

Thursday, January 30, 2025 at 12:56:13 Eastern Standard Time

Subject: Appointment of Acting Chair of the Engineering, Physical, and Computer Sciences Department at the Rockville Campus
Date: Monday, January 27, 2025 at 2:29:09 PM Eastern Standard Time
From: Academic Affairs
To: All Employees Dynamic Grp
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Memorandum

To: Montgomery College Employees
From: Dr. Rebecca Thomas, Interim Dean, Science, Engineering, and Technology
Subject: Appointment of Acting Chair of the Engineering, Physical, and Computer Sciences Department at the Rockville Campus
Date: January 27, 2025

I am pleased to announce the appointment of Dr. Kedar Hardikar as the acting chair of the Engineering, Physical, and Computer Sciences Department at the Rockville Campus as of January 18, 2025.

Dr. Hardikar joined Montgomery College in January 2023 as an engineering and physics faculty member. He has enhanced the curriculum with practical, industry-relevant projects and introduced initiatives such as the *Distinguished Industry Speaker Series*, featuring leaders from global tech firms as well as tech startups and Montgomery County government tech teams so that students develop a refined understanding of technical careers and prospects. He developed self-study resources for challenging courses including Physics 1 and Engineering Statics. He also spearheaded the development of a competency bootcamp to support student success and fostered partnerships with external organizations for customized engineering training.

Prior to his academic tenure, Dr. Hardikar held leadership positions at renowned organizations such as Google, Microsoft, and Miasole. He has led global teams in reliability engineering, product design, and advanced research and development, earning recognition for his contributions in fields such as solar energy and consumer electronics. Notably, his research has resulted in multiple patents and award-winning publications.

Dr. Hardikar earned a bachelor of engineering degree in mechanical engineering from the University of Bombay, a master of engineering degree in mechanical engineering from Syracuse University and a doctor of philosophy in engineering (solid mechanics) from Brown University.

In his new role as acting chair, Dr. Hardikar will continue to uphold the department's commitment to academic excellence and interdisciplinary innovation, fostering an inclusive and dynamic learning environment for all students and faculty.

Please join us in congratulating Dr. Kedar Hardikar on his appointment and supporting him as he steps into this new leadership role.

