

From: [MC Communications](#)
To: [All Employees Dynamic Grp; All Registered Students](#)
Subject: The Monday Minute with Dr. Williams | October 16, 2023
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October 16, 2023

I sent a message last week condemning the Hamas terrorist acts that occurred against Israelis. I am deeply saddened by these events. Many in our community are filled with grief, anxiety, anger, fear and so much more. Here at Montgomery College, we believe that terrorism and hate have no place in a free and just world. The College is committed to providing safe places and spaces for students and employees to learn and work, and to fostering dialogues that condemn terrorism and violence. We also want to promote peace and understanding. Antisemitism, Islamophobia, and any and all actions and narratives that foster hate will not be tolerated in our community. Let's continue to engage with empathy and compassion, as we advance our College's values and our core belief of welcoming all students and all employees into a community that emphasizes belonging.

“Let's Talk” Discussion Takes on Terrorism in Israel

I hope that students, faculty, and staff will participate in initiatives and events that condemn hate and violence. Among upcoming events, the College will host a virtual panel discussion on Wednesday, featuring MC faculty and staff members: [Fighting Anti-Semitism, Hate, Violence & Terrorism in Israel: Expressing Emotion and Anger, Processing Pain](#). Another event on Thursday may also provide insights into the history and issues of the region, [U.S. Politics and Government: The View from the Middle East](#).

Student Resources

Tomorrow is [Advising Day](#), a time to consult with counselors, advisors, and faculty about planning for enrollment, transfer, and employment. As you know, no classes are being held so that students

can focus on these important planning steps. Completion and post-completion success depend on them, so make a plan to consult with a trusted MC guide.

The [Maryland Male Students of Color Summit](#) is on Friday. The event is open to all students and the keynote speaker, Jorge Sierra, has an incredible journey to share. The Library has gathered some valuable resources to celebrate the achievements and contributions of people with disabilities, in honor of [Disability Employment Awareness Month](#).

Citizenship and Integration Grant Awarded

The College's [Citizenship Preparation Program](#) has been awarded another two-year \$450,000 grant from the U.S. Department of Homeland Security to support free English language classes, citizenship

instruction, and naturalization legal services for immigrants. The program delivers services to beginning and intermediate English language learners from countries including Afghanistan, China, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Honduras, Iran, Peru, Russia, and Ukraine. The funding will support 500 students in language instruction and screening for naturalization eligibility. In addition, 240 participants are anticipated to have their naturalization paperwork prepared and submitted by the grant sub-awardee, Catholic Charities of the Archdiocese of Washington, D.C. Congratulations to the faculty and staff whose efforts nourish this valuable program for new Americans and to Dr. Donna Kinerney, dean, adult ESOL & basic skills for college and careers, who is the project director.

With Raptor Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jermaine". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looping initial 'J'.

Dr. Jermaine F. Williams

President

[@DrWilliams_MC](#)