

Montgomery College

Science, Engineering and Technology

Alumni Panelists

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Anh Cao
Computer Science
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Mr. Cao is currently an undergraduate student at the University of Maryland, College Park, where he will receive two bachelor's degrees in computer science and mathematics in May 2024. He began his time at MC in 2020 as a high school student enrolled in the Early College Program. During his attendance, Mr. Cao was the President of the Germantown Campus Math Club, a tutor at the MAPEL center, and often partook in honors coursework/research opportunities. He received the Early College Honors Student of the Year and Excellence in Computer Science awards from the College and graduated in 2022 with an A.A. in computer science and an A.S. in mathematics. Mr. Cao's experience at MC helped him discover his passion for research, which he continued to foster when he transferred to UMD. He collaborated with UMD and Princeton professors to develop a dynamic GUI for the magnetohydrodynamic modeling software Athena, allowing ease of use for students and other researchers. Mr. Cao will begin his graduate studies and pursue a Ph.D. in mathematics soon.



Minerva Chandler
Electrical Engineering
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Ms. Chandler started her engineering journey at Montgomery College in 1992 and transferred to the University of Maryland at College Park where she obtained a bachelor of science in electrical engineering in 1997. As an engineer, she focused on the development of wireless communications systems for public safety and led the technical teams who implemented the security communications systems for the 2004 Athens Olympics, the in-building radio system for the U.S. Capitol Police, and a number of other significant projects. Ms. Chandler obtained a master of business administration (MBA) at the George Washington University in 2009 and has been a certified Project Management Institute (PMI) Project Management Professional (PMP) since 2010. She currently works as a Senior Program Manager at Thales Defense & Security Inc. and as an Assistant Adjunct Professor in the School of Business at the University of Maryland Global Campus (UMGC).



Andre Chin
Cybersecurity
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Mr. Chin is currently a Cybersecurity Analyst for Thermo Fisher Scientific Inc., a biotechnology company and a world leader in serving science. Their Mission is to enable customers to make the world healthier, cleaner and safer. After receiving his associate's degree from Montgomery College in cybersecurity in 2017, Mr. Chin interned at the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA), Cybersecurity Operation Division, ISS for six months. He

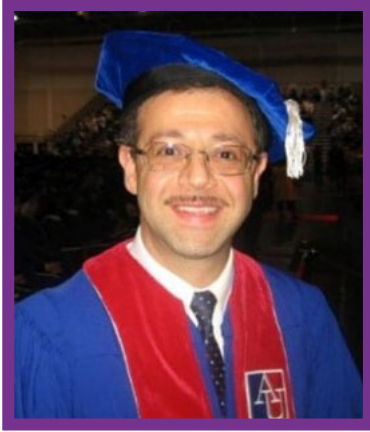
then joined Thermo Fisher Scientific, Inc. in 2019, where he started his cyber career as a Security Analyst in the Security Operation Center (SOC) establishing a proficiency with core SOC tools, technologies, and methodologies. Later he transitioned to the Insider Threat & Digital Forensics Program, where he assisted in the strategic development of what is now known as The Critical Asset Protection Program. His primary focus is on strategy and development of proactive detections and alerts using a variety of security tools to decrease potential insider threats. In addition he is leading the development and engineering of security solutions, that support critical projects related to data loss prevention and protecting the company's most critical assets.



Maksim Eren
Computer Science
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Mr. Eren is an early career scientist in A-4, Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL) Advance Research in Cyber Systems division. Mr. Eren received his associate's degree in computer science from Montgomery College in 2018. He graduated Summa Cum Laude with a computer science bachelor's from the University of Maryland Baltimore County (UMBC) in

2020 and master's in 2022. He is currently pursuing his Ph.D. at UMBC's DREAM Lab, and he is a Scholarship for Service CyberCorps alumnus. His interdisciplinary research interests lie at the intersection of machine learning and cybersecurity, with a concentration in tensor decomposition. His tensor decomposition-based research projects include large-scale malware deter and characterization, cyber anomaly detection, data privacy, text mining, and high performance characterization. He has also worked on various other machine learning research projects such as detection malicious hidden code, adversarial analysis of malware classifiers, and federated learning. At LANL, Mr. Eren was a member of the 2021 R&D 100 winning project SmartTensors, where he has released a fast tensor decomposition and anomaly detection state-of-the-art text mining tools.



Fred Katiraie, Ph.D.

Electrical Engineering

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Fred Katiraie Ph.D. is a faculty member in the Mathematics, Statistics and Data Science Department at the Rockville Campus of Montgomery College. Fred earned his associate of science degree in electrical engineering from Montgomery College in 1987. He served as a peer tutor for the Ackerman Learning Center (previously known as Math Center) for two semesters. He attended the University of Maryland College Park and earned his bachelor of science in electrical engineering in 1990.

Dr. Katiraie served as a Physics Lab Manager for American University from 1997 to 2003. He received his master of science in mathematics in 2001 and his Ph.D. in mathematics education from American University in 2008.

Dr. Katiraie has been teaching a variety of mathematics courses for MC since 2003 (including trigonometry, survey of college math, applied calculus, precalculus, calculus I and II).



Sean Shah

Computer Science

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Shahryar (Sean) Shagoshtasbi graduated from Montgomery College with honors in 2019. During his time at MC, Mr. Shagoshtasbi engaged in numerous extracurricular activities, such as the NASA Swarmathon and representing MC at the Global Grand Challenges Conference in London. His prowess in innovation was highlighted by winning first place for the best medical and hardware hacks at HopHacks, the Johns Hopkins Hackathon. He furthered his education at the University of Maryland where he earned a bachelor's degree in computer science with a minor in technology entrepreneurship in 2022. Sean is currently serving as a DevOps Engineer II at Costar Group Inc.



Herve Sandja Tchamba **Mechanical Engineering**

Linkedin: <https://linkedin.com/in/herve-sandja>

Mr., Tchamba is a dynamic engineering professional currently excelling as a data analyst at Westat. Previously, he served as a Mechanical Design Engineer at Weigand Associates, specializing in designing mechanical systems for commercial and government buildings. He earned an associate's degree from Montgomery College in mechanical engineering in 2021. During his time at MC, Mr. Tchamba was actively involved in Engineers Without Borders and served as a math tutor at the Ackerman Learning Center on the Rockville campus. He graduated with Magna Cum Laude honors in mechanical engineering from the University of the District of Columbia (UDC) in 2023. He is also a co-author of three peer-reviewed scientific publications, including one published in the American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) journal "Development of Phase-Change Materials with Improved Thermal Properties for Space-Related Applications." Currently he is pursuing a master's of science in systems engineering from the University of Maryland Baltimore County (UMBC).



Tamila Urumbaeva **Cybersecurity**

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Ms. Urumbaeva received an associate's degree in cybersecurity from Montgomery College. While she was attending Montgomery College, she was a STEM ambassador, an intern with IT Security Group and attained the GIAC Foundational Cybersecurity Technologies (GFACT) certification. She is an active member of the Women in Cybersecurity (WiCyS) community.

As a dedicated member of the Cyber Club, Tamila actively participated in hands-on cyber activities during various MC cyber-related events. She is also the recipient of the prestigious Gross Regents Scholarship, covering her entire tuition cost at the University of Maryland Global Campus (UMGC).



Ange Patrick Yao
Computer Engineering
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Mr. Yao earned his associate of science in computer engineering from Montgomery College in 2023. He transferred to the University of Maryland at College Park where he is the recipient of the Frederick Douglass Scholarship. He is majoring in computer engineering. Mr. Yao is expected to graduate from the University of Maryland in fall 2025 with a bachelor of science degree. This summer, he has an internship as an electrical engineer at ABC Electrify America.