Dear Colleagues,

To those of you that have been away, welcome back to campus! As we start the semester with new energy and a fresh perspective, I am reminded of our mission statement to "deliver diverse and relevant education centered around student success in a supportive and engaging community." I would like to share some good news items that show that we, as a campus community, are successfully living our mission.

Enrollment Update:

The Enrollment Management Committee and I are happy to report that our enrollment projections for the fall 2022 semester are strong and on target. We are currently seeing a 1.8% increase in headcount and 3.5% increase in credits compared to the same time last year, with some of the largest increases coming from first time students and male students. We know this success is a true team effort. THANK YOU to everyone who recruited new students and worked in retaining our current ones.

Their Success is OUR Success:

ACM is known for its welcoming and family atmosphere. If you see a student struggling – academically or otherwise – please guide that student to receive assistance through our <u>Student Support Services</u>. Also, don't forget about our <u>holistic mental health network</u>, which focuses on the wellbeing and resilience of each individual person. Early intervention for student success is crucial.

New Programs:

We are happy to introduce three exciting <u>academic programs</u> this semester, including a Data Analytics degree and certificate, a Social Media Marketing certificate, and an Engineering-Automated Manufacturing Technology degree. In addition, we have also expanded our nursing program by adding a second evening cohort. We are offering "diverse and relevant education" options to our community.

Continued COVID Concerns:

In service to our community, we must do all that we can to reduce transmission of COVID-19. We request that you:

- Continue to self-check for symptoms using the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidelines. If you are showing symptoms, please contact your healthcare provider and refrain from coming to any ACM location.
- If you have been exposed, become symptomatic, or test positive for COVID-19, please report by emailing covidreports@allegany.edu or calling 301-784-5061
- Remember to sign-in daily when entering classrooms and offices/departments

Welcome New Faces:

We have several new faculty and staff on our campuses. I encourage you to welcome them to our ACM family. A friendly smile or kind gesture to a new colleague goes a long way. Thank you for being a part of our "supportive and engaging community."

If there's anything you'd like me to address in a future correspondence or if you have questions, please email me directly or speak with your Vice President/Supervisor.

Once again, welcome back! Thank you for sharing your gifts and talents in order to change the lives of our students, their families, and the communities that we serve. I am proud to call each of you my colleague.

With sincere appreciation,

Dr. B