



**HOWARD**  
COMMUNITY COLLEGE



## LEADERSHIP UPDATES

### Senior Leadership Team Update

Senior Leadership Team meeting  
minutes are available on the [portal](#).

DARIA J. WILLIS, PH.D.  
PRESIDENT'S

# UPDATE

## #DRAGONCOUNTRY

*"The expert in anything was once a beginner."*

— Helen Hayes

### STARTING THE SECOND SPRING SESSION STRONG!

**Welcome back, Dragon Country!** I hope you had a wonderful spring break, taking time to rest before the start of our second spring session. Many projects took place at the college over the break, requiring an empty campus to minimize interruptions. Thank you to the facilities staff, information technology staff, and all of our employees who supported these necessary updates.

As we head into the second spring session, we know our students are performing well in our seven-week course modality. Over 400 dual enrollment students enrolled in Accelerated Pathways courses during the fall sessions. Seventy-eight percent of the cohort earned a 'B' or higher, and 278 of these students earned an 'A' grade.

This is a fantastic sign that flexible course scheduling is a key part of meeting students where they dream. Thank you to our faculty and academic advisers who make success possible for these scholars.



## HCC CONNECTIONS, DEPARTURES & TRANSITIONS

### Congratulations on your new position!

- Jonathan Wiley

CRM Analyst, Enrollment Services  
(01/06)

## SUSTAINABILITY @ HCC



Check out the latest episode of **Green Dragon!** Produced by Dragon Podcasts and hosted by Bob Marietta, Green Dragon is your monthly dose of inspiration and knowledge on all things green.

In this episode, Bob is joined by certified native plant landscape designer Lauren Turner. Lauren shares her experience running a native plant nursery and offers tips for incorporating native plants into your own garden.

Tune in to the [episode on Podbean](#) or your favorite podcast platform!

## HAPPY COMMUNITY COLLEGE MONTH!

**April marks Community College Month!** This month-long celebration showcases the many ways community colleges make a significant impact on their students' lives and communities.

As the county's primary hub for higher learning, we are proud to meet our students where they dream and serve our community by providing pathways to success. For over 50 years, attending HCC has been the "best decision ever" for generations of students.

Be sure to follow along on social media as the HCC mascot, Duncan the Dragon, visits Howard County landmarks this month to highlight all the ways that Dragon Country contributes to making Howard County one of the very best places to live, work, play, grow, and thrive.

Learn more at [HowardCC.edu/CCMonth!](https://HowardCC.edu/CCMonth)

## HCC FORWARD UPDATE



As part of the HCC Forward initiative, Swim Digital Group led a Change Management Workshop focused on activating HCC's new 10-step model for leading and sustaining change. This hands-on session gave college leaders the tools, structure, and mindset needed to drive transformation that's not only strategic but also people-centered and built to last.

Together, we walked through a clear process that starts with naming the challenge, identifying the risk of inaction, and engaging people early. From surfacing champions and skeptics to piloting new approaches and measuring impact, the 10-step approach brings order to complexity and turns big goals into manageable, actionable progress.

Throughout the session, participants tackled live change efforts and real barriers. They named key friction points, mapped out stakeholders, and developed strategies to bring people along at every stage. The workshop encouraged honest reflection and practical planning—centering questions like: Who needs to be at the table? How do we recognize momentum? What feedback loops need to be in place?

This was more than a workshop. It was a working session to build clarity, shared ownership, and a path forward. We're grateful for the energy and commitment each participant brought. We're excited to see how this work shapes the next phase of HCC Forward!

## VOLUNTEER FOR GREENFEST!



HCC is pleased to once again be the site of Howard County's largest annual celebration, GreenFest, on Saturday, April 12, 2025. Volunteers are needed throughout the day. Please consider offering a couple of hours of your time and also taking the opportunity to enjoy all the displays and events that will be available. Volunteers are asked to wear school colors or logo items.

To volunteer, please use the link below to select the time slot that works best for you. Get a friend to join you and make it even more fun! Get a friend to join you and make it even more fun! [GreenFest Volunteer Sign Up](#)

## DRAGON LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE KUDOS

The Office of Student Life hosted its inaugural Dragon Leadership Conference on Friday, March 14, 2025. Thirty students participated in this day-long leadership event. Students attended leadership workshops throughout the day, participated in a networking lunch, completed service projects on campus, and learned about on-campus involvement opportunities at the conference involvement fair.

I would like to thank the student life staff for coordinating this conference: **Buruj Ansari, Jourdanous Agaze, Kemberly Bruno, Thelma Bush, Caleb Celeste, Tybre'ana Eaddy, Bennett Jacob, Clinton Neill, Bree Nolan, Areeba Qureshi, and Aisha Rivers.** I would also like to express my gratitude to the following individuals who facilitated workshops, organized service projects, or staffed the involvement fair during the conference: **Rachel Adams, Shelia Alvelo, Deborah Araujo, Tenisha Bryant, Evan Carrington, Amy Bram, Deborah Curry, Yessica Flores, Belinda Green, Christione Johnson, Bob Marietta, Kathleen Martin, Christian Nazaire, Marcus Nicks, Madison Otto, Jacqueline Palmer, Naya Patterson, Bethany Pautrat, Jacqueline Regales, Tara Rupp, Roxana Segovia-Beltran, Dr. Shy'Quon Shaw, Keyara Stevenson, and Tricia Zadjura.**

Finally, I would like to thank the following for their contributions to making this inaugural event a success: **A/V services staff, Drewry Brown Jr., Gabriella Colon, Facilities staff, Finance staff, Crystal French, Danny Hall, Julie Jones, Tero Moberg, and Zakia Reaves Johnson.**

