



MEDGAR EVERS COLLEGE

of The City University of New York

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OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

MEMORANDUM

TO: The Medgar Evers College Community

FROM: President-Designate, Dr. William L. Pollard

RE: Summer Transition

DATE: July 27, 2009

I am writing to bring you up to date on the transition process underway as I look forward to my August 1, 2009, start date as President of Medgar Evers College.

First and foremost, let me begin by again thanking President Edison O. Jackson for his 20 years of leadership and commitment to Medgar Evers College and for his generous support during the transition. I wish him well and continued success as he pursues new challenges in the years ahead.

Second, I want to emphasize how much Merriette and I are looking forward to getting to know better the community that is Medgar Evers College - the students, faculty, staff, alumni, community council, and the many elected officials, religious leaders, business people, labor officials, and other important friends of the college.

During the presidential search process, many of you heard me talk about the centrality of student success. I am eager to ensure that this priority is widely understood. We must build on the legacy of Medgar Evers College, taking stock of what has been achieved thus far and developing new innovations in order to move forward. The past will be a sturdy bridge to the future.

I want to advise you of a few preliminary steps that I have taken to help me begin this process and strengthen my understanding and appreciation of Medgar Evers College. I have asked Richard Jones, Executive Dean of Accreditation and Quality Assurance, to be my primary liaison with the college community who will assist me with the preparation

of various transition-related materials and the coordination of scheduling and my overall outreach. Many of you have worked closely with Dean Jones for years and know why I am appreciative of his assistance and guidance. Thank you for your support and acknowledgement of him and the process as we move forward towards my assuming the role of President of Medgar Evers College.

I am initiating an organization and management review that will be conducted by Dr. H. Patrick Swygert, the former President of Howard University and SUNY Albany and my friend and colleague in Washington, D.C.; and Mr. Laurence F. Mucciolo, former deputy Chancellor of CUNY and Senior Vice President for Administration and Finance at Northeastern University. Their help will be a wonderful resource as my new administration takes shape, and I am very grateful for their expertise.

As you can imagine, it will take some time for our family to settle in and get used to new surroundings. Your many well wishes, however, have already made Merriette and I feel enormously welcome and deeply optimistic about Medgar Evers College's extraordinary potential. We hope that you will continue to have an enjoyable and productive summer, and we look forward to seeing you soon.