr. Diane McMahon, Danean Mullenax, Dr. Tonya Shepherd, Dr. Kurt Hoffman, Jason Gaither, and Erin Yokum, ACM has again received the Carnegie Elective Classification for Community Engagement. This prestigious national designation recognizes colleges and universities demonstrating an extraordinary commitment to community engagement, partnerships, and public service. Thank you all for your commitment to ACM and our community.

Nursing and Science Grant

Congratulations to the Nursing and Science Departments for securing a \$150,000 grant to support Instructional Innovation Equipment and Simulation Capacity. This project will provide physical equipment and AV resources for nursing and science classrooms. A

special thanks to Aimee Younkin, Renee Douthitt, Jennifer Burriss, Cassie Foster, Joy Freidenbloom, Miha Wood, Beth Little, Courtney McKay, and Jared Ritchey for your work on this exciting project to support ACM students.

ACF Accreditation

Congratulations to the [Culinary Arts](#) Program for receiving accreditation from the American Culinary Federation. Special thanks to Deb Swope, David Sanford, Fred Huber, Jacob Riis, Jenna Burkett, Kiara Hovatter, Abbey Kerns, Mary Yost-Rushton, and the ISA team for their work through the accreditation reporting and site visit process.

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

The President's Advisory Team (PAT) meets on August 5th at 3pm. 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.

Registration and Enrollment

Registration for fall 2026 is open. Please continue to help spread the word and support our enrollment process. <https://www.allegany.edu/registration/index.html>

Enrollment Update

Fall 2026 Enrollment (preliminary and does not include Early College):
--Credit headcount is up 2.8% and FTE is up 1.4% compared to Fall 2025.

ACM Engage

As a reminder, applications for ACM Engage are currently being accepted and are due by August 10. I encourage eligible employees who are interested to email hr@allegany.edu for more information.

Save the Date:

August 4th – Bedford County Campus Enrollment Day
<https://allegany.edu/open-houses/>

Freeze! ACM is It!" Social Media Challenge

Let's showcase all that ACM's seven locations have to offer! Our hope is to promote the student experience, highlight our resources, and show our ACM family pride. *Need an incentive?* Participants will win a Frostburg Freeze ice cream coupon.

 Here's the challenge:

- Strike a "tag, freeze—you're it!" pose in front of key places at your ACM locations (classrooms, labs, support offices, student spaces, etc.)
- Share why that spot is a must-stop for students and that it's not too late to enroll this fall.
- Post on your social media, tag ACM, and encourage others to join the challenge.

On A Personal Note

I watched *Hamilton* again over the weekend. As a fan of both history and musicals, I always come away thinking about life, leadership, and legacy. One line that stays with me is: "*What is a legacy? It's planting seeds in a garden you never get to see.*" That idea feels especially meaningful in higher education. The success of our students depends on the contributions of every member of our college community and the ways each of us helps shape their experience and future. The work we do every day may not always make headlines, but together we are building something that will endure long after our time here. That's a legacy worth investing in.

With ACM Pride,
David