



October 9, 2023

Listening to Students

We have so much to learn from each other. And I know we all love learning from our students! Take a few moments to view the conversation our student, Carolina Earp, and I had in Spanish.



Midterms on the Horizon

As midterms approach, I hope students are accessing all the support they may need. You can [reserve study space](#) at the Library if needed, or [connect with a librarian](#) for research assistance. Anyone who is thinking about transfer might want to take

advantage of this Tuesday's workshop on transfer and scholarship essays, through the [Learning Centers](#). A Mobile Market will be held on the Rockville Campus this [Wednesday](#). These resources are available to support students now and throughout the semester.

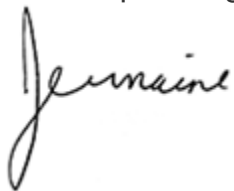
College Wins \$3 Million in NSF Grants

In a first for Montgomery College, three different teams of faculty, staff, and administrators have won grant awards from the National Science Foundation (NSF) [totaling over \\$3.24 million](#). The grants include:

- **EmpowerED: Building the Future Workforce Together**—This \$400,000 grant creates curricula focused on industry needs, provides professional development for faculty, and prepares students more fully to enter the workforce. Dr. James Sniezek, instructional dean of chemical and biological sciences, is principal investigator with Dr. Collins Jones and Dr. Lori Kelman, professors of biotechnology, serving as co-principal investigators.
- **Beginnings: Democratizing Research and Experiential Education for Microelectronics (DREEM)**—This grant is part of a collaborative project led by the University of Maryland. MC will receive \$375,000 to provide focused workshops on design and laboratory skills, plus paid summer internships. Dr. Palmyra Caravans, professor of engineering, is principal investigator. Dr. Nawal Benmouna, acting dean of science, engineering and technology, and Dr. Lan Xiang, professor of engineering, are co-principal investigators.
- **Achieving Upward Socio-Economic Mobility**—This \$2.47 million grant supports students in computer science, cybersecurity, engineering, and networking and wireless technologies with scholarships and stipends for internships. Dr. Nawal Benmouna, acting dean of science, engineering, and technology, is the principal investigator and is joined by co-principal investigators Dr. Chiyun-Kwei (CK) Chiang, professor of network and cloud computing; Dr. Chienann Alex Hou, professor of engineering; David Vargas, professor of cybersecurity; and Dr. Lan Xiang, professor of engineering.

Kudos to the MC faculty and staff who work tirelessly to provide our students with even more opportunities.

With Raptor Regards,



Dr. Jermaine F. Williams
President
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