

## OFFICE OF FOUNDATION AND ALUMNI P.O. Box 99, Perkinston, MS 39573-0099 • 601-928-6344 • Fax: 601-928-6279

Dear Friends of Gulf Coast,

As we continue to monitor progress of COVID-19, MGCCC employees have successfully shifted operations and instruction to an online format. In this ever-changing environment, it is important to us that we communicate with you the steps we are taking to better serve our students and our community.

After careful consideration, we made the difficult decision to postpone the 2020 Scholarship Gala. We are, however, excited about the opportunity to redefine this year's event to help our students reach their goals and will update you as soon as those details are available.

In the meantime, our students still need your help! As the college continues to focus on student success in terms of online instruction delivery, we are also committed to helping our students in a more immediate manner. The Gala has been extremely successful in providing hundreds of students with scholarships and providing real educational opportunities in years past, and now many students have emergency financial barriers that could prohibit them from continuing their education. MGCCC and the MGCCC Foundation are committed to ensuring all current students have the chance to complete their education, and we need your help in a continued spirit of giving to make this happen.

In light of our current situation, we are asking donors to consider making their donations to either our annual **Foundation Scholarship Gala Fund** or our **Student Success Fund**, which provides the foundation with greater flexibility in helping students. The Student Success fund can be used to provide scholarships to students in the traditional sense, but it can also be used to help students overcome other financial barriers that may be prohibiting them from earning their degree.

For all that have already committed donations (silent auction items, ticket purchases, sponsorships) to this year's effort, THANK YOU! As always, your donations are tax deductible and we encourage you to call us with any questions related to your donations or additional student support.

On behalf of all MGCCC employees and administration, our Foundation board members, the MGCCC Board of Trustees, and the MGCCC Alumni Association, thank you again for your continued support during this critical time in the history of our college. Together, we will overcome the current challenges and continue to serve our students in helping them reach their goals.

Please continue to monitor the college website for updates and information. If you have any additional questions or concerns, please reach out to us at 601.928.6344.

Sincerely,

Kady B. Pietz, Ph.D.

Associate Vice President of Foundation and Alumni Relations