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**Maryland Public Television appoints Tom Williams to top communications post**

**OWINGS MILLS, MD** – Maryland Public Television (MPT) announced today it has named Tom Williams, APR, to the newly created position of managing director, Communications. Williams reports to MPT President and Chief Executive Officer Larry D. Unger.

In his new role with MPT, Williams oversees the organization’s media relations program and executes both institutional and production-related publicity and promotion statewide. He also supports MPT communications with local, state and federal elected officials; oversees social media engagement; and handles a range of internal communications and external relations assignments.

Prior to joining MPT, Williams worked as a senior public relations specialist at the Hunt Valley, Md. operation of aerospace and defense company Textron Systems. He also previously served as strategic communications manager for MPRI, an L-3 Communications company, and as vice president, public relations at Baltimore advertising agency Trahan, Burden & Charles.

Williams earned a bachelor’s degree in journalism/mass communication from St. Bonaventure University and Accreditation in Public Relations (APR) from the Public Relations Society of America and Universal Accreditation Board.

**About MPT**

Launched in 1969 and headquartered in Owings Mills, MD, Maryland Public Television (MPT) is a nonprofit, state-licensed public television network and member of the Public Broadcasting Service (PBS). MPT’s six transmitters cover Maryland plus portions of contiguous states and the District of Columbia. Frequent winner of regional Emmy® awards, MPT creates local, regional, and national television shows. Beyond broadcast, MPT’s commitment to professional educators, parents, caregivers, and learners of all ages is delivered through year-round instructional events and the super-website *Thinkport,* which garners in excess of 19 million page views annually. MPT’s community engagement connects viewers with local resources on significant health, education, and public interest topics through year-round outreach events, viewer forums, program screenings, and phone bank call-in opportunities.

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