



Dear ACM Colleagues,

As we reach the final day of January, I want to share some important updates and highlights as we move into the weeks ahead.

 **Be My Guest Today** : I warmly invite you to visit my office today between 1:00 and 4:00 PM. This will be an informal opportunity to meet, connect, and share thoughts as we embark on this exciting journey together. Light refreshments will be provided.

Enrollment:

As of January 30th, the Spring 2025 **credit headcount** is 0.7% over Spring 2024, which includes early college.

For **CE/workforce development**, I am equally pleased to share that the FTE for CE/workforce development has experienced a 26% increase in Period 1 over the same timeframe last year. Thanks to the entire campus community for your work in providing access to our students for their credit and CE workforce development training.

Budget: After spending time in Annapolis earlier this week, I remain optimistic that the budget line item to support community colleges will remain intact. I'll provide written and/or oral testimony to the House on February 6th and to the Senate on February 10th and will keep the ACM community updated throughout the legislative session.

Program News: Congratulations to the ACM [Computer Technology Program](#) for their partnership with BCR Cyber to install six Man-Machine Interfaces (MMI's) at ACM. These machines will be housed in the Technology Building, room T-235 (Hackathon Lab). This high-end and costly technology is being provided at zero cost to ACM. It will provide our students and the business community with a cutting-edge tech-talent pipeline to fill the cyber workforce needs. BCR Cyber is a prominent provider of advanced cybersecurity training, certification, and job placement in Maryland and leads a consortium of over 30 cybersecurity industry partners. A special thanks to Jim H, Derek J., Dick S, Jerry H., Rich C, David P., Matt K., and John S. for their work and consultation on this exciting project.

Luke Bowers - Another Outstanding ACM Student: Congratulations to ACM Early College Student Luke Bowers, who has been selected as a semifinalist for the Jack Kent Cooke Foundation College Scholarship Program. The award can provide as much as \$55,000 annually for students pursuing a bachelor's degree. Luke serves as an officer of Phi Theta Kappa at ACM and had a lead role in the Theatre Club's fall musical. Congratulations, Luke.

Alums Giving Back: A special note of thanks to ACM alum Janette Knieriem (MLT graduate), who will provide Willowbrook Woods students a no-cost hot meal on February 3rd, March 17th, and April 7th through her catering service [Yolo](#). Thank you, Janette, for your generosity in supporting our students.

Help ACM Save Thousands of Dollars Annually: Over the past few years, ACM has spent over \$7,000 and hundreds of hours of staff time to clear sewer backups. To keep our facilities running smoothly, please avoid flushing rags, wipes, hygiene products, paper towels, trash, or food items. I appreciate your cooperation in keeping our campus clean and functional.

Financial Transparency: As part of our commitment to transparency and accountability, I want to remind you that the ACM-approved budgets and related finance documents are available for review. These resources provide a clear picture of how we allocate and manage our funding to support the mission and vision of ACM. You can access these documents using the following link: [Budget Portal](#) I would also like to take this opportunity to thank our dedicated finance staff for their diligent work in keeping ACM financially strong and well-managed.

Upcoming Forums on Employee Survey Results & Open Discussion: I invite you to join me in attending an upcoming forum where Scott Harrah and I will share the results of the Fall 2024 employee survey and engage in open dialogue about the issues that matter most to you. This is an opportunity for us to review key findings, discuss areas for improvement, and collaborate on ways to enhance our efforts. February 10 from 1-2 pm, February 19th from 10-11 am, and February 20th from 2-3 pm. More details to follow.

Sign the Vision: It is not too late to sign the ACM Vision Statement. Please let me know if you wish to sign, and I will ensure you have this opportunity.

Stay Informed/Remain Engaged - President's Advisory Team (PAT): The President's Advisory Team (PAT) meets on February 6th at 3:30 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.

On A Personal Note: Although I have several quotes that are especially meaningful to me, I wanted to share one of my favorites:

“We are all faced with a series of great opportunities brilliantly disguised as impossible situations.” --
Charles Swindoll

With appreciation for all that you do.

David