

# PRESIDENT'S REPORT TO THE BOARD

February 2011



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## President's Report to the Board



DeRionne P. Pollard, Ph.D.  
*President*

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As our name implies, community colleges are deeply rooted in our communities, reflecting the aspirations of local families and meeting the needs of local businesses. Our adaptability and flexibility set us apart from traditional four-year colleges and universities, allowing us to offer curricula as varied as our diagnostic sonography program and our Hispanic Business Institute. At Montgomery College, we believe that a college education is necessary to remain competitive in today's global economy, and we operate knowing that the college experience is different for everyone.

A recent report by the Harvard Graduate School of Education echoes this sentiment, suggesting that a bachelor's degree no longer divides the haves and have-nots. At issue is an education system that "focused too exclusively on a few narrow pathways to success." Of the 47 million jobs created by 2018, only one-third will require a bachelor's degree. Associate's degrees, apprenticeship training, and certification are all the modern pathways to prosperity. It is true nationally and it is true locally. More and more jobs, including many in the health care industry, will require specialized training that can only be found at community colleges.

The country is now catching up to what we have known all along: community colleges represent what education should strive to be for its students. We focus on practical, career-focused education that plays to the strengths of each individual student. In the nursing field, over the last fiscal year, 63 percent of Maryland's new, licensed nurses started their education at community colleges.

We must continue to fulfill our mission to prepare this skilled workforce. Job growth without skilled and qualified employees to fill those jobs means a stagnant economy at best. Community colleges are here to provide the skills training. We are here to provide the two-year degree. And we are here to provide a high quality, lower-cost entry point to the four-year degree.

My report this month focuses on the successes the College has achieved in preparing our students for the workplace, but also on where we need to continue to innovate. Montgomery College plays an intrinsic role in shaping future employees of our local business community, but there is more to learn, more to do. We must continue with the same—if not greater—vigor to prepare the workforce of tomorrow today.

Board Discussion Questions:

1. While the College already is intrinsically linked to our business community, what existing workforce development ideas have we not tapped into that remain ripe with opportunity?
2. How can leaders of our institution continue to be on the front end of innovation when it comes to developing educational opportunities today to prepare the workforce of tomorrow?

## From the Field

### **Workforce Development in the Classroom**

On January 20, the Maryland Health Care Commission approved the Certificate of Need to allow Holy Cross Hospital to build a new 93-bed hospital as the anchor tenant for the planned Science and Technology Park on the Germantown Campus. A study by Dr. Anirban Basu with Sage Policy Group, Inc. concluded that a combination of Holy Cross Hospital, Montgomery College, and the Science and Technology Park creates a unique opportunity for economic development synergies. The study also anticipates that the hospital could result in the creation of more than 5,700 jobs in Maryland—the majority of which would be in Montgomery County—and that the project has an ongoing annual economic impact of \$215.7 million. In addition to having the hospital and health professionals serving local needs, the Science and Technology Park will attract firms serving regional and national markets. These two actions—the Bioscience Education building groundbreaking scheduled for March 7 and approval of Holy Cross Hospital by the Maryland Health Care Commission—ensure that this multi-year effort (that began in 2001) to pursue the Germantown Development Project for the educational benefit of our students is finally coming to fruition.

The nine health sciences degree concentrations as well as the many noncredit health sciences certificate offerings at the Takoma Park/Silver Spring (TP/SS) Campus have a tangible impact on workforce development in the county and state. An example of how these programs nimbly respond to county and state needs is seen in the nursing program. The nursing program began an advanced placement track for Licensed Practical Nurses (LPNs) in the summer of 2009, which is the Licensed Practical Nurse transition program. The purpose of this transitional program is to assist LPNs with a fast-track process of attaining higher education and greater opportunities in clinical practice and employment endeavors. The students enrolled in the transitional program must first complete a transitional course. Upon successful completion of the transitional course, the LPN students merge into the third semester of the nursing program; thus, by-passing the first year of the nursing program. The state of Maryland has an articulation agreement with colleges and universities that encourages colleges and universities to offer advanced placement for LPNs who aspire to become registered nurses (RNs). By participating in this articulation agreement, Montgomery College is able to increase the number of RNs in the state of Maryland. There have been two cohorts that have matriculated through the transition course. The first cohort, which started in summer session 2009, began with 20 students. Sixteen of the 20 have graduated. Twelve of the 16 have successfully completed the NCLEX-RN exam and are registered nurses. Four of the 16 graduated in December 2010 and have yet to test. The second cohort began with 10 students in the fall semester of 2010. Nine of the 10 have successfully progressed into the third semester of the nursing program.

The Chief Science Officer Program made its debut at the Germantown Campus in January 2011. This one-semester, noncredit program is designed to provide scientists with basic skills in the areas of leadership skills, communications and conflict management, building and maintaining external relationships, finance and project management, and many more. This program will provide a boost to the county's biotechnology industry, which currently has a revenue impact of \$2.36 billion, 9,200 direct private sector jobs, and 5,000 federal employment jobs. The program is a collaborative effort among the College's Germantown Campus, Workforce Development & Continuing Education (WD&CE), and the National Institutes of Health.



Programming options in WD&CE provide pre- and post-degree learning opportunities for those entering the workforce, changing careers, maintaining currency in one's career field, or gaining new credentials. Courses are offered year round in a variety of formats. Open enrollment courses include such topics as certification test prep, basic literacy skill acquisition, citizenship test preparation for those newly arriving in the United States from another country, technical training, computer networking, and allied health careers. Courses are reasonably priced, and for those needing assistance, several scholarship opportunities exist.

Rockville Campus faculty educate and train students to become American College of Sports Medicine (ACSM) and American Council on Exercise (ACE) certified personal trainers, which often leads to employment in the fitness industry.

The criminal justice program at the Rockville Campus prepares students for work in law enforcement and corrections. Many of the program's part-time faculty work in local law enforcement and corrections and bring up-to-date practices to the classroom. Students participate in ride-alongs and experience these work environments and become even more committed to working in these fields.

The early childhood and education programs prepare students for employment in child care facilities or in education institutions. Early childhood courses are scheduled at times that providers can attend to help them satisfy the credentials required to work in the field.

The biotechnology, landscape technology, networking, cybersecurity, and legal studies programs prepare students to enter the county's workforce.

Programs in the Gudelsky Institute for Technical Education are both credit and noncredit (WD&CE). Applied Technologies Dean Ed Roberts is involved in a number of statewide workforce development initiatives related to the green industry and automotive technology.

Students at the Takoma Park/Silver Spring Campus provide almost 5,000 hours per semester of volunteer service to the county—primarily in nonprofits throughout the lower Montgomery County region.

### **Campus Leaders, Community Partners**

Campus leaders play pivotal roles in county workforce and economic development groups. Dr. Brad Stewart, vice president and provost of the Takoma Park/Silver Spring Campus, currently serves as treasurer of the Greater Silver Spring Chamber of Commerce, a role he accepted after previously serving as president of the organization. Health Sciences Dean Angie Pickwick is involved in a variety of healthcare workforce affinity groups including the Montgomery County Workforce Investment Board as well as roles with local healthcare providers.

Dr. Sanjay Rai, Germantown's vice president and provost, is a member of the Executive Committee and the Board of Directors of the Gaithersburg-Germantown Chamber of Commerce. He is also a member of the Board of Global Alliance for Indian Biomedical Professionals.

Dr. Judy Ackerman, vice president and provost of the Rockville Campus, serves on the board of Rockville Economic Development, Inc. (REDI). In this capacity, she interacts with businesses in the Rockville area. She has been able to secure internships for students and connects faculty members from the campus and WD&CE when appropriate. For example, the campus worked with REDI on the development of the Rockville Women's Business Center proposal.

Dr. Ackerman also is serving her second term as a member of the board of the Rockville Chamber of Commerce. The Rockville Chamber, through its scholarship foundation, provides scholarships each year for Montgomery College students and graduates who are continuing their studies at four-year colleges.

As part of the Rockville Campus career and technical education partnership with the Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS), the television faculty in MC's Communication Arts Technologies (CAT) department, Professors Joanne Carl



and Chris Koch, held a Perkins-funded workshop in November to introduce high school television faculty to the College's curriculum and facilities.

Business and community leaders who live or work in the Silver Spring area are exploring the establishment of a new group called Silver Spring Green. Modeled, in part, on the successes of Bethesda Green, SSG would undertake educational programs and projects to address environmental issues in Silver Spring. Montgomery College is represented on the SSG Steering Committee by Dr. Stephen Cain, dean of natural and applied sciences, business, management and information science.

Dr. Collins Jones, biotechnology professor; Kathy Michaelian, business, science, mathematics, and technology dean; and Steve Poteat, operations and community outreach services director for the Germantown vice president and provost; serve on the Tenant Review Board for the Germantown Innovation Center.

Kathy Michaelian and Steve Poteat also serve on the Holy Cross–Montgomery College Workgroup creating a model of cooperation for building the workforce of the future. This partnership reflects the mutual belief that one of the great needs of Montgomery County and the state of Maryland is an expansion of the number of well-trained nurses and other healthcare professionals.

The College will participate in BIO 2011, an international biotechnology industry conference in Washington, D.C., this June. BIO 2011 is a major economic development activity for Montgomery County and the state of Maryland.

WD&CE contract training courses are developed in partnership with community businesses, associations, and community organizations. Annually, about seventy organizations engage the College to develop a program to meet an identified training need. These may involve modifying an existing course to just the particular requirements of the training partner or this may involve a new course offering altogether to meet an emerging need.

Apprenticeship courses in WD&CE work in partnership with a sponsoring employer trade association and provide the “related-instruction” aspects of what the apprenticeship student is doing on the job on a full-time basis. These four-year programs include between 640 to 800 hours of classroom instruction along with 8,000 hours of on the job experience. These “earn and learn” opportunities provide career paths to high-wage jobs through an employer-paid education and training program.

Student Employment Services (SES) staff participated in the WD&CE annual Career Day on January 20, 2011. The WD&CE-sponsored event took place at Montgomery Works in Germantown and provided community job seekers with connections to local employers and assistance with resume development, interview skills, and information about Montgomery College programs and services. In addition, the Montgomery College Cooperative Education and Internship program submitted the Holy Cross Health Science proposal. If awarded, the funds would be used to provide Montgomery College students internship opportunities in a range of health-care related occupations.

### **Grant-Funded Study**

Grant-funded courses leverage external resources to provide local education and training opportunities for populations identified through the grant development process. Early childhood education training and certifications, adult basic education, English for Speakers of Other Languages, career training in correctional centers, and citizenship test preparation are examples of recent grant-funded courses.

The Montgomery College Nursing Program has established a Nursing Enrichment Program (NEP) for students who are at-risk of being unsuccessful in the nursing program. The Nursing Program, under the guidance of Program Director Barbara Nubile and the assistance of Monique Davis, was awarded a three-year grant from the Nursing Support II program to support the Nursing Enrichment Program. The grant was implemented in academic year 2010-11, and the goals of the grant are to increase the number of qualified nursing program applicants and improve retention rates of



nursing program students. By increasing in these two areas, the result will be an increase in the number of qualified nursing graduates.

Montgomery College's use of funding from the Carl D. Perkins grant is used to support the academic and technical skills of Career and Technical Education (CTE) students. It is designed to prepare CTE students for high-skill, high-wage, high-demand occupations in current and emerging professions and to meet the workforce development needs of the county and state. Fifteen Montgomery College CTE programs and MCPS submitted applications for Perkins FY11 funding, resulting in more than \$1 million worth of requests. The total College's Perkins allotment for FY11 was \$584,626. Through discussion with program directors, project requests were revised to fit within the approved budget allocation. The projects funded this year will permit many of the College's CTE programs to upgrade their curricula and/or expand into new student markets. Examples of the funded projects are as follows:

- Technical and safety training for green fuel technologies in the automotive technology program;
- The re-writing of the broadcast journalism certificate and digital media production certificate curricula in the broadcast technology program;
- The building trades program will make solar training and energy sustainability upgrades to meet industry standards;
- Faculty in Web careers will be trained on new software (Adobe Creative Suite 5) applications and the program will expand outreach through web careers conference;
- Support faculty professional development and Law Enforcement Career Day in the criminal justice program
- The early childhood education program will offer professional development opportunities for part-time faculty and will purchase DVD and other materials for the model classroom at Rockville;
- The diagnostic medical sonography program will purchase equipment for imaging skill proficiency, develop modules, and exam preparation;
- Develop new program curriculum and articulation agreements in the area of emergency preparation management as well as purchase supplies for learning center and print materials;
- Complete program courses with articulated credit in fire science program and create a fire system lab;
- The health information technology program will revise the curriculum of a non-lab biology course, develop marketing materials, and purchase supplies;
- The physical therapist assistant program will create an exam review course to increase first-time pass rate and support;
- Radiological technology program will transition to an electronic web-based clinical evaluation (three-year project);
- A new high quality digital camera for the Integrated Digital Microscope System (IDMS) will be purchased by the landscaping technology program;
- Wireless networking program will purchase portable computers for students in MC/MCPS courses as well as a fusion splicer; and
- With MCPS, the Perkins grant will provide professional development courses for MCPS instructors of radio and TV production and support the Tech-Prep coordinator and program specialist positions.

## Celebrating Students

*Macklin Business Institute honors students* visited the NASDAQ MarketSite in New York City's Times Square on January 5, 2011, and rang the NASDAQ Closing Bell. The NASDAQ OMX Educational Foundation started an endowed scholarship fund with the Montgomery College Foundation in 2008. Dedicated to the memory of Gordon Macklin, the former president of the National Association of Securities Dealers (NASD) and founder of The NASDAQ Stock Market, the fund helps Montgomery College students in the Gordon and Marilyn Macklin Business Institute (MBI) honors program with the costs of tuition and related expenses.

Two School of Art + Design (SA+D) students have received scholarships to work for a four-month period as artists-in-residence at the Pyramid Atlantic Art Center. The students are *Chris Porter* and *Samantha Farnum*, and they will be



sharing a private art studio and working with Professor Vosseller on an Individualized Art Workshop at the Pyramid Atlantic facility with the expectation of showing their work at the end of the semester.

Three of our Takoma Park/Silver Spring students, *Cesarina Custodio, Joseph Mendiola, and Rahel Kebede*, mentored by Dr. Carole Wolin, have had their submission, "New Frontiers in Controlling Disease," accepted for presentation at the 2011 Maryland Collegiate Honors Council Conference to be held at St. Mary's College of Maryland in March.

George Washington University is one of a few schools nationwide that has tapped student talent to create its own iPhone application. Course listings, campus maps, news, sports, social media feeds, alerts, and more are at students' fingertips with the official GW iPhone app. Students can tap into the campus wherever they go with GW Mobile, thanks to *Montgomery College alumnus and former Takoma Park/Silver Spring Student Senate president, Ahadu Tiahun*. "The experience was phenomenal," says Ahadu, who has worked for the past year designing and developing GW Mobile. "I am now more interested in mobile computing and intelligence systems than ever." Mr. Tiahun is a fifth-year scholarship student in GW's joint B.S./M.S. program in systems engineering.

*The Visual Arts and Design department's Graphic Design course students* will be participating in a new logo design competition for the Cafritz Art Store in partnership with Auxiliary Services. This will also result in further graphic design work with the Cafritz Art Store to create signage, publications, and additional design work as needed.

## Celebrating College Faculty, Staff, and Administrators

*Dr. Muhammad Kehnemouyi*, chair of the Engineering, Physics, and Geoscience Department, served as a panelist for the Project Lead the Way Innovation Summit, in Washington, D.C., October 20-22, 2010. The event brought together stakeholders from all areas of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) education, including educators, administrators, representatives from state education offices and university affiliates, federal agency program managers, industry representatives, and representatives from professional societies to gauge where this community is on topics of common interest. The summit had more than 900 participants who attended any of the four concurrent panels.

*Counselor Marcus Peanort* will attend and present two sessions at the ACPA (College Student Educators International) Annual Conference in Baltimore in March. The presentations are entitled "Launching and Developing Your Career at a Two-Year College" and "The Search for Purpose In Our Work: New Professionals Reflect."

*Counselor Karissa Silver* met with the Maryland Estonia Exchange Committee (MEEC) at the Department of State on January 10 to discuss possible student exchange programs between universities in Estonia and colleges and universities in Maryland as well as economic support/training for Estonians.

*English Professor Dr. Rita Kranidis* will present at the Developmental Education teacher-training conference in Asheville, North Carolina in March. The title of her session is "Going Places to Find Truths: Personally-Invested Research for Developmental Writers." Introducing the art of research as a critical thinking and learning tool enriches students' experiences with writing and with the classroom environment. This workshop will feature unconventional research tasks that enhance student investment, such as personal observation, interviews, image collages, and collaborative I-Search narratives. These approaches validate the students' trajectory of experiences and insights and infuse their writing with true content.

*Michael Hunter*, an adjunct art faculty member, has a solo show of large-scale representational paintings at the Arts Club of Washington. An opening reception was held on February 4. The show, curated by Christopher With from the National Gallery of Art, runs through February 23.

*Joan Hawkins*, counseling professor, is planning the spring semester Transfer Day, which is scheduled for February 24. This event typically draws close to a thousand MC students.



*Dana Baker, Amanda DeMarco, and Mandy Carpency*, counseling faculty members, are planning two Habitat for Humanity builds this spring (the first one in March) through the Montgomery College-Rockville First Year Experience program.

*Celia Young*, counseling professor, chairs the Mental Health Advisory Committee of Montgomery County and holds monthly meetings.

An advertising folder for Visual Arts and Design at the Takoma Park/Silver Spring Campus placed as a finalist in the folder category in the National Council for Marketing and Public Relations (NCMPR) Paragon Awards competition. The Paragon Awards competition is a national competition for communications produced exclusively by two-year colleges. Adjunct art faculty member *Megan Van Waggoner* provided critical services as the creative lead on this project and *Tina Kramer*, writer/editor from Institutional Advancement, provided the compelling copy that led to the nomination.

Education professor *Glenda Hernandez Baca's* Educational Psychology online course has been certified by Quality Matters. Quality Matters certifies the design quality of online and blended courses. The course was peer-reviewed by external faculty. They commented that the course was well designed and easy to navigate.

Three Montgomery College distance education courses have recently been recognized by Quality Matters for their overall course design and focus on improving student learning: Educational Psychology developed by *Dr. Glenda Hernandez*, Abdominal Sonography 1 developed by *Dr. Linda Zanin*, and Online Teaching developed by *Tom Cantu*. Quality Matters (QM) is a leader in quality assurance for online education and has received national recognition for its peer-based approach and continuous improvement in online education and student learning.

*The staff of the Office of Distance Education and Learning Technologies* began offering its Online Teaching program for the first time in the new course management system Blackboard. Thirteen faculty registered for the program, which prepares them to fully develop an online or blended course.

Congratulations to *Nancy Newton*, special project/citizenship program director for the Adult ESOL & Literacy – GED Program, who recently completed her master's degree in Adult Education with a 4.0 grade point average.

*Dr. Charmaine Cruise* is joining the nursing program as the full-time nursing retention coordinator. Charmaine has her Ed.D. in Higher Education Administration from Regent University in Virginia Beach, Va. She has been at Montgomery College since 2007 as a resource specialist for the Gateway to College Program. In addition to her experience at MC, Dr. Cruise has served as an academic advisor and adjunct faculty at Prince George's Community College and coordinator of academic advisement at Hostos Community College in New York.

*Aaron Eaton, DPT*, joins the full time physical therapy assistant faculty in January 2011. He will be coordinating the College's clinical education internships as well as co-instructing with experienced faculty and providing support as a skills laboratory instructor. Dr. Eaton earned his physical therapy degree at the University of New England. He completed a doctoral degree in physical therapy at Simmons College. He comes to us from the National Naval Medical Center where he coordinated the physical therapy student internship program and worked with patients needing acute care, outpatient orthopedic and sports injury rehabilitation.

Welcome to *Kimberly Brown*, our new instructional services director for the Targeted Assistance Program at the Refugee Center. Kim comes to us from the University of Maryland, where she was a lecturer in English as a Second Language and student services coordinator for the Maryland English Institute.

*Dean Angie Pickwick* recently volunteered at the NBC4 Health and Fitness Expo. Dean Pickwick is a member of the station's Community Advisory Board.





*Dr. Harold Williams*, planetarium coordinator, physics and geology lab coordinator, and adjunct professor, was interviewed on camera by NBC4 in Washington. The interview, which took place in the Takoma Park/Silver Spring Campus Planetarium, discussed the shift of the Earth's rotation and resultant 13<sup>th</sup> Zodiac sign. The piece is called "Is This the Dawning of the Age of Ophiucus?".

Recently, *Professor Deborah Solomon* in the Computer Science and Information & Interactive Technologies Department was a guest on The Kojo Nnamdi Show on NPR talking about growth of the computer gaming industry and our program at Montgomery College.

The College's School of Art + Design (SA+D) has entered into an agreement with the Maryland Institute College of Art (MICA) whereby MICA admissions reps attend the SA+D portfolio shows and grant "portfolio admissions" to students who exhibit strong portfolios. MICA joins the Pennsylvania Academy of the Fine Arts (PAFA) and the School of the Art Institute of Chicago (SAIC) in attending the SA+D portfolio shows to grant "portfolio admissions."

*Amanda McIntosh*, student services specialist for the Germantown Options for Adult Learners Program, co-authored a journal article with Jennifer C. Gibbs of the Department of Criminology and Criminal Justice at the University of Maryland; it was published in the *Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences Assessment Forum*. The article, "Bridging formal and informal approaches to increase understanding and decrease anxiety in research methods courses," chronicled the authors' research study that examined food as a means of bridging informal and formal learning methods to reduce anxiety and increase student understanding.

## Speakers and Events

### November Events

On November 18, twenty enthusiastic student members of the Economics Club of the Takoma Park/Silver Spring Campus went on a field trip to the Federal Reserve Bank of Richmond, Baltimore branch. The students enjoyed watching exhibits on currency, cash operations of the Fed, a special video that explained its role during 9/11 in preventing financial chaos and, most importantly, a dialogue with a Fed economist who talked about the role of the Fed in the recent bank bailouts and other efforts to stabilize the economy during the current recession. Thanks to support from Student Life, the students all shared a bus ride to Baltimore, which made the experience wonderful as they shared good times together, a part of the college experience that is often missing in a nonresidential community college.

### December Events

The fall 2010 Takoma Park/Silver Spring Campus Honors Colloquium was held on December 8 and December 9. Thirty-one honors students presented their research to the campus community in a series of outstanding presentations with topics ranging from "The Mathematics of Where to Sit in the Movies," to "Microfinance as a Stimulant for Economic Growth: Case Studies from India and Banglaesh" to "The Disappearance of Honeybees."

### January Events

The Germantown Campus offered Winter Term courses for the first time this year. More than 150 students enrolled in seven courses. The Introduction to Sociology (SO 101), Principles of Economics II (EC 202), and two sections of Principles of Healthy Living (HE 100) were full. In addition, healthy enrollments in Principles of English Grammar (EN 105), Introduction of Computer Applications (CA 120), and Introduction to Trigonometry (MA 105) combined to permit students to complete program and degree requirements on a shortened timeline.

The "Portraits of Life: Holocaust Survivors of Montgomery County" exhibition is on display at two locations in the county, at Rockville High School and at the Mansion at Strathmore. Rockville High is the third school that the documentary panels have visited this school year (in addition to Wootton High and Eastern Middle School). On January 10, two Holocaust survivors, Nesse Godin and Emanuel Mandel, spoke to several classes of history students to complement their study of the World War II. The school has already asked to renew the program next year for a larger



student population. In the coming weeks, Portraits will also be going to Westland Middle School and Montgomery Blair High. The exhibition at Strathmore, which runs until February 21, is an excellent opportunity to bring an even broader audience to see and experience Portraits of Life. In connection with the exhibition, Strathmore will be holding a series of events for adults and younger people. Part of the plan is to bring some classes from MC to the art center and possibly to film some events for MC television. There was a reception on January 13, at which Dr. Pollard represented the College.

The Chief Science Officer Program began on Saturday, January 15, with a cohort of 19 students, mostly postdoctoral fellows from NIH. Dr. Bahija Jallal, vice president of Medimmune, gave opening remarks, took questions, and interacted with the students. The program is a collaborative effort among the college's Germantown Campus, Workforce Development & Continuing Education (WD&CE), and the National Institutes of Health.

Dr. Judy E. Ackerman hosted the Rockville Chamber of Commerce's "Good Morning Rockville" on Tuesday, January 18 at 8 a.m. in the Faculty/Staff Dining Room in Campus Center. Included on the agenda was a demonstration of ChamberMaster and how businesses can use it.

The Rockville Campus held its spring campus opening meeting on Wednesday, January 19 in the Robert E. Parilla Performing Arts Center.

The Germantown Library held an Open House on Wednesday, January 19, from 3-5 p.m. to showcase the varied services that will be offered this spring semester. The series, *What the Library Can Do for You!!*, included demos related to collection development, periodicals, electronic resources, and library instruction. Donuts were served during the demos.

On January 26, The Germantown and Rockville campuses competed in the Battle of 270 basketball game.

On January 31, The Transportation Safety Institute held an expert panel review for its innovative Disciplined Attention Program (DAP) to attack distracted driving from the inside-out or top-down in the Washington Metro region. Ten expert panelists volunteered to review the curriculum. Some of the panelist were Lon Anderson, Montgomery College Foundation board member and managing director of public and government affairs for AAA Mid-Atlantic; Younis Forsythe, pilot and Office of Information Technology, and Dr. Anuj Pradhan, driver safety scientist, National Institutes of Health. Financial support for curriculum development and scholarships for the DAP was provided by the GEICO Philanthropic Foundation.

### **Spring Semester**

This spring sixteen students from Colombia, El Salvador, Peru, Honduras, Bolivia and Italy have attended the WD&CE's Electricity Training Program in Spanish for individuals who are interested in pursuing a career. The program, offered under WD&CE's Hispanic Business Training Institute, is comprised of four courses, 20 hours of theory and 60 hours (3 courses) of practice. Since 2008, the program has had the full support and cooperation of the electricity program within the building trades program at the Homer S. Gudelsky Institute for Technical Education. Upon completion and presentation of a certificate of participation, students can obtain an "Apprenticeship Electrician" card from Montgomery County's Office of Permitting Services. This training has been very popular since 2008. Over the years, student profiles have varied: some are getting into this field for the first time; some have hands-on experience; some lack the academic preparation; some come from the unions without enough preparation, and some come seeking to change their lives because of low pay as a result of lack of formal training. When students complete their training, they will not only be able to show their apprenticeship electrician card, but also show 80 hours of training and even additional training for those who work for the union or who want to pursue a career as an electrician. As a continuation of this course, the College is planning to offer preparation for the Journeyman Electrician exam in a bilingual learning format.

A new Artist-in-Residency Program began this spring at the Takoma Park/Silver Spring Campus. The program's main goal is to enrich the artistic and educational environment of CF and the Department of Visual Arts and Design. Two artists will be in residence and will be provided studio space in the Cafritz Foundation Arts Center. In addition to their personal studio work, the artists will be involved with various activities such as workshops, talks and exhibits as well as



be available to students to informally talk about their work. Mahwish Chisty has begun her residency and will be here through March 30. Ronit Eisenbach will begin in April and continue through August.

## External Support and Recognition

Workforce Development & Continuing Education recently received the HSC Foundation's LEAP Award in the amount of \$11,000 to provide needy students with developmental disabilities tuition, fees, and book assistance. The HSC Foundation is dedicated to improving access to services for individuals who face social and health care barriers due to disability, chronic illness, or other circumstances that present unique needs.