

ACM Family,

Welcome back to the second half of the fall 2025 semester. I will be off campus over the next two days, so I wanted to provide a few updates and reminders one day early.

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.

Save The Date:

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

Stay Informed – Board of Trustees Meetings

Attending the ACM Board of Trustees meetings helps you to stay informed. The Board meets at 4 pm in the Thomas Welcome Center, with the next meeting scheduled for October 20, 2025. The draft agenda follows:

1. Adopt the September 22, 2025, minutes
2. Chairman's Update
3. Board Member Comments
4. President's Update
5. Welcome and Updates from Darlene Smith, FSU Interim President (introduced by David Jones)
6. CE Year-End Report
7. Fund Balance Recommendations
8. Great Colleges To Work For & Employee Survey Results
9. Youth Protection Policy

For additional information, visit: <https://allegany.edu/presidents-office/board-of-trustees.html>

Campus Conversations – My Offer To You

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.

Grant Highlight of the Week:

Funding from TEDCO is helping to support Western Maryland Works with equipment, supplies, and operational costs. This includes a computerized matte cutter, a downdraft sanding table, a laser engraver, welding cabinets, and operational costs. Please join me in giving a shout-out to Shawn and the Western Maryland Works team, as well as Courtney, Mo, Jennifer, and Beth, for their work in securing and managing these funds.

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.

Partnerships and Relationships Matter

It was an honor to spend time with Maryland Governor Wes Moore, ARC Federal Co-Chair Gayle Manchin, Secretary of Planning Rebecca Flora, and our federal partners and friends from the Appalachian Regional Commission earlier this week. I'm incredibly proud that Allegany College of Maryland played a role in multiple ways—through a conference presentation with Shawn O'Rourke, Jennifer Light, Courtney Jensen, and David Jones, providing bus transportation, and creating gift items for all attendees. We were also honored to share special handcrafted gifts, designed and produced by the talented team at Western Maryland Works, with Governor Moore, Co-Chair Manchin, Secretary Flora, and David Cotton, Maryland Office of Planning.

Thank you to Shawn O'Rourke and the Western Maryland Works team for making this happen. A special thank you to ACM Professor Gib Cochrum for leading the Sunday evening entertainment and representing ACM with such energy and enthusiasm.

It was a great start to the week—celebrating the impact of ARC funding on education and workforce development, and engaging in meaningful conversations with the Governor and other elected officials about Allegany College of Maryland's role in advancing opportunities in our region.





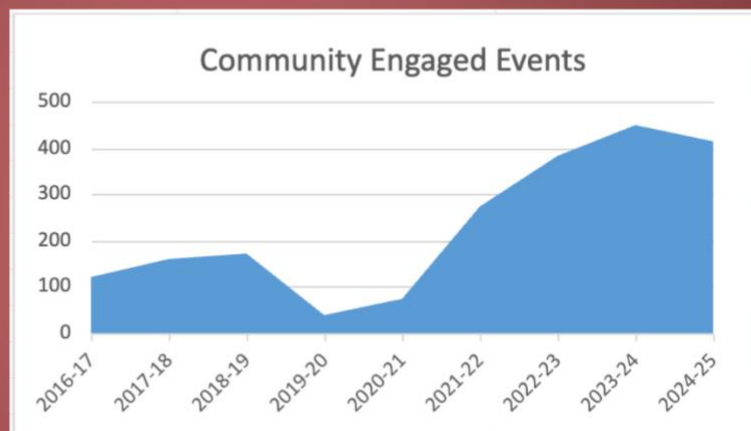
Community Engagement:

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 Total Community Engaged Events. Thank you, Diane and ACM family, for your efforts to support our community.

Total Community Engaged Events

| Community Engaged Events | |
|--------------------------|--------------|
| 2015-16 | Not Recorded |
| 2016-17 | 121 |
| 2017-18 | 159 |
| 2018-19 | 174 |
| 2019-20 | 41 |
| 2020-21 | 73 |
| 2021-22 | 274 |
| 2022-23 | 385 |
| 2023-24 | 449 |
| 2024-25 | 415 |

*Each event recorded by an ACM employee is recorded as one event
In cases where students have chosen their own organization to volunteer at for a class assignment - the employee recorded multiple organizations per class assignment.*



On A Personal Note: Elaine and I will be celebrating our 30th wedding anniversary later this month. To mark the occasion, we'll be spending a long weekend hiking throughout Shenandoah National Park—something we both enjoy, combining exercise with the beauty of nature.

With ACM Pride,
David