

Featured MCRPA Spotlight Member – November 2019



Nancy Newton

How long have you worked at Montgomery College, and what is your current role?

I have worked at Montgomery College since 2005 and my current role is Special Programs Director in Workforce Development & Continuing Education.

What is your favorite thing about working at MC?

Working at MC has afforded me the opportunity to recognize my own strengths, determine and work on my weaknesses, and embrace opportunities not readily available in other organizations. My favorite thing about working at MC is having the privilege to work alongside amazing staff, faculty, administrators, and learners each day.

What does success look like?

Success looks different to every individual. For some, it is being able to get out of bed, for others it may be completing a multi-billion dollar merger. For me, success is being able to look in the mirror and know that I did my best, I did no harm, and I made a tiny difference in someone else's life.

What do you enjoy most about Montgomery College students?

I have the honor and privilege of working for – and with – some of Montgomery College's most vulnerable yet inspiring adult learners: learners who are incarcerated, at-risk, immigrants, non-high school completers, and/or drug addicted. However, the daily struggles of the learners does not infringe on their tenacity and determination to further their education. The learners inspire and motivate me to do my very best so that they are afforded the best opportunities for success.

What is one goal you hope to achieve this year?

I hope to be 6/8 of the way to completing my Doctorate in Entrepreneurial Leadership in Education.

What is your favorite quote?

“Fight for the things that you care about. But do it in a way that will lead others to join you.” — Ruth Bader Ginsburg.

What hobby would you get into if time and money weren't an issue?

Travel! Being an immigrant from England I had the opportunity to travel throughout much of Europe when I was younger, and I would once again love to be able to take off whenever I wanted!

They say that everyone has a book in them. What would be the title of your book?

“And that was just a Tuesday!” A memoir of the antics that helped pass the time for a group of young people growing up in a small town in England.

Who has impressed you most with what they've accomplished?

The learners I am fortunate to work for and with each day impress me the most. When I receive a phone call from a learner who has become a U.S. citizen after arriving in the U.S. ten years prior as a refugee, or I get an email from a learner who was formally incarcerated and is now enrolled in HVAC courses at MC and thriving – these are the accomplishments that impress me. These achievements come on the back of years of struggle for our learners and they inspire me to keep doing what I do. What a privilege.

What is something you think everyone should do at least once in their lives?

Stop, collaborate, and listen! (Feel free to finish the song!)

What profession did you want to work in when you were younger?

I always wanted to work as a detective or an archeologist.