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Montgomery College Hosts Spectrum Lecture on Solar Energy
*Department of Energy's Dr. Marie Mapes to Discuss Photovoltaic Energy
and the Long-term Benefits of Turning Sunlight into Electricity*

Dr. Marie Mapes, an expert on solar energy with the United States Department of Energy (DOE), will speak at Montgomery College-Germantown on Monday, November 2 at 7:30 p.m. as part of the College's 2009 Spectrum Lecture Series. Dr. Mapes' talk will focus on how photovoltaic technology turns sunlight into electricity and how new research in this area can decrease the cost of solar energy. Free and open to the public, the talk will take place in Globe Hall, which is located in the High Technology and Science Center, 20200 Observation Drive, Germantown, Md.

Like all Spectrum Lectures, Dr. Mapes' presentation is designed for a non-scientific audience, enabling scientists, students and the community to learn about ground-breaking advancements in science. Dr. Mapes is a photovoltaic technology manager in the DOE's Solar Energy Technologies Program. Photovoltaics is the field of technology and research related to the application of solar cells for energy by converting solar energy directly into solar electricity. Her current responsibilities include coordinating photovoltaic research and development at the National Renewable Energy Laboratory and Sandia National Laboratory, managing university research in advanced photovoltaic concepts, and arranging partnerships between industry, universities, and national labs.

Dr. Mapes earned a Ph.D. in physical chemistry from the University of Wisconsin and a B.A. in chemistry from Grinnell College.

For questions or to request accommodations for physical disability, please contact Susan Bontems at susan.bontems@montgomerycollege.edu or at 240-567-7740.

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