



A Message from Dr. Sanjay Rai

It is always a great pleasure for me to ring in a new academic year – to welcome you to a new beginning. This is the time that we welcome many new students as well as welcome back our returning students. The sense of excitement and anticipation is greatest when we all come together for the beginning of fall semester.

I hope that each of you found time for renewal during the summer. Some of you have shared your experiences with me– travel adventures, time to read, time with family and friends. Many of you taught or worked on College initiatives, as well. New department chairs stepped into their new roles on July 1. How quickly the time passed.

My sense of excitement and anticipation is heightened by my enormous sense of gratitude for the work that you have done leading up to Fall 2018. Efforts begun during the last four years are showing promising results. Your energy and innovation to improve outcomes and expand opportunities for all of our students seems to know no bounds. The use of OERs, including z-courses and z-degrees continues to grow, saving our students millions of dollars. Efforts to reduce DFW rates are now rooted in the MC culture. There will be variations, but they will not go unnoticed - by you. Embedded coaches and ATPA coaches are part of the village that it takes to guide students toward academic success and independence in navigating their college experience. Implementation of the general education program, including courses with capstone

projects, ensures that all degree-seeking students must grapple with some of the complex and integrated issues that we face. The first Middle College graduates were under the commencement tent in May. The first Early College students are on campus today.

Program advising, in and out of the classroom, is one of the most powerful and important initiatives in the Academic Affairs Division. Your work has been tireless and is directly impacting the journeys of our students. Your work to engage students, in and out of the classroom, ensuring that they feel a part of a community contributes to their success, academically and more broadly to their growth as individuals. The faculty participating in the first Scholarship for Excellence in Teaching cohort are doing work that most associate with elite, private schools. I was not surprised that so many outstanding and qualified faculty applied for the first cohort that we identified the second cohort at the same time. Over 200 of our phenomenally dedicated part-time faculty attended the Saturday conference, *Explore - Charting The Pathways Towards Student Success*, organized and sponsored by the Institute for Part-Time Faculty Engagement & Support. The commitment of faculty inspires me every day.

Opening Day theme this year was *Student Success Starts on Day One*. I know that your work began before day one and will continue every day. Gandhi said, "If I have the belief that I can do it, I shall surely acquire the capacity to do it even if I may not have it at the beginning." You meet your students at their beginnings and help them to acquire the capacity to achieve their goals. I am humbled by and grateful for the work you do.

Sanjay



Awardee

Full-Time Faculty of the Year:

***Assistant Professor
Deborah Grubb,
Criminal Justice***

Deborah Grubb, assistant professor of criminal justice program is the Full-time Faculty Member of the Year. She has taught the following courses in the Criminal Justice Program in the Sociology, Anthropology and Criminal Justice Department since 2013: Administration of Justice, Introduction to Law Enforcement, Criminal Investigation, Contemporary Issues in Criminal Justice, and Seminar in Criminal Justice: Human Trafficking. She also developed and taught two online courses: Introduction to Law Enforcement and Contemporary Issues in Criminal Justice. Professor Grubb was instrumental in the creation of an online AAS degree, which allows students more flexibility in class time and location, and the creation of the Z-degree in criminal justice, which makes it more affordable. She takes a leadership role in implementing initiatives

that may improve student success outcomes, such as placing Achieving the Promise Academy embedded coaches in four of her course sections during this spring semester. She has always been open to opportunities that may positively impact our students, Professor Grubb embraces anything that will improve student success: she worked tirelessly as the criminal justice coordinator shortly after arriving at the College and was engaged deeply with the general studies redesign and efforts to ensure the transferability of Montgomery College credits to other academic institutions.

She is president of the Montgomery County Law, Government, Public Safety & Administration Program Advisory Committee. She serves on the Collegewide Assessment Team, and has published in *Police Practice and Research*, *Journal of Criminal Justice Education*, and *International Journal of Restorative Justice*. Professor Grubb earned a Bachelor of Science in Political Science from Old Dominion University, a Master of Science in Criminal Justice from Armstrong Atlantic State University, and is currently pursuing a doctor of Philosophy in Criminology, Law and Society from George Mason University.



Awardee

Part-Time Faculty of the Year:

Dr. Kam Yee, Engineering

Dr. Kam Yee has been teaching Engineering courses in the Department of Engineering, Physical and Computer Science since 2003. Dr. Kam Yee has taught Scientific and Engineering Computation and Digital Logic Design. Dr. Yee has been a popular, highly effective instructor at the College for 15 years. Not only is he described as an “amazing instructor” by many students, but he is praised for bringing his disciplines to life with vivid, enthusiastic lectures, and in-class demonstrations of real working circuits and other electrical equipment. Dr. Yee has been equally inspiring outside the classroom, where he tutors student in engineering, physics, and math. Over the years he has generously donated his own time and efforts to guide students in the Maryland Science Bowl, and to help them prepare for the Beacon Honors Conference, mentoring one of his students to a second place finish. Dr. Yee also helps to place students in summer internships, and he participates in professional pedagogical development programs, including *Increasing Learning: Innovative Practices in College Teaching and Learning*, offered by the Maryland Consortium for Adjunct Faculty.

Since 2011, he has provided expert engineering design services through GL Communications, Inc., Gaithersburg, providing engineering consulting services for the design and commissioning of communications systems for large infrastructure projects including Systems Quality Assurance and Commissioning Special for Maryland Transit Administration, Baltimore; Systems Engineering Consultant, Red Line Light Rail and Purple Line Light Rail Projects for the Maryland Transit Administration in Baltimore, and

others. He worked previously as a design engineer, designing, implementing, and verifying board-level hardware and digital FPGA designs of communication networks test equipment products (electrical, optical and packet-based networks). His expertise in engineering design both academically and professionally benefits our students immensely.

Dr. Yee earned both a Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering and a Bachelor of Science in Computer Engineering, a Master of Science in Electrical Engineering, and a Doctor of Philosophy in Electrical Engineering from North Carolina State University in Raleigh, NC.



Academic Master Plan Update

Initiative 1: Embedded Classroom Support

As a part of Montgomery College’s Academic Master Plan, the Achieving the Promise Academy is providing embedded support services to highly-enrolled courses with historically high DFW rates for the third consecutive semester. In the ATPA Embedded Support Program, part-time faculty members with content expertise serve as embedded coaches by working in collaboration with host faculty to provide support to students in and outside of class. Coaches visit class every other week to stay connected with the students, and offer study sessions outside of class every week. During study sessions, coaches review course material, teach academic skills, coach students on non-cognitive skills, and refer students to campus resources.

1 EMBEDDED CLASSROOM SUPPORT

“(My coach) was very helpful in helping me narrow down my paper topic and how to address the different aspects of the paper requirements.”

1 EMBEDDED CLASSROOM SUPPORT

“I found it helpful to have an individual within the class that you can ask questions. It is just convenient to have them right in the classroom.”

1 EMBEDDED CLASSROOM SUPPORT

“My ATPA Embedded Support Coach was easily accessible and always offered assistance. She sent out weekly emails recapping the material we covered over the week. She was available to help outside of class.”

The ATPA Embedded Support Program served 63 sections of classes in Fall 2017, 124 sections in Spring 2018, and is in over 100 sections in Fall 2018. (See student quotes to the left.)

Data from both semesters of the 2017-2018 academic year also demonstrate that students who engaged with their coaches in and outside of class earned higher final grades than their counterparts, and that, on average, students who were in embedded support classes saw an increase in their GPA at the end of the semester in comparison to their start-of-semester GPA. In Spring 2018, 7 out of the 11 disciplines that worked with embedded coaches saw **lower DFW rates in sections that worked with a coach** versus sections in the same discipline that did not work with a coach. The ATPA Embedded Support Program is currently serving select courses in ACCT 221, ACCT 222, BIOL 150, CHEM 131, CHEM 135, CCJS 110ENGL 102, MATH 117, MATH 120, MATH 165, MATH 181, PHYS 161, and PSYC 102. Those who are interested in being involved with the program can contact ATPA program coordinator, Eurae Muhn at eurae.muhn@montgomerycollege.edu.

Advising Update

The Purple Plan: An Academic Planning Tool

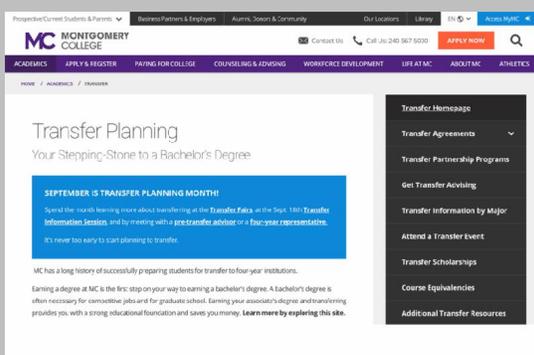
Presented at the recent Academic Affairs Retreat, the **Purple Plan** is an academic planning tool that has been developed for students by students. With the assistance of faculty, students in the Computer Science program worked during school breaks on the development of an interactive academic planning tool. The app allows students to develop their academic plan by clicking on their major. That first step reveals program requirements which allows the student to see course selections and sequencing.

In addition, the app allows for students to share their plan with their advisors through a drawdown menu, making communication very easy. The app is continuing to evolve with the addition of other majors and features.



*"Our goal is to create a tool for Montgomery College students to help manage and create their Academic Plans. **Purple Plan** has great potential, not as an application, but as a platform that brings new features to reflect the student's needs." — Maksim Eren, Founder, Project Lead, and iOS Design Lead*

Visit PurplePlan.tk to get the app.



Transfer Homepage

Transfer Agreements

Transfer Partnership Programs

Get Transfer Advising

Department Detail

What You Need to Know About Transfer *by Seth Kamen*

In July, the College launched a new Transfer website. The site is both reactive to the needs of students – including highlighting upcoming events, unique partner programs, and multiple call to actions – and is mobile friendly. Additional updates to the site will be made over the fall semester.

The right menu will help you navigate the website. The old Advising by Major page is listed on the menu as “Transfer

Transfer Information by Major

Attend a Transfer Event

Transfer Scholarships

Course Equivalencies

Additional Transfer Resources

News and Updates: The Transfer Times

For Partner Institutions ▼

FAQs

Information by Major.” The “Additional Transfer Resources” connects to (among other things) information about unique student populations such as military, international and honors students, as well as printable/sharable flyers and the steps to transferring. New additions to the website include a [Frequently Asked Questions](#) page, and a [Transfer Tool Kit](#), which highlights information about transfer advising for some of our top transfer institutions.

In addition to the new site, we have signed new [articulation agreements](#) with James Madison University, Capitol Technology University, Loyola University of Maryland, Shepherd University, UMBC, UMES, Drexel University Online, Harrisburg University of Science and Technology, Marymount University, Georgetown University, and many more.

More than 60 four-year institutions will be at the [Fall Transfer Fairs](#). UMCP, UMBC, and USG are all offering [Pre-transfer advising](#). Additional schools provide on-site admissions opportunities through our [visit campus program](#).

[Welcome](#)

New Faculty and Staff

Please welcome new faculty and staff to Montgomery College!



Colleen Ackermann, Assistant Professor, Mathematics, Rockville Campus

- Bachelor of Science in Mathematics, Virginia Tech
- Master of Science in Mathematics, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign
- Doctor of Philosophy in Mathematics, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign



Karen Basuel, Associate Professor, English, Rockville Campus

- Bachelor of Arts in English Literature, Ateneo de Manila University, Quezon City, Philippines
- Master of Arts in Education, Ateneo de Manila University, Quezon City, Philippines



Palma Catravas, Professor, Engineering, Rockville Campus

- Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering and a Bachelor of Music in Piano Performance, University of Maryland College Park
- Master of Science in Electrical Engineering, MIT
- Doctor of Philosophy in Electrical Engineering,

Jana Anderson, Hospitality Management Coordinator, Assistant Professor, BEACAHM

- Bachelor of Science in Hotel, Restaurant, and Institutional Mgmt with a minor in Legal Environment of Business, Pennsylvania State University
- Master of Professional Studies in Community and Economic Development, University of Pennsylvania



MONTGOMERY COLLEGE

Eva Brown, Associate Professor, Applied Technology - Geography, GITE Rockville Campus

- Bachelor of Arts in Sociology, Memphis State
- Master of Arts in Sociology, Memphis State



Vivian Chang, Administrative Aide, BEACAHMPS, Rockville Campus

- Bachelor of Science in Mathematics, University Maryland Eastern Shore

Shayla Atkins, Associate Professor, English and Reading, Takoma Park/Silver Spring Campus

- Bachelor of Arts in English with a minor in Education, Florida A & M
- Master of Arts in English Language & Literature, University of Maryland
- Doctor of Philosophy in English, Howard University



MONTGOMERY COLLEGE

Heather Brown, Assistant Professor, Music, Takoma Park/Silver Spring Campus

- Bachelor of Arts in Music, Binghamton University
- Master of Music in Vocal Performance, University of Maryland



Michael Clark, Assistant Professor, Exercise Science, Rockville Campus

- Associate of Arts in General Studies, Montgomery College
- Bachelor of Science in Exercise Science, Salisbury University
- Master of Science in Injury Prevention and Performance Enhancement, California



**Celia Evans, Professor,
Mathematics and Statistics,
Rockville Campus**

- Bachelor of Arts, Mathematics, UC Berkeley
- Master of Arts, Mathematics, University of Maryland College Park
- Doctor of Philosophy in Mathematics, University of Maryland College Park



**Wendy B. Evans, faculty,
Diagnostic Medical Sonography,
Takoma Park/Silver Spring
Campus**

- Bachelor of Science in Zoology, George Washington University
- Registered Diagnostic Cardiac Sonographer in Adult Echocardiography



**Mieke Gentis, Assistant
Professor, Photography, Takoma
Park/Silver Spring Campus**

- Bachelor of Arts in Sociology, Salisbury University
- Master of Fine Art in Intermedia and Digital Art, University of Maryland Baltimore County



**Alex Huebner, Assistant
Professor, Communications,
Takoma Park/Silver Spring
Campus**

- Bachelor of Arts in Communication Studies, West Virginia University
- Master of Arts in Communication, University of Kentucky
- Doctor of Philosophy in Communication, Florida State University



**Khara James, Instructor,
Applied Technologies, Rockville
Campus**

- Bachelor of Science in Architecture, University of Maryland
- Master of Architecture, University of Maryland



**Betsy Leonard, Planning and
Support Specialist, Office of the
Senior Vice President for
Academic Affairs, CT Building**

- Associate of Arts in General Studies, Montgomery College
- Bachelor of Science in Business Administration, Columbia Union College
- Graduate Certificate in Project Management, George Washington University



Mateboho Mohapeloa-Raposo, Professor, Nursing, Takoma Park/Silver Spring Campus

- Diploma General Nursing, Queen 2 School of Nursing, Lesotho
- Bachelor of Science in Nursing, Howard University, Washington DC
- Master in Nursing Education, Washington Adventist University, Takoma Park, Maryland



Sara Parent-Ramos, Assistant Professor, Art, Rockville Campus

- Associate of Arts in Liberal Arts, Bard College at Simon's Rock
- Bachelor of Arts in Psychology, Swarthmore College
- Master in Education, Framingham State University
- Master of Fine Arts, New York State College of Ceramics at Alfred University

Kaya Naliyah, Assistant Professor, Sociology, Takoma Park/Silver Spring Campus

- Associate in Arts and Sciences, Shoreline Community College
- Bachelor of Arts in Sociology, Hampton University
- Master of Arts in Sociology, George Mason University
- Doctor of Philosophy in Sociology, George Mason University



Bethany Perry, Professor, Nursing, Takoma Park/Silver Spring Campus

- Bachelor of Science in Nursing with a minor in Spanish, Syracuse University
- Master of Public Health in Nursing and Teaching Certificate, University of Maryland Baltimore County

Hoa Nguyen, Assistant Professor, Business and Economics, Rockville Campus

- Bachelor of Arts in Foreign Trade, Foreign Trade University (Vietnam)
- Master of Arts in Economics, University of Texas (Arlington)
- Doctor of Philosophy in Economics, University of Arizona



Sakura Shu, Marriott Hospitality Center Coordinator, BECAHM, Rockville Campus

- Associate of Applied Science in Hospitality Management, Montgomery College
- Bachelor of Science in Hotel and Restaurant Management, University of Maryland Eastern Shore

"Faculty and staff play a critical role in the College's student success



efforts. I look forward to learning about new and exciting pedagogy that engages students and inspires them to be successful." - *Sanjay Rai*

Brandon Wallace, Associate Professor, Education, Rockville and Takoma Park/Silver Spring Campuses

- Bachelor of Arts in English, Bowie State University
- Master of Arts in Teaching, Johns Hopkins University

Iadviga Zhelezinskaia, Instructional Lab Coordinator, Geosciences, Rockville Campus

- Bachelor of Science in Exploration Geology, Murmansk State Technical University, Russia
- Master of Science in Geology, University of Maryland
- Doctor of Philosophy in Geology, University of Maryland



DATA POINT

Did you know that the number of students enrolled in z-courses has increased from 3,000 in Spring 2017 to over 8,000 for Fall 2018?