

**From:** [MC Communications](#)  
**To:** [All Employees Dynamic Grp](#); [All Registered Students](#)  
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April 1, 2024

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Welcome to April, which is national community college month, a time to celebrate the mission and achievements of our own College—and our peers across the country. Today's official opening of the [East County Education Center](#) could not be more appropriately timed. Expanding equity-focused and data-informed access is critical to our work and, now, completion and post-completion success will be even closer to communities in the East County. Thank you to everyone who has worked so hard to get to this day.

### Student Resources

Last week's Montgomery College Foundation scholarship luncheon was a wonderful celebration of student potential and community commitment. The Foundation has awarded \$2.4 million to date in FY24 and will likely reach \$3 million in awards by the end of the year. More than 2,000 students will benefit. There are dozens of categories of scholarships to which students can apply, created by individuals and organizations who are dedicated to helping students advance their progress towards completion. [Applications for scholarships](#) are available through the Montgomery College Foundation beginning April 8. I continue to be grateful to the donors who believe so deeply in our students' potential and to the faculty and staff who help our students discover their passions and unlock their potential to transform lives, enrich the community, and change the world.

### Leadership Uplifted

Congratulations to Dr. Shinta Hernandez, dean of MC's virtual campus, who was honored at last week's [Washington Business Journal's](#) Diversity in Business awards. Dr. Hernandez was one of 25 local business leaders honored. This wonderful [short video](#) captures her perspective on leadership and diversity. As the College strives to engage more deeply with the community and increase our economic impact, faculty and staff who bring the MC story into business worlds are helping to advance our Transformational Aspirations.

### Congressman Jamie Raskin

A program in [remembrance](#) of the January 6, 2021 events takes place tonight on the Rockville Campus. Congressman Jamie Raskin and Capitol Police Officer Aquilino Gonell will be part of a conversation about the implications of that day's events for American democracy. Sponsored by the department of history and political science, Professor Aram Hessami will moderate the discussion.

I hope you will join Wednesday's [State of the College](#) to celebrate how far we have come and peer into a future.

With Raptor Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jermaine". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping initial 'J'.

Dr. Jermaine F. Williams

President

[@DrWilliams\\_MC](#)