

ACM Family,

Thank you for your work in supporting our students and preparing for the fall semester. As we gear up for the first day of classes on Monday, I have several updates to share.

Thank you to the grounds crew

As the 2026 fall semester approaches, I'd like to thank our grounds crew for their dedication to keeping ACM beautiful. Our campus locations look pristine and ready to welcome incoming Trojans.



Thank You for Your Attendance

Thank you all for attending yesterday's All College meeting. Your presence and dedication help us start the semester off strong.



Vote ACM (today is the final day)

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).



Enrollment:

Credit (does not include Early College):

Fall 2026: Overall: Headcount is up 1.8% and FTE is up 1.1% compared to Fall 2025.

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>

Mark the Date (August 25th at 12:15pm):

Date: August 25th

Time: 12:15pm

ACM invites students, faculty, staff, and our community of friends to be a part of ACM history on August 25th. Join us on the soccer field at 12:15pm where we will be making a 65 on the field for 65 years. See you there!



PA Funding News:

For FY27, we expect to receive confirmation of Southern Tier Education Council funding this month. It is anticipated that our funding request in the amount of \$2,323,500, will be provided, which includes \$1,318,500 for PA Tuition Subsidy and \$1,005,000 for Facility Improvements, Campus Projects, Instructional Equipment, and Campus Operations. We are working closely to ensure that this funding is included as part of the PA budget to ensure long-term sustainability and continuity.

Upholding Our Values: A Message on Compliance and Commitment

Allegany College of Maryland's vision and mission remain the touchstones of institutional decision-making. Our faculty and staff live these fundamentals every day and we do so while also being compliant with a myriad of measures driven by laws, regulations, accreditation standards, institutional contracts, insurance terms, and more. Sometimes the work is easy; sometimes it challenges us. In many ways, the last year has been challenging across higher education.

Please be assured that the ACM Compliance Team continues to closely monitor the legal landscape to ensure compliance, protect the ACM community, and preserve what makes ACM special among all other colleges - for students and employees. Please also be assured that ACM Leadership and the ACM Compliance Team acknowledges and supports the long-held tradition of *Academic Freedom* for faculty, as reflected in our practices and statement. Each college is responsible for their own operations and makes their own decisions; at ACM, we have always treasured the work done with integrity and care by all employees. That will not change. If you have any questions about the work of the ACM Compliance Team, please do not hesitate to contact Dr. Conner or me.

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.

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](#).

Community Engagement:

A special thank you to Diane McMahon and the ACM [College to Community Partnership Center](#) for their work in building partnerships with community leaders to connect college students, faculty, and staff with efforts to address unmet needs in our region. Over the next several months, I plan to share information showing a variety of impacts from these efforts, including the total students and total hours served.

Board of Trustees Meeting

The ACM Board of Trustees meet on August 17th at 4pm, with the agenda provided below.

- a. Adopt the June 15, 2026 Minutes
- b. Chairman's Update – Ms. Belt
- c. Statement of Executive Session – Ms. Belt
- d. Board Member Comments/Reflections - Board of Trustee Members
- e. President's Update – Mr. Jones
- f. Approval of Summer Graduates (Action Item) – Ms. Nightengale
- g. Board Education: AI and the Instructional Path Forward for ACM – Dr. Hoffman
- h. CDFI Approval (Action Item)- Ms. Little
- i. FY28 Academic Calendar Edit- Dr. Hoffman
- j. Campus Store/Advancement Roof Restoration (Action Item) – Ms. Kilduff
- k. Statement for Closing a Meeting Under the Open Meetings Act – Ms. Belt

Upcoming Events:

Mon, August 17, Full Term Fall Classes Begin

Mon, September 7, Labor Day, College Closed

Mon, September 14, Board of Trustees Meeting, Welcome Center, 4 p.m.

Tues, September 15, Campaign Kick-off, Welcome Center, 9 a.m.

Weds, September 16, Campaign Kick-off, Bedford, 9 a.m.

Mon, October 19, Board of Trustees Meeting, Welcome Center, 4 p.m.

Fri, October 23, State of the College, Zimmer Theatre, 9 a.m.

Tues, October 27, Phi Theta Kappa Induction Ceremony, Zimmer Theatre, 6:30 p.m.

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, Theatre, 9 a.m. Holiday Reception, 12 noon, College Center
Fri, December 11, Commencement, Gymnasium, 7 p.m.
Mon, January 25, MACC Trustee & President's Leadership Conference, Calvert House, Annapolis, TBD

A Reader Commentary

The following link is to an August 2026 Reader Commentary, submitted to the Cumberland Times News, Bedford Gazette, and other local and regional media outlets. [Reader Commentary](#)

On A Personal Note

A new academic year brings renewed energy, fresh possibilities, and the chance to make a lasting impact. Let us continue to support one another, celebrate our successes, and face challenges together, knowing that our collective efforts are what make our college such a special place to learn and work.

With ACM Pride,
David