

## Testimony of Dr. Michael Brintnall, Chair of the Montgomery College Board of Trustees Testimony FY25 Operating Budget Montgomery County Council April 8, 2024

## Good evening!

My name is Dr. Michael Brintnall. I am the chair of the Montgomery College Board of Trustees.

On behalf of the faculty, staff, students, and my colleagues on the Board of Trustees, thank you.

We know we can count on you. Clearly, you are committed to MC's important role in Montgomery County—to unlock potential, transform lives, enrich the life of the community, and change the world.

For FY25, the Board of Trustees adopted a fiscally conservative operating budget which <u>does not</u> require additional funds from the County.

Critically, this budget keeps MC affordable for students. The Trustees will hold tuition flat again for the third time in four years. Affordability is crucial to help more residents obtain the postsecondary education credentials necessary to succeed in Montgomery County.

And, more students are coming with enrollment up this fall and spring!

With your support, the College will also provide reasonable and fair wage increases for our dedicated faculty and staff. This investment in excellence drives not only completion but post-completion success! Such success is exemplified by the many alumni who impact our county—who fuel our economy and help our community thrive.

And, finally, the East County Education Center operations are supported with this appropriation.

In fact, the expansion into the East County stands as a powerful demonstration of MC's work to advance our bold aspirations and commitment to transform our county. The East County Education Center cements our presence in this region! And, it begins our efforts to expand access, to serve as an anchor institution that is a fulcrum for growth and innovation, and to deliver the homegrown talent employers need.

We are grateful for your support of the College's presence in East County.

In closing, please approve MC's appropriation request.

Thank you!