

ACM Family,

I hope that you will be able to join us today at 1 pm for the 1st annual State of the College. The event will highlight several areas of the campus and will include a few surprises that you won't want to miss.



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.

Faculty/Staff Focus:

Alicia Phillips

Nominated by:

Kirsten Hansen

"Alicia is such a joy to work with. She is creative, conscientious, and absolutely goes above and beyond. I have had the pleasure of working with her often."

2025 Transform Mid Atlantic Engaged Campus Award

Allegany College of Maryland has been selected as the recipient of the 2025 TMA Engaged Campus Award. This award is in recognition of the inspiring work that ACM has and continues to do alongside its community partners to advance the public purposes of higher education in Western Maryland and beyond. The awards ceremony will be held at The George Washington University in Washington, D.C., on Friday, November 21, from 4:00 to 7:30 PM.

Secretary's Citation

Allegany College of Maryland received the Secretary's Citation from the Maryland Department of Commerce to recognize its training of the State's future workforce on the tools and activities associated with cybersecurity. A special thanks to our computer technology faculty, Jim House, John Bone, Derek Jones, Devon Merrill, Dick Soderman, as well as our adjunct faculty, for your work in providing innovative pathways to student success in the ever-changing and dynamic environment of computer science and technology



Stay Informed – Board of Trustees Meetings

Attending the ACM Board of Trustees meetings helps you to stay informed. The Board meets at 4 pm in the Thomas Welcome Center, with the next meeting scheduled for November 17, 2025. The following is a summary from the 10/21/25 Board meeting:

1. Adopt the September 22, 2025, minutes. Minutes were approved.
2. Welcome and Updates from Darlene Smith, FSU Interim President
3. Fund Balance Recommendations. Approved.
4. Great Colleges To Work For & Employee Survey Results. Scott provided an overview and the results from both surveys.
5. Bedford County Campus Advisory Committee Membership. Approved.
6. Dental Hygiene Program Admissions Revisions. Approved.

For additional information, visit: <https://allegany.edu/presidents-office/board-of-trustees.html>

UpNext: A Business and Skills Innovation Experience

Allegany College of Maryland, in partnership with the Allegany County Chamber of Commerce, will host *UpNext*—a free, one-day event featuring business insights, hands-on workshops, networking, and innovation. Join us on Tuesday, October 29th, from 8:00 am to 2:00 pm. Highlights include a networking breakfast, a vendor expo, rotating workshops on AI, entrepreneurship, marketing, and job skills, as well as prize giveaways and food trucks. Learn more [here](#) or register directly [here](#).

ACM Student Athletes

It was a pleasure to host members of the Allegany College of Maryland women's softball team and their coaches for dinner and conversation. What a pleasure spending time with these exceptional student-athletes. Their energy, teamwork, and commitment to excellence on and off the field are truly inspiring.



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 7, 2025, 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. The awards will be announced at the All-College Assembly in December 2025.

Upcoming Events:

October 24, State of the College, 1 pm

October 27, PTK Induction Ceremony, Theatre, 6:30 p.m.

November 8, Bedford Campus Open House, Bedford Campus

November 10, Cumberland Campus Open House

November 17, 2025, Board of Trustees Meeting, Welcome Center, 4 p.m.

December 15, 2025, Board of Trustees Meeting, Welcome Center, 4 p.m.

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](#).

On A Personal Note:

I especially enjoy studying and reading about history, geography, and government. Each of these subjects continues to fascinate me. Over the next few weeks, I will share a brief reflection on each of these areas in my weekly update.

With ACM Pride,
David