

Testimony of Abel Pattammady  
Montgomery College Student, Germantown Campus  
Testimony  
FY24 Capital Budget  
The Montgomery County Council  
February 7, 2023  
7 p.m.

Good evening, members of the Montgomery County Council.

Thank you for the honor to speak with you tonight.

My name is Abel Pattammady and I am a student at Montgomery College. I am studying information systems with a business minor. I plan to transfer to earn a bachelor's degree in information systems and one day work in information systems securities right here in Montgomery County.

I am here today to make sure that you all know how appreciative MC students are of your support for our college.

And I am here to ask for your continued support. Please continue to provide the quality facilities that students need. I am proud to ask you to support a Germantown Student Services Center, which will house a modern library and give students, like me, easy access to important services like financial aid, counselors, and more. All these offices help students, including future generations, make sure they are getting the help they need to stay on track in their education. I am honored to advocate for future MC students to have student services and the library so easily accessed when they need help the most.

I also ask for your support to renovate the libraries on the Takoma Park/Silver Spring and Rockville campuses. Students need access to modern libraries to study between work and classes. We also need access to textbooks, computers, group study areas, and quiet spaces.

Finally, I want to ask for your support of a future MC Campus in the East County. Having an MC campus nearby will mean so much. I know when I chose to attend MC, it made all the difference to me—a Damascus High School graduate and Damascus resident—to have an MC campus so close to my home.

Because of your ongoing support of MC, you have helped me to pull myself up from being lost in this world. MC has given me direction and put me on the path to success. After high school, I had no idea what I wanted to do with my life and found it increasingly more difficult through the COVID pandemic. Once I came to campus, met with the great faculty and advisors, and took a tour, I realized that I wanted to pursue and obtain a degree. Today, I not only attend MC but I work there, too, giving campus tours to future Raptors!

Thank you for all you do for Montgomery County residents. And thank you for supporting Montgomery College by providing quality facilities that help change lives, like mine.