

Date: January 14, 2010

Media Contacts: Elizabeth Homan, 240-567-7970; Marcus Rosano, 240-567-4022

Montgomery College Foundation Succeeds in Raising \$25 Million in Campaign
Largest Fundraising Effort Ever at a Maryland Community College
Supports Student Scholarships, Academic Programs, and College Facilities

The Montgomery College Foundation today announced the successful conclusion of a campaign to raise \$25 million in private support for Montgomery College, a community college in Montgomery County, Md. The funds raised will benefit students through scholarship assistance, facilities improvements and program enhancements. The campaign marked the largest fundraising effort ever at a Maryland community college.

“The success of the campaign is a testament to the community’s support of Montgomery College’s mission of changing lives,” said Dr. Hercules Pinkney, interim president of Montgomery College. “Even in these challenging economic times, the community generously donated to the foundation to ensure that our students who dream of earning a college degree receive the financial support they need to succeed.”

Since the campaign’s start in 2005, donors have designated nearly \$15 million as scholarship support for students, more than \$7 million to support academic programs, and \$3.2 million for facilities improvements. The final days of the campaign brought in \$500,000 in gifts, including \$50,000 in support of the College’s Montgomery Scholars honors program, \$100,000 for student scholarships from Clifford and Camille Kendall, and \$100,000 from donor Paul Peck in support of the Paul Peck Center for Applied Science and Technology at the College’s Germantown Campus.

The Montgomery College Foundation secured several multi-million dollar gifts early in the campaign, including \$1 million from the late Gordon Macklin, the former president of the National Association of Securities Dealers. The foundation also received \$3 million from The Morris and Gwendolyn Cafritz Foundation to support the new visual arts center—now named The Morris and Gwendolyn Cafritz Foundation Arts Center—on the College’s Takoma Park/Silver Spring Campus, and another \$3 million planned bequest for need-based scholarships. At the time, these gifts were the largest private donations ever in the history of Maryland community colleges.

In addition, Montgomery College’s own employees helped support the Montgomery College Foundation’s efforts to raise money for student scholarships and other needs. More than \$6.2 million was donated by nearly 1,000 current, former, or retired Montgomery College faculty and staff.

Dr. Greg Prince, president and CEO of Virion Systems, and Anne Gunsteens, executive director of The J.W. and Alice S. Marriott Foundation, served as co-chairs of the campaign. The campaign also benefitted from the leadership of Montgomery College Foundation Board Chair Doug Firstenberg, founding partner of Stonebridge Associates.

To honor the generosity of the community, Montgomery College will hold a campaign closing reception on Saturday, February 27 at 6:30 p.m., prior to the special performance of the Israel Ballet at the new performing arts center on the Takoma Park/Silver Spring Campus. Proceeds from the evening will benefit student scholarships. Tickets and sponsorships may be purchased online at www.montgomerycollege.edu/pac or by contacting Kathy Stevens, annual fund director, at 240-567-4108 or kathy.stevens@montgomerycollege.edu.

Montgomery College is a public, open admissions community college with campuses at Germantown, Rockville, and Takoma Park/Silver Spring, in Montgomery County, Maryland. It also provides a broad array of continuing education and training opportunities for the business community and local residents, through noncredit courses and programs offered through its Workforce Development and Continuing Education division. Montgomery College serves nearly 60,000 students a year, through both credit and noncredit programs, in more than 100 areas of study.

The Montgomery College Foundation is a 501(c)(3) charitable organization governed by business, alumni, and community leaders to enhance the work of Montgomery College to a level of excellence comparable to the finest colleges and universities across the country. Through advocacy, influence, and financial support, these volunteer leaders work to ensure understanding of and commitment to the community college philosophy of opportunity, inclusion, and educational achievement for all.

For additional information about the Montgomery College Foundation, visit www.montgomerycollege.edu/Departments/instadv/foundation.html.

To learn more about Montgomery College, visit www.montgomerycollege.edu.

#

Montgomery College is a public, open admissions community college with campuses in Germantown, Rockville, and Takoma Park/Silver Spring, plus workforce development/continuing education centers and off-site programs throughout Montgomery County, Md. The College serves nearly 60,000 students a year, through both credit and noncredit programs, in more than 100 areas of study.