

Dear ACM Family,

I trust that your Labor Day provided time for rest and relaxation. I am pleased to provide the following updates.

Welcome New Faculty/Staff: I warmly welcome our new faculty and staff to the ACM family.

Kara Merkel	Clinical Lab Assistant - MLT
Jacob Riis	Gateway Center Utility Custodian (Temporary)
Cecelia Robeson	Library Service Associate
Katie Mallow	Enrollment Services Generalist
Eli Beal	Part-time Faculty, Biology
June Bracken	Part-time Faculty, Academic Development
Breann D'Atri	Part-time Faculty, Academic Development
Chelsea Fallier	Part-time Faculty, Psychology, Bedford
Bonnie Franckowiak	Part-time Faculty, LPN to RN
Colton Gardelle	Asst Coach - Women's Soccer
April Rollins	Part-time Faculty, LPN to RN

Grant Highlight of the Week: ARC - Smart Classroom Technology Expansion

Allegany College of Maryland was awarded \$98,000 from the Appalachian Regional Commission, matched by \$42,000 in local funds, to upgrade multiple rooms across the college with advanced classroom technology. These cross-campus improvements will enhance instruction in Allied Health, Humanities, Science, PTA, and at Western Maryland Works—ensuring students are prepared with critical digital and workforce-ready skills.

Tentative Schedule

Fall 2025 – Makerspace (3 rooms)
Spring 2026 – Allied Health 237, Bedford Conference Room
Summer 2026 – Humanities 44, Bedford 20, 23, 13
Fall 2026 – Gilpin, Gateway
Spring 2027 – Science 28 (plus additional rooms if possible)
Summer 2027 (through June 30) – Allied Health 208, Humanities 9, PTA

Please join me in giving a big shout-out to Jared and the ELETS team, Finance (Jennifer and team), and Advancement (Courtney, Mo, and Beth). There are many rooms to transform, and their work will directly benefit hundreds of ACM students.

SAVE THE DATE:

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

Annual Fall Employee Engagement & Satisfaction Survey: The annual faculty/staff survey has become an important way for us to listen, learn, and act on your feedback. The survey will be shared on September 15th and remain open through October 3rd.

Cheer on the Trojans: Join me in supporting all of our student-athletes. Don't miss the action for Women's Volleyball, Women's Soccer, Men's Soccer, Men's Cross Country, and Women's Cross Country! For more details, visit: acmtrojans.com

ACM President's Vision in Action: It was an honor to visit with faculty, staff, and students at the Bedford Campus and to present the Vision in Action plaque to Tina Imes, Leah Pepple, and Kathy Thompson. Congratulations!



Facilities Update:

Please join me in thanking our facilities and physical plant team for their work to make the campus attractive and welcoming. I am pleased to share just a few photos from current projects, including restroom renovations, Bedford facility updates, Humanities Atrium Windows, Willowbrook Woods landscaping and flooring, tennis court/pickleball construction, baseball field renovations, etc. These enhancements greatly benefit our faculty/staff, students, and community. A special thanks to the ACM team involved with these projects and the grant and private donors who have helped to make them a reality.



Appalachian Regional Commission Conference: The Appalachian Regional Commission's annual conference takes place this fall in Allegany County. This year's theme for the conference is Appalachian Places: Growing Local Economies and will be held on October 6 and 7. The conference will open with guest speakers, including ARC Federal Co-Chair Gayle Manchin and Maryland Governor Wes Moore. ACM will be part of the conference in multiple ways, including a presentation, bus transportation on Sunday for the federal staff and the Governor for a VIP event, and providing a gift item to all attendees (thanks to our colleagues at Western MD Works for creating a personalized cutting board).

Emergency Communication System Test: ACM will conduct a test of our emergency communication systems on Monday, September 8th, at approximately 8:45 a.m. The following message will be broadcast across multiple platforms:

"Code Green – All clear. Resume normal operations."

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

September 10th

7:45 – 9 am – Entrance to Campus

11 am – Bedford Campus Delivery of treats during the morning to Western MD Works and Gateway Center

Inauguration Invitation: I'd love for you to join me on Friday, September 12, at 2 pm. This is a celebration of our college, our community, and the future we are building together. Additional information, including an electronic RSVP, is provided at the following link: <https://www.allegany.edu/showcase/presidential-inauguration.html>

A Gift For You: As a gift to the ACM family, I am pleased to provide a free ACM-branded shirt. Please make sure that you pick up your shirt by September 30th or order online using the instructions below. Thank you for all you do to support our students (and promote ACM). To Order Online:

- a. <https://campus-store.allegany.edu/category/appreciation-facultystaff>
- b. Select the shirt and size
- c. Add to Cart
- d. Enter the following Coupon Code: **INSPIRE & select Apply to Order**
- e. Select I am not a robot.
- f. Checkout
- g. Fill out all the lines with red
- h. Payment: Select Pay in Store
- i. Review Order
- j. Submit

On A Personal Note:

I enjoy playing in a few fantasy football leagues. It's the closest I'll ever get to being an NFL team owner, but I love the strategy of the draft, the thrill of trades, and the lighthearted camaraderie that comes with another season.

With ACM Pride,
David