

ACM Family,

As we approach fall break on Monday and Tuesday, I hope you find time to rest, recharge, and enjoy the beauty of the season.

Congratulations Jim Pyles

Please join me in congratulating ACM Board of Trustees member Jim Pyles, who was appointed the Chief of Police for the City of Cumberland. <https://www.facebook.com/cityofcumberlandmd>

Your Voice Matters:

The annual faculty/staff survey has become an important way for us to listen, learn, and act on your feedback. The survey will remain open until midnight on Friday, October 3, 2025. https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Fall25_ACMEmployeeSurvey

Save The Date:

State of the College: Empowering Our Future
Friday, October 24th at 1 pm

Campus Conversations

One of the best aspects of my role is the opportunity to connect directly with our 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, or welcoming a group to my office, I'm eager to spend more time with our 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.

A special thanks: A special thanks to Arthur P., Jennifer E., Meghan P., Shyann K., Scott H., and others for their heavy lifting in submitting ACM's documentation to the US. Department of Education to ensure compliance with the *Gainful Employment and Financial Value Transparency Requirement*. For many, this involved extremely long days/weekends to complete the report before the October 1, 2025, federal deadline.

MHEC Credit and Contact Hour Transmittal Report

Thanks to Cathy Zirk, Lisa Wilson, Shea Bonarigo, and many other ACM colleagues for their work in preparing the College's submission to MHEC. This report helps drive funding from the State and includes the total eligible Full-Time Equivalent Student Enrollment, Total Credit FTE, and Total Non-Credit FTE. These reports document an FTE increase at ACM in FY25 of 1.8% over FY24.

Upcoming Events:

October 14, Tri-State College Night, Gymnasium, 6 p.m.
October 15, Bedford 35th Anniversary, Bedford Campus, 2 p.m.
October 15 Employee appreciation Fall Festival, 11 a.m. – 3 p.m.
October 20, Board of Trustees Meeting, Welcome Center, 4 p.m.
October 24, State of the College, 1 pm
October 27, PTK Induction Ceremony, Theatre, 6:30 p.m.
November 8, Bedford Campus Open House, Bedford Campus
November 10, Cumberland Campus Open House
November 17, 2025, Board of Trustees Meeting, Welcome Center, 4 p.m.
December 15, 2025, Board of Trustees Meeting, Welcome Center, 4 p.m.

Grant Highlight of the Week:

From Forest to Future: Forestry Equipment Support for Jobs and Industry. Please join me in giving a shout-out to Marie, Levi, Karin, Jennifer, Courtney, Mo, and Beth for your effort in securing and managing these funds.

A Sweet Treat for ACM Employees: Join us for a special treat (Scarecrow Crunch)! Stop by and enjoy a **Grab-and-Go**.

Wednesday, October 8th

7:45 – 9 am – Entrance to Campus

11 am – Bedford Campus

Delivery of treats during the morning to Western MD Works and Gateway Center

Employee Appreciation Fall Festival

October 15th from 11 am – 3 pm

Join us for this combined Employee Appreciation/Student Life for Fall Festival. Two food trucks will be available, and there will be complimentary caramel/chocolate apple slices, s'mores, popcorn, cotton candy, and drinks. Special treats will also be provided to Western MD Works/Gateway/Bedford on 10/16. Games, music, and craft vendors will be available throughout the day. Stay tuned for additional information.

Community Engagement:

A special thank you to Diane McMahon and the ACM [College to Community Partnership Center](#) for their efforts in building partnerships with community leaders to connect college students, faculty, and staff with initiatives addressing unmet needs in our community. Over the next several weeks, I plan to share information highlighting the various impacts of these efforts, including the involvement of new and continuing faculty/staff in Community Engagement Activities. Thank you, Diane and ACM family, for your efforts to support our community.



On A Personal Note: I've enjoyed my early morning walks around campus this fall, taking in the peace, the beauty of the season, and the care shown in how well the grounds are kept. Thank you to the Physical Plant team for your extra attention to ensuring the campus is ready each morning. It's a good reminder of the importance of being good stewards of what we've been given, so that we can continue providing quality education and training for our students.

With ACM Pride,
David