ACM Family,
As we enter November, I would like to acknowledge and thank you for your dedication and hard work during this crucial period of the semester. Your efforts, both inside and outside of the classroom, make a difference. I'm pleased to share the following updates.

Chamber of Commerce Recognition

Last night, ACM was recognized as the Allegany County Chamber of Commerce Large Business of the Year. As I shared in my remarks, "tonight's recognition belongs to our visionary board and to the incredible and dedicated faculty, staff, students, and community partners who make ACM special every day." This recognition is not about what ACM has accomplished, but what we will continue to accomplish together for our community and region.





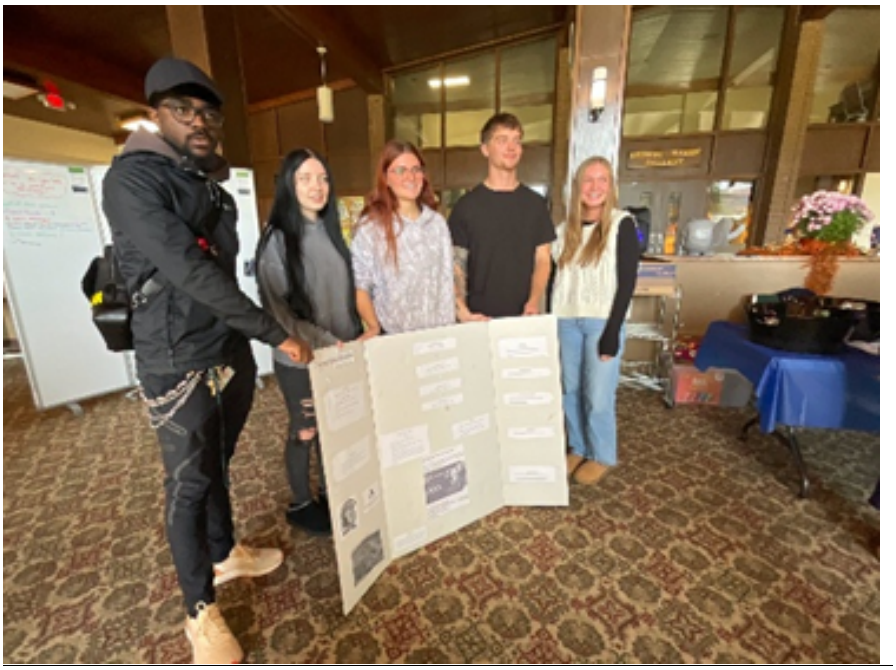
Faculty/Staff Focus

We're surrounded by dedicated colleagues who go above and beyond to support ACM and our students every day. I invite you to nominate a faculty or staff member who deserves recognition for their outstanding contributions. Please keep your nomination to three sentences or fewer and email it directly to me.

ALL IN Party

Thank you to everyone who participated in the ALL IN party at the polls on Tuesday. Political Science and Psychology students of Brandon Hoover and Patsy McKenzie had the opportunity to share their research on the correlation between voting and individual thoughts and feelings. Those interested can read the full story here.







Open House Reminders

As we prepare for the Cumberland Campus Open House on Tuesday, November 10, and the Bedford County Campus Open House on Saturday, November 14, I would like to express my sincere gratitude for your efforts in helping ACM shine. Whether you are greeting guests, leading tours, sharing insights about our programs and services, or working behind the scenes to ensure everything runs smoothly, your contributions do not go unnoticed. I look forward to seeing you at the Open House events and showcasing the incredible work happening at ACM every day. https://allegany.edu/open-houses/

ACM Proud

Earlier this week, 2005 ACM graduate Sandi Keeling (Rumer), a 2005 Respiratory Therapy graduate and daughter of Annette Clark, Program Director of the Human Service Associate Program, was part of the NICU team transporting a critically ill baby for Johns Hopkins. ACM graduates continue to do amazing work. I hope you feel the same pride I felt when this was shared with me.



BOT Meeting – Draft Agenda

As always, the public is invited to the Board of Trustees public sessions. The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, November 16, 2026, at 4:00 pm in the Board Room.

1. Chairman's Update – Ms. Belt
2. President's Update – Mr. Jones
3. Adopt the October 19, 2026 Minutes – Ms. Belt
4. Statement of Past Executive Session from October 19, 2026 – Ms. Belt
5. Board Member Comments and Reflections – Board Members
6. Board Education: FAMLI (Family & Medical Leave Insurance) - Ms. Duckworth
7. Bedford County Regional Education Foundation & Southern Tier Education Council MOU – Ms. Kilduff
8. FY 2027 Fund Balance Designation (Action Item) - Ms. Kilduff
9. Statement of Closing a Meeting Under the Open Meetings Act – Ms. Belt

League for Innovation Excellence Awards (due today)

The League for Innovation Excellence Awards, established in 2012, recognize outstanding teaching, leadership, and service by community college administration, faculty, and staff. Recipients receive a specially cast medallion, a certificate from the League, and recognition by the Allegany College of Maryland Board of Trustees. Please submit your nominations by noon on Friday, November 6, 2026, to Lori Spence at lspence@allegany.edu. Nominees will be evaluated and selected by a committee of peers from faculty, associate support staff, and professional and administrative support staff.

Registration and Enrollment

Registration for the intersession and spring 2027 semester opened on November 2, 2026. Please continue to help spread the word and support our enrollment process. https://www.allegany.edu/registration/index.html

Grantsgiving



Did you know ACM receives grant funding from federal agencies, the State of Maryland, foundations, and regional partners? These investments help support workforce training, student success initiatives, and community programs that strengthen our community and region. As the season of giving approaches, it is important to remember the programs and services at ACM that make a difference for our students and community.

"Be Social"

With winter intersession and spring 2027 enrollment now open, please help us spread the word about the fantastic opportunities at ACM! By sharing posts from our official social media accounts, you can showcase enrollment opportunities, academic programs, events, and the successes that make our college stand out. Your voice can inspire others to join the ACM community and take the next step in their educational journey. Follow and share content from our official channels:

Facebook
Instagram
TikTok
Snapchat
X (formerly Twitter)
LinkedIn

WMW Tour

Join Dr. Kurt Hoffman and the ACM Retirees for a personal tour of ACM's amazing & innovative Western Maryland Works in LaVale on Monday, November 9th at 11:30 am. The facility serves not only ACM's needs, but local businesses, both small & large, as well as providing a space for members of the community to create personal gift items or home decor. Text Cherie Snyder at 240-264-7426 to sign up or for more details.

A Conversation with MMC

Join Mountain Maryland Cares on Friday, November 13, in T-121 for a conversation on compassionate end-of-life care. An RSVP is encouraged but not required.



Weather and Emergency Communication

Stay informed with eSAFE, ACM's emergency text messaging service! This system is designed to keep faculty, staff, students, and others updated during major emergencies, crises, disasters, or weather-related closings and delays. If you haven't already, sign up today to receive timely notifications: eSAFE Sign-Up.

Student Emergency Supply Drive

I encourage everyone to participate in the supply drive as the cold weather approaches. Please see the drop off locations listed below.



Charlie and The Chocolate Factory
Please come out and support the ACM Theater Club and their production of Charlie and the Chocolate Factory. The dates are Friday and Saturday, November 13, 14 at 7 pm and Sunday, November 15 at 2 pm. Thank you to Melody Gaschler for providing our students with an outlet for creative expression on campus.

Upcoming Events

- Tues, November 10, Cumberland Campus Open House
- Sat, November 14, Bedford Campus Open House, Bedford Campus
- Mon, November 16, Board of Trustees meeting, Welcome Center 4 p.m.
- Thurs/Fri, November 26 & 27, Thanksgiving Break, college closed
- Mon, December 7, Board of Trustees meeting, Welcome Center, 4 p.m.
- Thurs, December 10, All college staff meeting, Theater, 9 a.m. Holiday reception, 12 p.m.
- Thurs, December 10, Nursing Pinning Ceremony, Gymnasium, 6 p.m.
- Fri, December 11, Commencement, Gymnasium, 7 p.m.

Cheer on the Trojans
Join me in supporting our student-athletes. For more details, visit: www.acmtrojans.com

Lights on the Lake
I have 15 vehicle passes for the Holiday Lights on the Lake at Lakemont Park in Altoona, PA. They can be used from November 13 through January 3. If you would like a vehicle pass, I would be glad to get you a pass at no cost for the first 15 people who reply directly to me.

Campus Conversations
One of the best aspects of my role is the opportunity to connect directly with our faculty, staff, and students, and I'd welcome your help in making that happen. Whether it's visiting a class, meeting with a club, stopping by a team practice, meeting with a department, or welcoming a group to my office, I'm eager to spend more time with our faculty, staff, and students. If it works best over dinner, I'll even provide the pizza and drinks. These visits are an excellent way for me to listen, answer questions, and share in the experiences that make ACM such a special place.

Campaign Update

Our five-year Inspire Hope Empower Tomorrow campaign is off to a strong start, and we thank the donors who continue to invest in the people and programs that strengthen our communities. Learn more about the campaign and explore ways your support can help expand opportunities and transform lives. Connect with Courtney M. and Leah P. for additional information.

A Gift for You (Now available in the Campus Store)

As a gift to the ACM family, a free ACM-branded shirt is being provided to all faculty and staff. They are now available for pickup at the campus store. Please note that this gift is provided by a donor with private funding, with no College funding utilized. Thank you for all you do to support our students (and promote ACM).

On A Personal Note

Halloween was a lot of fun this year as I dressed up as a Chick-fil-A catering team member and greeted nearly 200 trick-or-treaters, asking, “Dine in or carry out?” For an added touch, I offered our "seasonal menu item" - chocolate! The smiles and laughter were priceless. And after saying “my pleasure” more times in two hours than I ever thought possible, I have a whole new appreciation for Chick-fil-A employees. Sometimes the simplest moments create the best memories.



It is "My Pleasure" to serve with you at ACM,
David