

To: Montgomery College Community

From: Dr. DeRionne P. Pollard, President

Subject: **Vaccines, GT Campus Site (Update #149)**

Date: March 24, 2021

The good news on this rainy Wednesday is that COVID infection rates are holding steady and hospitalizations in the county are trending in the right direction. Please remember: We made this happen with masks, social distancing, and hand hygiene. This is not the time to pull back on any of these measures.

You may be hearing about plans for a mass vaccination site on MC's Germantown Campus— Governor Hogan mentioned it yesterday—but we are still ironing out some of the details. The plan is for MC to be the host site but the College will not administer the vaccines or run the site. MC employees and students will have to follow the same protocols around eligibility and appointments required of other residents. Our Office of Public Safety and Emergency Management will make a formal announcement with more details when appropriate.

Speaking of vaccines, I was thrilled to hear that MC Professor Diego Hernandez is a participant in the Moderna vaccine trial. Professor Hernandez served as a vaccine recipient several months before the Moderna vaccine was authorized by the Food and Drug Administration for emergency use. I was inspired by his dedication to the research that is benefitting all of us, and his commitment to diversifying the trials. I encourage you to [read about his experience](#), and learn more about how the Centers for Disease Control [evaluate the safety](#) of COVID vaccines. You can also preregister for the vaccine—even if not yet eligible—on the [county site](#).

I'll see you on Friday for my video blog.