



Spring Semester

COLLEGE Crossings

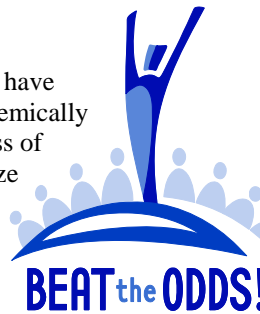
ROCHESTER COMMUNITY AND TECHNICAL COLLEGE...EXPECT THE UNEXPECTED.

Thought for the week...

“One resolution I have made and always try to keep, is this: To rise above the little things.”
~ John Burroughs

Beat the Odds Scholarship Event

Beat the Odds is an annual event that celebrates youth who have overcome tremendous odds to become personally and academically successful. The purpose of the program is to raise awareness of the struggles of many youth in our community and recognize their ability to overcome difficulties. The event also provides an opportunity to highlight the support networks and people who reach out to help. For local businesses and leaders it is an opportunity to help college bound students achieve their dream by supporting this fundraising event. 2010 will be the tenth annual Beat the Odds Scholarship awards program. Five local students will receive \$2,500 scholarships to attend the accredited college of their choice. A banquet will be held January 28, 2010 to honor the selected recipients and their nominators at the Rochester International Event Center, 7333 Airport View Drive SW, Rochester, MN 55902 beginning at 5:30 PM with a social hour. “Sparkle Raffle” will include jewelry, champagne and wine! The public is welcome to attend. Individual tickets are \$75, with a portion tax deductible. Contact Information: Colleen Landherr Maddox; RCTC Community & Youth Program Director; Beat the Odds Event Coordinator; 851 30th Ave SE, Box 56; colleen.landherr@roch.edu; 507-280-3113 (office); 507-280-2970 (fax).



Scholarships

Over 200 scholarships are available for students attending RCTC. The application process is now in place for over 200 scholarships that are available for students who plan to attend Rochester Community and Technical College for Fall 2010/Spring 2011 or who will graduate from RCTC this spring and pursue studies elsewhere. Scholarships are awarded on a variety of criteria unique to each scholarship. See the Foundation Scholarships website at <http://www.rctc.edu/foundation> for scholarship descriptions and applications. For any additional questions please contact the RCTC Foundation Office at (507) 281-7771 - Heintz Center, Room HC109. Applications are to be submitted on-line by March 1, 2010.

ATTACHMENTS

CLICK BELOW TO BRING UP
ATTACHMENT ON SCREEN

None



Mark Your Calendar

Roger K. Newman, author of *Hugo Black: A Biography*; Columbia University Graduate School of Journalism; adjunct professor, 2003-present will be speaking here at RCTC Tuesday April 27th 2010. Civil Liberties, Surveillance and Terrorism will be the topic of Mr. Newman's presentation. RCTC Student Life will be funding this event. We are hoping that our faculty will support this event by bringing classes to the lecture. The lecture is scheduled for April 27th 2010 at 11:00am in the Hill Theatre. If you have further questions please contact Mr. Newman at: rn2115@columbia.edu.

Commencement Planning for Keynote

Even though winter seems like it just began, spring is right around the corner and that means it will soon be time for commencement. Individuals are being sought to help with the planning and coordination of the May 13th graduation ceremony. If you'd like to be a part of the Commencement Planning Committee, your participation would be critically important and highly valued. Non-faculty members interested in serving should contact Roxy Roadway at roxy.roadway@roch.edu. Faculty members interested in serving should submit their names through Gregg Wright. The committee will be meeting in the next few weeks to plan for a keynote and the planning committee is always interested in the possibility of having a former student or motivational speaker give an engaging keynote address. If you have any suggestions, please forward your information to Roxy Roadway at roxy.roadway@roch.edu or Stan Cram at stan.cram@roch.edu. Also, if you don't have time for another committee but you have suggestions for improving the ceremony or other part of the planning process, please send your feedback to roxy.roadway@roch.edu. Your thoughts and comments are welcome!



Teddy Bears Find New Home This Holiday Season

A special thank you to all who participated in our Annual Teddy Bear Drive. This year 88 teddy bears were collected, bringing our total contributions over the past 12 years to 1,177. The bears have always been donated to the Olmsted County Sheriff's Department, but we were informed this year that they have a large supply already; hence would not have room for more donations. So, in the spirit of giving and helping children who may be in need of a friend, this year's Teddy Bears found a home at the Ronald McDonald House in Rochester. The Ronald McDonald House is a home away from home for families who travel hundreds, sometimes thousands of miles to seek medical treatment for their children. The House provides shelter and support to families facing difficult days and long nights, and is a place to share hopes and dreams. If the faculty and staff are interested in continuing the teddy bear drive, we are looking for a new home to donate the cuddly stuffed animals. If you have connections with an organizations that would accept the teddy bears, please contact Judy Kingsbury at x7216.

Thank You

Thank You for your donation of teddy bears and stuffed animals. Your generosity means a great deal to the children who stay with us.

~ Ronald McDonald House



**UCR IS NOW
TOBACCO FREE**

Effective as of January 1, 2010!

Temporary Fitness Center Hours

MONDAY
Open 10am-2pm,
Closed 2pm-4pm,
Open 4pm-9pm

TUESDAY
Open 3pm-9pm

WEDNESDAY
Open 10am-2pm,
Closed 2pm-4pm,
Open 4pm-9pm

THURSDAY
Open 3pm-9pm

FRIDAY
Open 3pm-6pm

SATURDAY
CLOSED

SUNDAY
CLOSED



SUPALLA'S SCRIBBLINGS

Best wishes for a wonderful 2010! I hope that each of you enjoyed a restful, relaxing and refreshing holiday; using the semester break as an opportunity to catch your breath, connect with family and friends, reflect on 2009 and ponder what the New Year might bring. While some of you were able to escape for a few weeks, many colleagues remained on campus closing out fall semester and preparing for the start of spring semester. Enrollments for spring semester appear to be consistent or slightly ahead of last year's spring enrollments. Work continues on the Heintz Center roof repairs, elevator replacement and lighting improvements. During the break, the campus swarmed with holiday tournament participants and spectators. On January 1 RCTC joined the ranks of a handful of MnSCU institutions who have implemented a tobacco free campus policy. The new policy has been shared with students and staff, signage has been placed throughout the campus and violators will be provided information and warnings before more stringent measures are invoked. Please be patient as both smokers and non-smokers become accustomed to this changed environment.

A memorandum released in December issued a scathing report and threatened severe discipline against the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools (RCTC's accreditor). At issue is whether the Commission should have accredited American Intercontinental University, a for-profit institution that provides online education. The Higher Learning Commission is one of six regional accreditors recognized by the U.S. Department of Education as a gatekeeper for the distribution of federal financial aid. The inspector general of the U.S. Department of Education recommended that the department consider limiting, suspending, or terminating the commission's status as an accrediting organization. The Education Department's Office of Postsecondary Education has already begun a lengthy review of the issues raised by the inspector general. The Commission is not in imminent danger of losing its accrediting status. I'll keep you updated as the 18-24 month review proceeds.

Did you know...

- This week the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities system was named a "Yellow Ribbon Employer" by Governor Tim Pawlenty and the Minnesota National Guard for supporting National Guard members and their families throughout the deployment cycle and after active service. The Yellow Ribbon Employer campaign honors employers with exceptional records of caring for military members and families through various programs and services. Thanks to the many RCTC employees who regularly accommodate the needs of our Veterans!
- Congratulations to ViAnn Olson and Dave Weber. ViAnn was recognized as a 2009 Outstanding Educator by the Rochester Area Math/Science Partnership. Stop by ViAnn's office area and see the beautiful award and congratulate ViAnn on her much deserved recognition. Dave Weber will receive The Chair Academy's 2010 International Exemplary Leader Award at the Chair Academy's 19th Annual International Conference to be held in Minneapolis in March. The award recognizes Dave's ability to advance academic and administrative leadership. Way to go, ViAnn and Dave!
- Marilyn Hansmann will serve as the Olmsted County United Way Board Chair in 2010! Her election to lead this important community service organization is a tribute to her leadership abilities and ongoing Board contributions.
- The Post-Bulletin recently recognized several arts and entertainment highlights from the past year. Included on the list was "Candy Freak," a February stage version of the Rochester Reads book about our addiction to candy. The play was written and produced by RCTC's own Jerry Casper. Welcome Jerry back from sabbatical by attending one of this year's productions.
- The MnSCU Office of General Counsel is offering a series of Webinars on a variety of topics. The January 14 session, "Addressing Disruption in the Classroom," will be followed by sessions on site agreements for internships and clinicals (February 11), contract issues (March 11), H-1B visas (April 8) and hot issues in athletics, including Title IX (May 13). [CLICK HERE](#) for details on how to attend the Webinar.
- Rochester will likely be the smallest community in the country to garner the RACE exhibit. The exhibit, which you might have seen when it opened at the Science Museum of Minnesota, is coming to the Rochester Public Library in May and will be on display for about four months. I encourage you to find ways to include this exceptional learning opportunity as you develop curriculum and lesson plans for this spring and summer.
- Chancellor McCormick has appointed me to chair the Lake Superior College presidential search. A search team has been appointed and the initial meeting of the search committee is scheduled for January 25. I'm looking forward to spending a significant number of days with our LSC colleagues during the application review, airport interview and campus visit search process. If all goes as planned, we hope to make a recommendation to the Chancellor by late April.

From the CHRONICLE OF HIGHER EDUCATION

Next time a student comes to your office to discuss her career goals, tell her it's better to be a dental hygienist than a philosopher, but neither job comes close to being an actuary. CareerCast.com has released a list of the 200 best and worst jobs, based on environment, income, employment outlook, physical demands, and stress. Several scholarly fields scored high in the rankings. The worst job? Roustabout. The top 15 jobs: actuary, software engineer, computer systems analyst, biologist, historian, mathematician, paralegal assistant, statistician, accountant, dental hygienist, philosopher, meteorologist, technical writer, bank officer and web developer.

Thought for the Week...

I laugh, I love, I hope, I try, I hurt, I need, I fear, I cry.

And I know you do the same things too, so we're really not that different, me and you.

– Colin Rave

Happy New Year...Happy Spring Semester!

Don



Bob takes care of this monster-under-the-bed business once and for all.

Crossings Classifieds

COMMUNITY EVENT: WWII Honor Flight Program dinner at the Elks Lodge on Saturday, January 23 from 4-7pm. Cost is \$6/adults; \$5 seniors/children. Menu is choice of pork sandwich or grilled hamburger, cole slaw and beans. For additional Information call the Elks Lodge at 507-282-6702.

SNOW REMOVAL: My sons and I will plow your driveway, shovel your walks and steps, even rake the snow from your roof. No job too big, no job too small. Very reasonable rates. Reliable and dependable. You will be pleased and your back will thank you. Call Mark Stanchfield at 507-259-0524.

FOR SALE: Grandparent's Baby Crib. Bassett Model 5066-505; includes mattress and cover, and 2 crib sheets. \$50 o.b.o.. Contact Terry Knight at 280-5033.

FOR RENT: NW Rochester 3 Bdrm. home with finished lower level; 2 car garage. Close to Gage School; Available now. \$850 a month. N/S; N/P Contact Rose Conway/Joe 272-8864.

FOR SALE: The American Cancer Society Daffodil Days is March 15-19th. Rose Conway is the contact person for RCTC. Go to <http://www.cancer.org/daffodils> to view items for ordering or contact Rose Conway at rose.conway@roch.edu.

Retiree's Breakfast

The semi-annual RCTC/RCC/RTC Retirees' Breakfast will take place on Tuesday, January 12 beginning at 9:00am at the Real Life Cooperative, 825 Essex Parkway NW (about a half mile north of 37th Street NW, just west of West River Parkway); or east on 55th St. NW, which turns south and becomes West River Parkway). A \$1.50 donation to cover the cost for coffee, donuts, juice and fruit will be appreciated. In addition to re-connecting with colleagues, President Don Supalla will present an update on what's happening on campus. Please RSVP to Arlouene Bothun at 282-1594 or ablthun@hotmail.com by January 10 if you plan to attend.

UCR Blood Drives

Monday, January 25 from 12:00 – 3:30 and Tuesday, January 26 from 8:30 – 10:30 & 12:00 – 3:30 in AT 302. Please call Mayo Blood Bank at 284-4475 to schedule an appointment. Walk in appointments are available, but appointments are requested. Appointments will receive priority over walk-ins. Thank you for your support of this program!

~ Katie Swegarden BSN, RN

It's a Girl!

We are delighted to announce the arrival of a new baby girl, born to Adam Hoffman (adjunct earth science instructor) and his wife on Sunday, December 27th. Baby and Mom and doing great. Welcome to the RCTC Family.

Condolences

Condolences are extended to John Tacinelli whose grandmother, Mildred K. Stave, passed away on Friday, December 11th. Our thoughts are with John and his family.



EXIT
Making It Through

Installation by Catherine Kennedy

EXHIBITION: January 19 - March 2, 2010 / UCR Gallery, CC 200
RECEPTION: Wednesday, January 20, 6:30 - 8:30, Artist talk 7-8
GALLERY HOURS: Mon-Fri / For hours, go to rctc.edu/studentlife/art

UNIVERSITY CENTER ROCHESTER

New Foundation Director Hired

It is my pleasure to announce the appointment of Lisa Baldus as the new Executive Director of the RCTC Foundation effective Monday, January 25, 2010. Ms. Baldus received her Associate in Arts degree from RCTC and her Bachelor of Arts from Winona State University. She is currently a Marketing Manager/VP Retail Banking Coordinator at Premier Bank in Rochester, and has held several other managerial positions in local financial institutions. Ms. Baldus' experience in program management, sales campaign development, public relations, fundraising, and event planning, coupled with her recent Foundation Board service, makes Lisa ideally suited for her new position with the Foundation.

In her role, Baldus will lead the Foundation's diverse activities and programs, including managing activities relating to the analysis, planning, and control of fundraising; alumni relations; and selected public relations programs for the RCTC Foundation. In addition, Lisa will be leading the Foundation's fundraising campaign for the Rochester Regional Stadium Bubble.

Please join me in welcoming Ms. Lisa Baldus to the RCTC Family.

~ Don Supalla, President

Minutes – See page 6

Rochester Community and Technical College
Minnesota State College Faculty (MSCF) Faculty Shared Governance Council
Minutes for Tuesday, November 24, 2009 – 2:00 p.m. – AT109

Present: Administration Cram, Hansmann, Supalla
Faculty Atwood, O'Bryan, Wright
Recorder: Kingsbury

ITEM 3 (A) Video Surveillance Draft Policy – Supalla reported that at the recommendation of Faculty Shared Governance Council, Administration solicited input on the draft Video Surveillance Policy from the General Counsel and their response was the information did not rise to the level of a College Policy. **ACTION:** The Video Surveillance document will not be made an official policy, but rather will be used as a guideline by the Security Department.

ITEM 4 (A) December Meeting – Supalla reported the December meeting is scheduled during Winter Break. **ACTION:** The December meeting is canceled and any pressing issues will be handled through an informal meeting between Wright and Supalla.

ITEM 1 (F) AND ITEM 1 (A) Year-Long Schedule – Supalla reported that Bequette and the Academic Deans are experiencing several problems in producing a year-long schedule (i.e. obtaining information in a timely manner and software glitches within the online schedule). Bequette confirmed Teaching and Learning has been unable to produce a year-long schedule, but suggested the College produce a list of possible classes without specific times/days/instructors. Bequette added some of the issues are being experienced at other institutions as well, and others colleges have been able to produce a schedule, but only through a separate database, which isn't practical. Bequette plans to have further discussions with Program Leaders/Department Chairs. Wright agreed, stating the effort put into producing a year-long schedule hasn't been worth the end product. Supalla questioned if he should bring the issues to the attention of the Office of the Chancellor Staff. Bequette responded he did not believe it was necessary, but he will continue to investigate solutions. **ACTION:** RCTC will not produce a year-long schedule, but will make available to the students a list of classes being offered during future semesters.

ITEM 2 (F) Edit 59 Prerequisites – Wright announced the faculty have taken a position that they want Edit 59 to be in place for all prerequisites. Bequette responded Edit 59 is in place for Math courses, and it will be piloted for Psychology courses, but Administration has not yet moved forward to requiring it for all courses because of the significant amount of problems it will cause (i.e. the system cannot determine if a student is currently enrolled in a prerequisite and cannot validate the numerous variations for transfer students). Wright stated the success of the student should be the focus, and if Edit 59 isn't doing what we want, then maybe there is another system that should be investigated. Bequette confirmed Datatel is capable of meeting our needs, but it isn't compatible with ISRS. Supalla questioned what the consequences would be if Edit 59 were activated for all classes. Bequette provided an example of a walking class that has a prerequisite of reading; which means every student that didn't have a reading class would be blocked from registering for walking. Supalla questioned whether the faculty were aware of the ramifications before taking a position that Edit 59 be used for all classes. Wright confirmed that faculty would not take such a position if they knew the ramifications would create chaos. Bequette responded the concerns have been discussed at AASC several times over the past five years, but agreed better communication is needed to understand the ramifications. Wright concurred the next step is to pilot Psychology and then do an assessment and fix errors before moving forward to the next discipline. In addition, Wright agreed that major work needs to be completed through AASC to re-evaluate prerequisites. O'Bryan added a uniform definition of a prerequisite also needs to be established (i.e. one instructor's definition of college level reading may not be the same expectation as another instructor.) Bequette agreed, adding it is necessary to have one definition and then write the rule for that one definition. **ACTION:** Bequette will forward to Wright bullet points of the ramifications of activating Edit 59 and Wright will communicate those ramifications with Faculty.

ITEM 2 (A) Concurrent Enrollment – Supalla announced that based on the conversations with other MnSCU Presidents, RCTC needs to move forward with concurrent enrollment to stay competitive. Bequette added Southwest State currently offers concurrent enrollment in 109 classes and generates 18,000 credits per semester. RCTC is currently focused on eight to ten high schools within a 30 mile radius of Rochester and, although not mandated, RCTC requires 100% of the students in the class to be qualified for post secondary option (the mandate is 51%). Wright responded, although not personally convinced concurrent enrollment is appropriate in theory, he understands the reality that the College needs to be competitive and move forward for financial reasons. Wright also reminded Bequette and Supalla that students do also have the option to enroll in online classes or use the PSEO option and faculty are willing to travel to the high schools to teach. Bequette and Supalla appreciated the input, but reality is concurrent enrollment is what the high schools and students are requesting. **ACTION:** Administration will move forward to expand concurrent enrollment in high schools located with a 30 mile radius of Rochester.

ITEM 3 (F) Substitutes – Wright announced the English faculty believe they are being required to get substitutes if they are absent. Bequette clarified that a Dean had two faculty who missed three weeks of instruction each during the semester and as a result of the extensive absence, received complaints from students (and even one parent) so spoke with the faculty members and made it clear that she wasn't demanding a substitute, but strongly suggested that with ongoing absences it may be in the best interest of the students to find appropriate back-up so students are getting the full educational opportunities they deserve. Wright expressed his appreciation for the clarification. **ACTION:** Information Only.

Adjourned at 2:54 p.m.

NEXT MEETING: January 26, 2010 – 2:00 p.m.