

ACM Family,

As we approach the end of the semester, I encourage each of you to stay focused and finish strong—your hard work, perseverance, and commitment to excellence are truly inspiring. I am pleased to share a few updates.

**Stay Informed - President's Advisory Team (PAT):** The President's Advisory Team (PAT) meets monthly to 1) provide advice and counsel to the President regarding the overall operation of the College; 2) assist the President in developing the College calendar; 3) collaborate with the President on creating and implementing strategic plans for the College; 4) recommend funding patterns and priorities to the President; and 5) develop the agenda for All-College Assembly staff meetings. The next meeting is scheduled for May 2<sup>nd</sup>, starting at 1 pm. I encourage you to stay engaged by attending PAT meetings, contacting your affinity group representatives for updates, sharing ideas, and asking questions. Your input is invaluable to shaping the future of our College.

**Budget Update:** The preliminary FY26 budget for Allegany County Government was presented last night, which includes flat funding for ACM. This was our request (**good news**) and would allow ACM to receive the increase in funding from the State of Maryland. A second budget hearing is scheduled for May 15<sup>th</sup>, with the final budget expected to be adopted on May 29<sup>th</sup>. Although not final until later this month, this budget would ensure that ACM can address the education and workforce needs of our community, provide key services to our students, and ensure that we recognize and support the dedicated efforts of our faculty/staff. This has been a challenging year financially at the County and State levels, and I am grateful to our elected officials and government partners for recognizing the importance of ACM.

**Athletics:** Congratulations to our faculty and staff colleagues in athletics for hosting a banquet earlier this week to honor and recognize our student athletes for 2024-2025. It was a special evening to celebrate the success of our student athletes, as well as to listen to the challenge and encouragement provided by keynote speaker Casey Roberts. A special thanks to Tommie Reams, April Higson, Courtney Eagan, John Bone, and Metz Culinary for the exceptional planning of the event (and the tasty meal). Well done, [ACM athletics](#).

**Committee and Task Forces for 2025-2026:** If you have not already done so, please use the following link to select the committees/task forces that you are interested in serving on or would like to continue to serve on for the upcoming academic year. [https://alleganycollege.formstack.com/forms/acm\\_committee\\_task\\_force\\_sign\\_up](https://alleganycollege.formstack.com/forms/acm_committee_task_force_sign_up)

**Employee Appreciation:**

Thursday, May 15, 11:30 – 2 pm | Annual Employee Appreciation Luncheon & Fun Day  
Stay tuned for more details!

**Open Enrollment for Insurance:** Open enrollment for ACM health and other benefits will begin on May 5<sup>th</sup> and run through May 19<sup>th</sup>, with a provider fair scheduled on campus for May 8<sup>th</sup> from 10 am - 2 pm. Starting May 5, you can receive personalized assistance with a JET Enrollment Concierge at: <https://www.jeteb.com/alleganyedu>. Please look for announcements from HR with additional details.

**Registration and Enrollment:** Registration for summer 2025 and fall 2025 opened on April 7<sup>th</sup>. Please continue to help spread the word and support our enrollment process.

<https://www.allegany.edu/registration/index.html>

**Program News:** Congratulations to the ACM [Computer Technology Program](#) for their partnership with BCR Cyber to install six Man-Machine Interfaces (MMI's) at ACM. Housed in the Technology Building, room T-235 (Hackathon Lab), this high-end and costly technology is being provided at zero cost to ACM. It will provide our students and the business community with a cutting-edge tech-talent pipeline to fill the cyber workforce needs. A ribbon cutting/launch was held earlier this week. A special thanks to Jim H, Derek J., Dick S, Rich C, David P., Matt K., and John S. for their work and consultation on this exciting project.

[https://times-news-cnhi.newsmemory.com/?publink=2b63204f3\\_134f9a9](https://times-news-cnhi.newsmemory.com/?publink=2b63204f3_134f9a9)

**Expressions Exhibit 2025:** Congratulations to students, faculty, and staff who were part of the Expressions Exhibit and Celebration this week. Thank you for sharing your talent to make this exhibit a success. A special thanks to Gibb Cochrum and the exhibit committee, as well as the faculty editor, Dr. Wilfong; magazine designer, Shannon Burnside; student editors, advisors, and editorial board. I would encourage the campus community to visit the Hazen Gallery to view the art, photography, and literature.

**Upcoming Events:**

Fri, May 9 - Cosmetology Students Graduation, College Theatre, 6 p.m.  
Fri, May 9 - Spring 2025 Classes End  
**Mon, May 12 – Board of Trustees Meeting, Welcome Center, 4 p.m.**  
Tues, May 13 – All -College Awards Ceremony, Theatre, 6 p.m.  
Weds, May 14<sup>th</sup> – Professional Development Day, 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.  
Thurs, May 15<sup>th</sup> – All College Assembly, Theatre 9 a.m.  
Thurs, May 15<sup>th</sup> - Dental Hygiene Pinning, Theatre, 5 p.m.  
Fri, May 16<sup>th</sup> – Nursing Pinning, Gymnasium, 6 p.m.  
Sat, May 17 - Spring 2025 Commencement, Gymnasium, 11 a.m. & 2 p.m.  
Sun, May 18<sup>th</sup>, Nursing Pinning, Bedford Campus, 3:30 p.m.  
Mon, May 19 – Bedford Campus Commencement, 7 p.m.  
**Mon, June 16, Board of Trustees Meeting, Welcome Center, 4 p.m.**  
**Mon, July 21<sup>st</sup>, Board Retreat, Welcome Center, 12 noon – 4 p.m.**  
Fri, September 12<sup>th</sup> – President Jones Inauguration, Theatre

**On A Personal Note:**

Earlier this week, my wife, Elaine, celebrated her birthday. The only hint I'll offer is that she has reached a "mathematical prime number". I remain eternally grateful for her support, encouragement, and friendship. She is a constant source of strength—something I never take for granted and celebrate daily.

With ACM Pride,

David