

Greetings, ACM family,

As we step into the first full day of spring, I want to take a moment to thank you for your continued dedication to our students and our campus community. A lot is happening across the College, so here are a few key updates and reminders as we head into the final stretch of the semester.

Enrollment: Registration for summer 2025 and fall 2025 opens on April 7th. Please continue to help spread the word and support our enrollment process. Student access and success remain a top priority for ACM and are vital to the future growth, progress, and welfare of ACM. Thank you for the critical role that you play in supporting our current and future students during the enrollment process.

Thank you, Western Maryland Works: A special thanks to our incredible CE/Western Maryland Works team for warmly welcoming Congresswoman Delaney yesterday. Your efforts to highlight ACM and our top-notch education and workforce development programs are genuinely appreciated. Read more here: [Times-News Article](#).

Cosmetology Program Update: As part of the Board Education component on March 17th, Melanie Chapman, Director of Career and Professional Education, provided an overview of ACM's 1,500-hour Licensed Cosmetology program, licensed by the Maryland Board of Cosmetologists. She provided an overview of the program, which began in June 2024, to help meet the needs of the community. This program partners with the Center for Career and Technical Education and Cosmetology Studies throughout the region to expand their business operations. She shared that local business partners continue to be excited about the program, serve on the Program Advisory Council, and teach courses in the program. Ms. Chapman also introduced members of the class and ACM's faculty/staff and gave them recognition. I thought you might enjoy the photo at the bottom of the message during the Board update.

Budget: Allegany College of Maryland will present our FY26 funding request to Allegany County on Thursday, April 3rd, at 1 pm. There is still significant uncertainty regarding the FY26 budget at the State and County levels, especially with the State of Maryland having a deficit of over \$3 billion and Allegany County facing a projected revenue loss of over \$5 million from the State. The College's FY26 budget is still being developed, and a draft will be shared with the College community in the weeks ahead with the goal of being good stewards of the resources provided to ACM, minimizing any impact on students, faculty, and staff, while still reaching a balanced budget, as required by law.

A Student Reminder: Please remind ACM students of the following deadlines and events:

- a. **March 31:** ACM Scholarships March deadline
- b. **March 31:** Spring Transfer Fair, 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM in the College Center
- c. **Complete your 2025-2026 FAFSA application ASAP** [FAFSA® Application | Federal Student Aid](#)

A Teeny Tiny Experience: I invite you to visit the Hazen Gallery to experience "A Teeny Tiny Art Show Competition," a special exhibit of 2D and 3D art presented in partnership with the Allegany Arts Council.

Great Colleges to Work For: Allegany College of Maryland is once again participating in the *Great Colleges to Work For* program. This survey provides valuable data to inform decision-making and support our strategic plan as we work to create the best workplace possible. On March 3, 2025, a random selection of employees received an invitation from ModernThink LLC to participate. For questions, contact Scott Harrah (sharrah@allegany.edu) or visit www.ChronicleGreatColleges.com.

Board of Trustee meeting updates: I wanted to share a few updates from the Board of Trustee meeting held on March 17th:

- a. Campus Restroom Renovations: The board approved the selection of LMJ Contractors, Inc. as the contractor for the complete restroom renovation project for the College Center, Allied Health, and Humanities Buildings. The project will begin in May/June.
- b. Auditing Services Proposal: The Board approved SB & Company, LLC to perform audit services for the College for the fiscal years ending June 30, 2025, to June 30, 2030.

The next Board meeting is scheduled for April 14th at 4 pm.

On a Personal Note: I want to take a moment to recognize an essential part of our college community—our adjunct faculty. Your dedication, expertise, and commitment to student success are vital to our mission, and I am incredibly grateful for what you do.

This recognition is personal for me. My mother, Darlene Jones, served as an adjunct faculty member at ACM (then ACC) in the nursing department from 1981 through 1986. Like so many of our adjunct faculty today, she juggled multiple responsibilities while making a lasting impact on her students. I know that same dedication is alive and well every day. To all our adjunct faculty—thank you. Your work does not go unnoticed, and I appreciate everything you bring to our students and our college community.

With ACM Pride,

David

