



Testimony of Evan Wellek
Montgomery College Rockville Campus Student
Montgomery County Council
FY23 Operating Budget Public Hearing
April 19, 2022, at 7 p.m.

Good evening, members of the County Council. It is a pleasure to speak with you today on behalf of Montgomery College's Rockville Campus students. My name is Evan Wellek and I am a business major at MC, a Macklin Business Institute member, and a Student Trustee on the MC Board. I am here to ask you to please fully fund MC's operating budget request that will keep the College's tuition affordable.

I have lived in Montgomery County my whole life. I attended Magruder High School and this May, I will graduate from MC. On Friday, I was officially accepted to transfer to the University of Maryland College Park to study accounting at the Smith School of Business. Ultimately, an accounting degree will prepare me to live and work in Montgomery County.

Thank you for your longstanding support of MC, particularly during this pandemic. Affordable tuition is incredibly important for students. Many students, especially after the devastating lows of COVID-19, would not be able to attend college at all without tuition they can afford. By supporting the College during the last three years, you have made it possible for MC's tuition to stay flat. Because of this, students know they can rely on MC. I've talked with many students about the doors that MC opens for them—opportunities that would remain closed if they could not afford to pursue their degrees. As prices rise on things like food, gas, and other

living expenses, students desperately need your continued help. This year, your support means that MC can keep tuition flat and remain affordable.

I also want to thank you for supporting some important projects that will make MC's education even more powerful. Students on the Takoma Park/Silver Spring Campus are excited to see the Leggett Math and Science Building going up. We're also grateful for your support of the library renovation on the TP/SS Campus.

We appreciate your continued support of Montgomery College. You have ensured that students can pursue the education they need and empowered the next generation of Montgomery County. Students ask you to please support MC's operating budget so that we can continue to afford the education that we need.