



College Crossings

Rochester Community and Technical College

January 8, 2001
Volume 6, Issue 18
Spring SEMESTER EDITION

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Attachments

- ❖ **Campus Event**
Schedule for week
Of 01/08/01
- ❖ **Concert**
Coffee House concert
- ❖ **Hiring Tutors**
Upward Bound in need
of student tutors

Evening Administration

The evening administrator for January 8 is Ellen Nelson and for January 9-11 Judy Harris. The evening administrator can be reached at x7262.



Congratulations!

Congratulations go to Dan Pischke, Information Technology Specialist, for receiving a Yellow Jacket compliment. A fellow colleague commented that Dan provides expert service and advice. He is also quick to respond to our needs and is unfailingly polite and helpful. What an asset he is for RCTC!

Thank you, Dan, for the customer focused service.

Staff development opportunities

Management Skills for Secretaries, Administrative Assistants and Support Staff offered in Rochester by Fred Pryor Seminars. March 27, 2001 – Comfort Inn and Conference Center – 9:00 am – 4:00 pm - \$159.00 or \$149.00 for groups of five or more. For more information and registration details, visit their website at www.pryor.com, or contact Jennifer in the Human Resources Office.

Thank You, Thank You, Thank You!

The UCR Teddy Bear Drive was a huge success again this year with 97 teddy bears/stuffed animals collected. These cute and cuddly friends were delivered to Sheriff Borchardt on Thursday, December 28 to be distributed to area law enforcement and emergency personnel throughout Rochester and Olmsted County.

Your thoughtfulness during this holiday season is very much appreciated, and will brighten the lives of many children in need of friends throughout the year.

Weekly funny...



RCTC policies
Approval of Amended RCTC Policies
 The following policies were recently modified and adopted with implementation beginning Spring Semester, 2001. A full version of the policies may be accessed via the RCTC Intranet Site at <http://www.roch.edu/rctc/policies/index.html>

- Fresh Start (RCTC Policy 3.17.7)
- Fundraising (RCTC Policy 7.7 - replaces former policy 8.1)
- Student Data Privacy (RCTC Policy 2.14)
- Travel Management (RCTC Policy 5.7)

Thank you

Friends at RCTC:
 Thank you very much for the beautiful arrangement of flowers sent for my mother's memorial service. Your thoughtfulness and sympathy are truly appreciated.

-Judy Lindman

Vacation donation program

Listed below are the new individuals who have been approved as recipients for the vacation donation to the sick leave account program. These individuals may have already or will be exhausting all paid leave time and will be losing health insurance coverages. State employees may donate up to 12 hours (per recipient) per fiscal year to these individuals or any other recipients on the sick leave account. More details regarding these individuals and forms to donate leave are available from the human resources office.

Sally Austin - Revenue
Tim Tabor - MCF - Willow River/Moose Lake
Claude "Vince" Vencill - Revenue

FICA/Medicare rates

The employer and employee deduction rates for Social Security (FICA) and Medicare are not changing for 2001. However, the wages that are subject to FICA have been increased. Wages that are subject to Medicare remain unlimited. The amounts below indicate the maximum wages subject to FICA, the deduction rates, and the maximum deductions per year for the years 2000 and 2001.

FICA/Medicare Rates	Calendar Year 2000	Calendar Year 2001
Maximum Yearly Wages Subject to FICA	\$76,200	\$80,400
Maximum Yearly Wages Subject to Medicare	Unlimited	Unlimited
Deduction Rates for Employer and Employee (%) – FICA	6.20%	6.20%
Deduction Rates for Employer and Employee (%) – Medicare	1.45%	1.45%
Deduction Rates for Employer and Employee (%) – TOTAL	7.65%	7.65%
Maximum Yearly Deduction for Employer and Employee – FICA	\$4,724.40	\$4,984.80
Maximum Yearly Deduction for Employer and Employee - Medicare	Unlimited	Unlimited

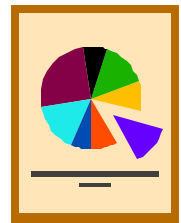
Supalla's Scribblings



Many of you are probably speed-reading CROSSINGS as you scramble to accommodate the needs of new and returning spring semester students. I hope that you found some much deserved time to relax, renew and refresh over the holiday semester break. While some of you enjoyed time away from campus the past three weeks, many were still here engaged in the business of serving our stakeholders. Did you know...

- Michelle Pyfferoen has been appointed to the Southeast Minnesota Technology, Inc. Advisory Council. She joins other economic development officers and organizational leaders from throughout the 20-county area providing leadership to this important organization. Congratulations, Michelle.
- Ellen Nelson has been appointed to MnSCU's eLearning Task Force that was recently merged with the Virtual Summit Planning Teams. The Task Force will take the place of the previous "Coordinating Committee." The Programs/Courses Team and Student Services Team will send their recommendations to the Task Force. Please contact Ellen if you want more information about the eLearning Task Force.
- From the December issue of the iSERIES MAGAZINE... *On the southeast side of Rochester, Minn., a town known for the Mayo Clinic, stands a collection of buildings known as Rochester Community and Technical College (RCTC). Like Rochester's more famous medical institution, RCTC is visited daily by people from around the world. However, many of RCTC's visitors don't enter through the front door. They gain access via the WWW, through a distance-learning module known as Labs Online. Labs Online offers live access to an iSeries 400 (AS/400) server, giving users time on a development system that they might otherwise have to beg, borrow or steal from their employers. The Labs Online program also allows users to take certification exams by accessing RCTC's system. For details, visit the RCTC Web site (www.as400University.com/distance_learning.html). Nice going, Warren and the iSeries/400 team!*
- Darlene Voeltz was appointed to sit on the National Business Education Association Standards for Economic and Personal Finance Committee to write standards for economic education for K-14. Darlene, the only community college representative, will join two high school reps, two university reps, and a rep from the National Council of Economics on the committee. Dr. Irvin Tucker, University of North Carolina, acknowledged Darlene in his recent book for her work in editing his third edition of SURVEY OF ECONOMICS. Nice going, Darlene!
- Jay Lee was appointed to chair the Standards Committee of the Peace Officers Standards and Training Board. Jay is the first educator ever to chair the Standards Committee, the most prestigious (and controversial) Committee of the Board.
- Bonnie Crawford's daughter (Brianna) and I spent every Monday in December and will spend every Monday and Thursday in January together as members of District 535's Budget Committee. The Committee has the daunting task of recommending \$10 million in District expenditure reductions from the 2001-02 K-12 budget.
- Don Baldus and Laura Tacheny, faculty members leading our NCA reaccreditation process, have been very busy putting the finishing touches on our self-study. But rumor has it that both found time during the holiday recess for other activities. Take a few minutes to ask Laura about her dancing performance and Don about his carpentry project.

With funds provided by GRAUC, UCR has contracted with the CLARUS Corporation to help develop an enrollment management plan. From the Fall, 2000 issue of "CLARUS Solutions"...*The one-word trend that has emerged from CLARUS interviews with 12,000 adult part-time students: Convenience. Community colleges aren't competing with other colleges as much as they are competing with other demands on adults' busy schedules. The implications of what we're calling the "Palm Pilot Syndrome" for community college marketing are clear. First, traditional themes of low tuition, small classes and excellent instruction must support an important new theme: 'Tell us what your schedule is, and we'll work with you.'* Second, only colleges that can truly deliver the convenience of anywhere, anytime classes, online or on-the-phone registration and, most importantly, one-stop registration, will be able to maintain and grow their share of this important market. And third, it's more important than ever before for your Student Services and Marketing people to work together...and for the rest of the faculty and staff to deliver on their promises. That means things like a web site that allows schedule searches based on time, student services and information desk personnel who have access to that same web site so they can search for students who call for information, advertising that says, 'Give Us Your Time and We Can Give You Education', a 'time is of the essence' stakeholder service orientation on the part of the entire college faculty and staff, and the same guarantee of 10-minute registration that your competitor down the street is offering.



Thought for the Week...

*Any fool can criticize, condemn and complain – and most fools do.
But it takes character and self-control to be understanding and forgiving.*

– Dale Carnegie

Enjoy a great first week of Spring Semester. Second thought for the week...retention, retention, retention!

Don

TeachNet Inservices

January 11th Introduction to Dreamweaver SH 206 3-5 PM

Those who attend this session will learn the basic skills necessary to begin effectively creating basic web sites with Macromedia's Dreamweaver 2.

January 16th E-pack Demo SH101 9-10 AM

Demonstration of the benefits and process of implementing an E-Pack on WebCT

What is an E-Pack? An E-Pack is essentially your textbook and it's exercise on the web. The pre-formatted Web Content mimics the textbook electronically. Most major textbook publishers boast a partnership with WebCT making a vast selection of books with which to E-Teach.

Contact Sarah Prigge x2924 to register.

Enter a NEW REALM with CHRISTOPHER CARTER...

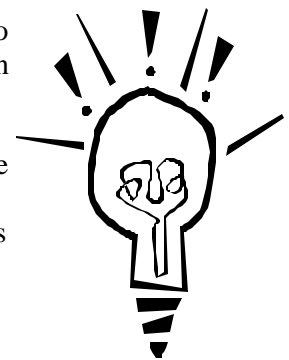
MINDREADING? ESP? BEYOND YOUR IMAGINATION!

Christopher Carter – Theater of Thoughts

In his show, Theater of Thoughts, Christopher Carter hews audiences why he is recognized as one of the world's most skilled, creative and original thought readers. Amazing? Yes.

Believing that the mind is the last great unexplored frontier, Christopher will:

- Have coins placed upon his eyes, which are then taped shut, and go on to describe objects that are held up by audience members, even duplicating on currency that is safely hidden by an audience member
- Cause a light bulb to explode purely through his powers of concentration
- Astound audience members with personal facts that they have never before revealed – to anyone
- Make audience members believe that they are experiencing touches and taps from invisible hands



South Room, 4th Floor College Center
 Tuesday, Jan. 30, 2001 from 11:00am to 12:00 pm
Sponsored by CAB

***** PLEASE NOTE - Tuesdays meeting changes in January – PLEASE NOTE *****

There will be no Program Leader/Division Coordinators meeting on Jan. 9th; Curriculum Council meets on Thurs., Jan. 18 from 2-4 in the Alumni Room; Jan. 23--Meet and Confer 2-3 and UTCE faculty Senate 3-4; Jan. 30 is 5th Tuesday: All Faculty Staff Meeting.

RCTC staffing update

Administrative

- *Acting Dean of Academic Affairs*. Deb Rogne has been appointed.
- *Dean of Health Sciences* (MnSCU Administrator). Position posted/advertised nationally.
- *Director of Nursing* (MnSCU Administrator). Position posted/advertised nationally.
- *Vice President for Academic Affairs* (MnSCU Administrator). Position posted/advertised nationally.
- *Vice President for Student Affairs/Institutional Advancement* (MnSCU Administrator). Position posted/advertised nationally.

Faculty

- *Instructor of Health and/or Physical Education and Head Football Coach* (UFT MCCFA). Position posted/advertised nationally. Search team appointed. Review of applications has begun.
- *Instructor of Computer Science* (UFT MCCFA). Position posted/advertised nationally. Search team appointed. Interviews being conducted.

Unclassified Professional (MAPE)

- *Workforce Development Specialist* (UFT – Custom Training Representative). Sara Schiesher has been appointed.
- *Multicultural Healthcare Grant Coordinator* (FT grant-funded MnSCU Program Dir. 1). Position posted.

Unclassified Supervisory (MMA)

- *Director of SSSP* (UFT – MnSCU Program Supv. 1). Janell Holter has been appointed.

Classified AFSCME

- *General Maint. Worker* (Intermittents). Applications accepted ongoing.
- *General Maint. Worker* – Work Area A. (UFT 3rd shift position). Appointment pending.
- *Office and Administrative Specialist Intermediate* – Academic Affairs Work Area (UFT - UCR Scheduler). Appointment to be made from DOER eligible list. Interviews being scheduled.

For information on any of the above openings, contact the human resources office at x7125.

Opportunities for Scholarships Increase

The number of scholarships available for the 2001-02 school year has increased with the addition of several new scholarships. In many cases the amount of scholarship awards has also increased.

New scholarships this year include the Olmsted County Bar Association, Meirick Scholarship, Frank Jazsewski Scholarship, and the Tim Muellner Memorial Scholarship, all for incoming students. For returning students, new scholarships include the Lavine Family Scholarship, Wells Fargo Scholarship and Dr. J. Richard & Katherine Hickman Scholarship. A new scholarship for graduating students, the Milton and Charlotte Anderson, has also been established.

Increases in award amounts include the Olmsted Medical Healthcare Foundation, now awarding \$750. Two Ruth and Hugh Cocker Scholarships are now available instead of one. This year there are ten 716 Scholarships available for business or journalism students, valued at \$2000 each.

Please encourage students to apply for scholarships this year. The deadline for application is March 9, 2001. Scholarship information sheets and applications are available in Counseling SS150 or the RCTC Foundation Office, Heintz Center C120.

Generous Benefactors

The RCTC Board of Directors is grateful for the number of faculty and staff that responded to the year-end solicitation letter. Your generosity and support is most appreciated. The Foundation works hard to direct your gifts to impact the students and the programs of RCTC.

In the fall of 2000 the board of directors embarked on a course of strategic planning. The foundation is working to align its goals and objectives with the strategic plan of RCTC.

New excitement and enthusiasm is apparent among board members, as they work to increase outside resources and funding for RCTC. The board of directors, a wonderful group of community leaders, will be ambassadors for RCTC to the community. Their commitment to RCTC and its mission is clear and their energy focused.

With your contributions we are off to a great year. For those employees who have not yet made a contribution to the Foundation, it is not too late! Please join with others to support RCTC Foundation and make good things happen for our students and our school.

Academic calendar finalized

The 2001-2001 Academic Calendar has been finalized.

CLICK HERE FOR CALENDAR ATTACHMENT

A complete version of the calendar was distributed via intercampus mail last week.

Scholarships available now!

Scholarship applications for the 2001-2002 academic year are now available in UCR SS133 or the RCTC Foundation Office, Heintz Center, C120. Information sheets listing all the scholarships available and specific criteria also are available. Approximately 160 scholarships are being offered from the RCTC Foundation for entering and returning students as well as for graduating students. Deadline for applying is March 9, 2001. Scholarship amounts range from \$250 up to \$3000 annually.

Sufficient Grounds Coffeehouse Concert with Paul Dandy

Wednesday, January 17 from 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

FREE Coffee, Hot Chocolate, Cookies

Sponsored by CAB

See the flier attached to this week's Crossings for more information on Paul Dandy!



LIBRARY HOURS

GODDARD LIBRARY AND LIBRARY TECHNOLOGY CENTER

SPRING SEMESTER HOURS January 8-May 12, 2001

Monday-Thursday	7:30 AM-10:00 PM
Friday	7:30 AM-4:30 PM
Saturday	9:00 AM-5:00 PM
Sunday	1:00-5:00 PM

Breaks and Holiday Hours Subject to Change

CLOSED: January 15, April 15, and May 13-June 3
(May 13-June 3 closed for remodeling)

Students excused

Students enrolled in SPCH 2210/Intercultural Communications are travelling to Hawaii and Australia with Karin Wilking. The following students are excused from the first two days of spring semester classes: Tammy Lee, Duane Lee, Rachel Lee, Daniel Lee, Julie Warrant, Shirley Warrant, Molly McIntosh; Geraldine McIntosh, Vickie Ronnenberg, Mae Stahlman, Alan Stahlman, Michelle Stahlman, Barry Stahlman, Sandra Bair, Richard Bair, Rebecca Noble, Kareen Kurth, Karla Kurth, Brittany Rixie, Ellie, Marshman, Jenny Thoreson, Sean Morgan, Linda Dorschner, Anne Green, JoAnn Block, Barb Rain, Carrie Mulholland, Heather Wesely, Jon Wilking, Karin Wilking

Lindsey and Jessica Blondell should be excused from classes through Friday, January 12th.