

**From:** [MC Communications](#)  
**To:** [All Employees Dynamic Grp](#); [All Registered Students](#)  
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September 9, 2024

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Welcome to the second week of classes! It is exciting to see so much happening in all our learning spaces. As we embark on this new academic journey together, I encourage everyone—students, faculty and staff alike—to embrace new opportunities, make new connections, and take steps toward shaping the success you envision. Student success is built on thoughtful planning and the College [has many resources](#) to guide students each step of the way. Remember, asking for help is a sign of strength, and we are all here to support you in achieving your goals.

### **Students: Get Involved and Make the Most of Your MC Experience!**

Getting involved at MC isn't just fun—it's also a key to academic success. Whether you're into sports, arts, robotics, travel, or volunteering, there is something here for you at the College. You can join, or start, a student club at [Germantown](#), [Rockville](#), or [Takoma Park/Silver Spring](#). Other opportunities for academic support include your faculty, [tutoring services](#), and [counseling and advising](#). In addition, you can express your creativity and advocate for civic engagement in the [Promote the Vote](#) banner design contest, which is sponsored by the Arts and Humanities Council of Montgomery County and open only to MC students and alumni. And don't forget to [sign up for MC Alerts](#) to receive timely information in the event of an emergency.

### **Hispanic Heritage Month Shines Light on Hispanic Culture**

Did you know that 29 percent of MC students identify as Hispanic, and that MC is designated as a Hispanic Serving Institution (HSI)? We also have Latine faculty and staff who are authors, poets, scientists, musicians, historians, and more. This Thursday marks the launch of Hispanic Heritage Month, which runs from September 15 to October 15, and will include activities and events at MC focused on Latines' contributions to society, plus culinary and cultural experiences. With a focus on "Shaping the Future Together," this month provides an opportunity to shine an even brighter light on the importance of Hispanic culture. This week, September 9–13, is also marked as National Hispanic Serving Institutions Week. I thank everyone involved in the planning of the heritage month events. Your efforts enrich our community and strengthen our sense of belonging to the College.

### **Leggett Building Celebrates Student and Community Milestone**

In just 10 days, the College will celebrate the ribbon cutting of the Catherine and Isiah Leggett Math and Science Building at the Takoma Park/Silver Spring Campus. We will commemorate the Leggetts' philanthropy along with the substantial efforts by state and county leaders to bring this project to

fruition, and the patience of the Takoma Park community during the construction process. Bringing state-of-the-art STEM facilities to the Takoma Park/Silver Spring Campus is an achievement of which we should all be proud. I want to personally acknowledge the extraordinary efforts of so many who had a hand in achieving this milestone for our students and community, especially faculty, staff, and the offices of facilities, information technology, and business services, as well as the many people who built and equipped the building, and so many more. The ribbon-cutting takes place at 2 p.m. on September 19 and will feature many of our supporters from this years-long effort. Space is limited to [please RSVP](#) if you would like to attend.

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](#)