

COLLEGE *Crossings*

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

Thought for the week...

Every day may not be good, but there's something good in every day

~Author Unknown

January Best Bee

Congratulations to Deb Ellsworth for being nominated and selected as January 2009 Best Bee. Deb is the Administrative Assistant to the Office of the Vice President of Teaching and Learning. Deb's nominator provided the following kudos about her contributions:



Deb is always willing to go above and beyond to make sure a project gets completed. She serves on a variety of committees and provides aid to students, faculty and staff even if it is "not her job." She is willing to drop what she is doing to help anyone, and always does it with a smile. Here's how Deb's nominator describes how she demonstrates RCTC's Values in her everyday work:

Innovation – She thinks of novel ways to solve problems.

Excellence – When you ask Deb for help with a task you know it will be done correctly and on time.

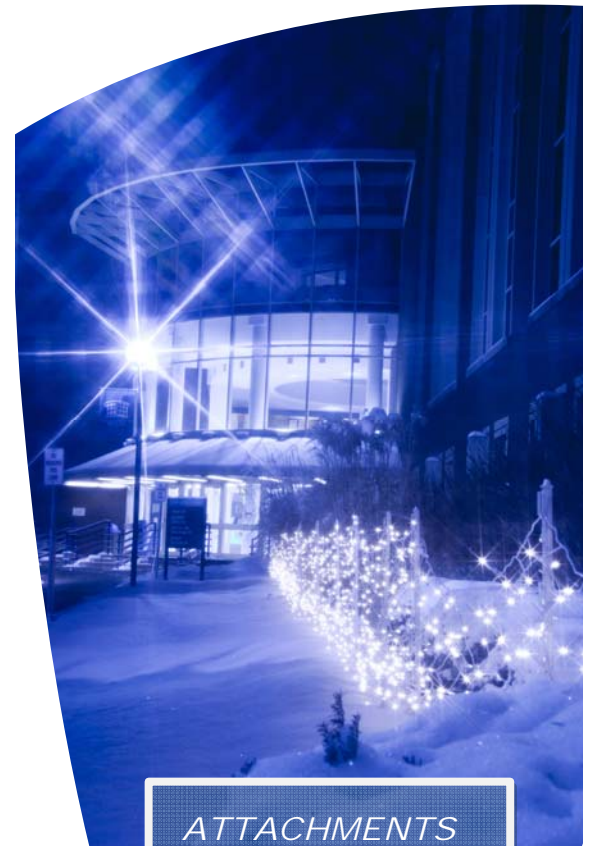
Fun – Deb contributes her fun attitude to the Fun Committee so that she can share the fun with others.

Learner-Centered – Talking care of students' needs is her number one priority. She has taken an active role in student learning by serving on the Student Success Day Committee.

Respect – Deb is respectful of everyone she has contact with. She treats everyone as if they were family.

Teamwork – Deb helps make teamwork by being an active participant in teams and fulfilling her commitments to the team

As Best Bee, Deb will receive the employee of the month parking space for the cold month of January.



ATTACHMENTS

CLICK BELOW TO BRING UP ATTACHMENT ON SCREEN

*Campus Incident Report
October 12 – November 26, 2009*

Faculty Absences

Faculty dismissing individual classes for personal or medical leaves will be posted at: <http://www.rctc.edu/hr/faculty-absences/>



Upcoming Events

Regional Sport Center

- Jan. 12 - Home School Defenders Basketball Game
- Jan. 13 - Crossroads College Basketball Games
- Jan. 15 - RCTC Wrestling vs. Iowa Central 7pm
- Jan. 17 & 18 - Frostbite Volleyball Tournament
- Jan. 19 - Home School Defenders Basketball Game
- Jan. 20 - Home School Defenders Basketball Game
- Jan. 21 - RCTC Men's Basketball Game 7pm
- Jan. 22 - Crossroads College Basketball Games
- Jan. 23 - RCTC Wrestling vs. Ridgewater 7pm
- Jan. 24 - RCTC Basketball 1pm/3pm
- Jan. 25 - RCTC Girls Big Nine

Severe Winter Weather

During severe inclement weather, the RCTC President, or designee, will make the decision to cancel classes, cancel non-academic activities, delay openings, or closing the campus.

Whenever possible, the decision for day classes/activities will be made prior to 6:00 am; for evening classes/activities by 3:00 pm; and publically announced through the following radio and television media: KWEB, KRCH, KMFS, KOLM, KWWK, KLCX, KROC, KNXR, KLSE, KYBA, KTTC-TV, KSTP-TV, and Fox 47. Up to the minute information may also be viewed at the websites of RCTC (<http://www.rctc.edu>), KROC and KTTC-TV.

Special Note: While a complete campus closure may occur at UCR, because of the shared facility space agreement with the City of Rochester, the UCR Regional Sports Center may remain open for scheduled community events.

Condolences

Condolences are extended to the following employees:

- **Roxi Bains** (adjunct Computer Science Instructor) whose husband, Richard "Dick" Bains, passed away on December 13th.
- **Retiree Karen Machlica** (former RCTC Counselor) whose father, Joe Machlica, passed away on December 14th.
- **Harry Kerr** (Law Enforcement Instructor) whose son, Christopher Struckmann, passed away on December 26th.
- **Dennis Kronebusch** (IT System Support for Business and Workforce Education) whose father, Stephen F. Kronebusch, passed away on December 31st.
- **Retiree Earlene Hackenmiller** (Financial Aid/Enrollment Services from 1983-2008) whose mother, Helena Marie Conover Oesterreich, passed away on January 6th.

It is also with sorrow we announce the passing away of Bill Brunner (Retired Business Instructor) on December 13th.

Our thoughts are with these employees and their families.

Library Hours

The hours for the Goddard library, Library Technology Center (LTC), and Technology Support Center (TSC) during spring semester (**January 12 – May 14, 2009**) will be: Monday-Thursday from 7:30am – 10:00pm; Fridays from 7:30am – 4:30pm; Saturdays from 9:00am – 5:00pm and Sundays from 1:00pm – 5:00pm (TSC is closed on Sunday). **Closed: January 19th (Martin Luther King Holiday)** Also, please note:

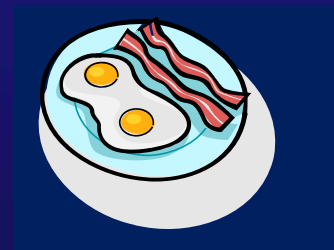
- Student ID Cards will be made until 4:00pm today Friday Jan. 9
- The Library will be CLOSED this weekend (Jan. 10 – Jan. 11)



Retiree's Breakfast

All RCTC/RCC/RTC retirees and their spouses

/significant others are invited to attend the semi-annual RETIREES' BREAKFAST on Tuesday, January 13. It will start at 9:00am at the Real Life Cooperative, 825 Essex Parkway NW. Cost is \$1.00 per person. Please contact Arlouene Bothun at 282-1594 or abothun@hotmail.com to let us know whether or not you will be able to attend.



**WELCOME
BACK
EVERYONE!**

**Have a GREAT
Spring Semester!**



SUPALLA'S SCRIBBLINGS

Welcome back to those who've had some time away from campus for semester break and the holidays. While you were gone, several significant repair and replacement projects were completed both at Heintz Center and UCR Main. In the last couple of weeks, the campus was buzzing with enrollment activity and the Sports Center was swarming with holiday tournament athletes and fans. Preliminary spring semester enrollment numbers look very positive, thanks to some great work by enrollment management, admissions and records, counseling and advising, and recruitment and marketing staff. A downturn in the economy often brings dislocated workers to the college for retraining and this might be a factor in the increased interest in RCTC. More detailed enrollment

numbers will be shared after cancellation for non-payment and the customary drop/add period. Thanks to all who contributed to this positive enhanced interest. Now, it's all our responsibilities to do what we can to retain both our returning and new students.

If things go as planned, when you log-on Monday morning you'll see a virtual line-up pop up on your screen. This virtual line-up will be launched daily and is being delivered via electronic web-based pop-ups. The 2008 Continuous Quality Improvement Network (CQIN) team recommended creation of the virtual line-up and development of this best practice after experiencing live daily line-ups at the Ritz-Carlton and viewing similar virtual pop-ups used at Richland Community College in Texas. The objective of the pop-up is to help make employees more knowledgeable of RCTC's mission, vision, values, service attributes and core outcomes and to celebrate, through WOW stories, the great work of our faculty, staff and students. Each week a new pop-up screen, focused on one of our values will appear on your computer. It's appropriate that we kick-off our virtual line-up on the first week of spring semester with a focus on our learner-centered value. Please share with me your own personal wow stories (or those of your colleagues and students).

On December 19th Governor Pawlenty announced that the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities would be cut \$20 million for the current biennium. This unallotment is a base reduction and represents a "down payment" expected for the FY10-11 biennial budget. Once the February biennial budget projection is released, there is potential for a second unallotment of the current budget. The \$20 million reduction was distributed with colleges and universities assuming \$16.27 million of the reduction (RCTC's share is \$425,232), systemwide debt service assumed \$2.8 million of the reduction, and the Office of the Chancellor budget was reduced by \$.93 million. RCTC will fund the major share of our reduction by delaying repair and replacement projects and deferring purchase of some furniture. A second unallotment by the Governor would likely result in a much more universal spending freeze. The financial picture for the next biennium is less than rosy. Most in St. Paul believe that when the February budget numbers are released, the state will be facing a deficit somewhere between \$5 and \$7 BILLION dollars. In the next few weeks, we will begin sharing a variety of potential financial scenarios for FY10. However, a RCTC budget cannot be finalized until the Legislature has concluded its appropriation decision-making (assuming they avoid a special session, the Legislature must adjourn on May 18) and the Board of Trustees sets 2009-10 tuition rates. Expect to see weekly legislative updates in Scribblings or go to the MnSCU home page and simply click on the Legislative Information tab in the right hand column. Stay tuned for a rocky ride.

Campus Kudos

- *Robin Fruth-Dugstad has been awarded a \$5,000 CTL grant to plan and manage MnSCU's Agriculture, Food, and Natural Resources Conference, an interdisciplinary workshop, to be held April 23 and 24. Congratulations, Robin!*
- *RCTC's Business Development and Workforce Education Center received a \$100,000 Minnesota Job Skills Partnership Grant to deliver talent resource mapping for Cardinal of Minnesota, Ability Building Center and F&M Community Bank.*
- *Linda Behrens, President of the RCTC Foundation, has been appointed to the MnSCU Affiliated Foundations Task Force. The purpose of the task force is to engage presidents, chief development officers, and affiliated foundation board members in the review of the policy-related matters brought forward in the report, College, University and System Affiliated Foundations (Office of Internal Auditing, September 2008).*

Fall 2008 enrollment at Minnesota's colleges, universities and career schools increased 3.6 percent over 2007, according to figures released by the Minnesota Office of Higher Education. Enrollment at public and private institutions statewide increased by 12,371 students in 2008. Minnesota's public and private two-year colleges both gained enrollment, with a 3.7 percent increase at public two-year colleges and a 25.5 percent enrollment increase at private career colleges.

Thought for the Week...You can never learn less; you can only learn more.

The reason I know so much is because I have made so many mistakes.

– Buckminster Fuller (mathematician and philosopher who never graduated from college but received 46 honorary doctorates)

Best wishes for a productive semester!

~ Don

STARTING THIS SPRING!

Chat with the President

A series of informal opportunities for faculty and staff to chat with President Supalla on campus issues and ideas important to you! The two forums are scheduled for . . .

January 22, 2009 from 1:30 – 2:30 p.m.

UCR ~ 3rd Floor Atrium Lounge

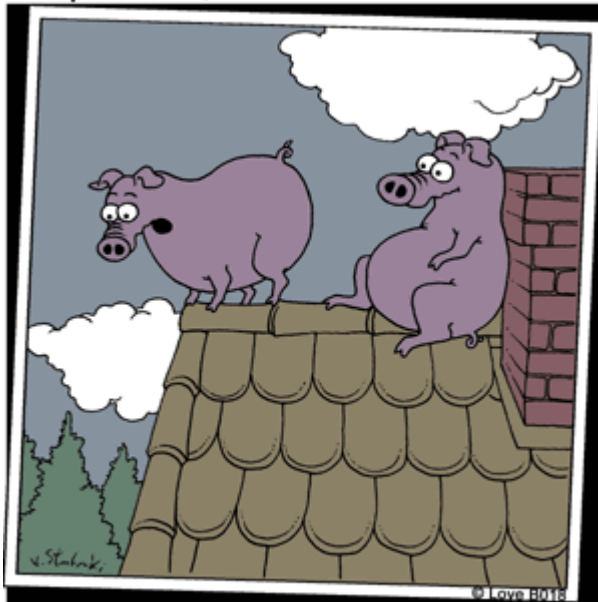
February 25, 2009 from 1:30 – 2:30 p.m.

Heintz Center ~ HA 104

Stop in for treats and refreshments!

Don't know where to start when it comes to assessment? Need help measuring student learning in your class or program? No time for uninterrupted discussions about student learning? Mark your calendars and plan ahead! Two separate Power of 1 events will be held in February on the 13th and 27th. Contact Teresa Brown for more information. teresa.brown@roch.edu / 285-7572

Snapshots at jasonlove.com



"I'm not sure how we'll get down.
I guess when pigs fly again."

Guatemala Trip

The Guatemala Trip is open for registration! If you are interested in coming to Guatemala, please let me know – and if you could pass this note along to your contacts, students, friends, etc. I would appreciate it. Also – as noted below – we once again have Guatemalan Organic Coffee and Crafts for sale – socially conscious gifts make great presents for the holiday season! Your gift will help others in Guatemala. Click [HERE](#) for more info.

~ Lillyam Arroyave

Employee News

I am pleased to introduce Dennis Olson as a new staff member in the Technology Support Center. Dennis has been hired to provide technology related assistance to students, faculty and staff in the unified support center, and is instrumental in our goal of increasing hours of service and expertise. Dennis has been with RCTC in a variety of roles including student and work study, and has been assisting in the TSC since it opened this fall. Today is his first day on the job, so please welcome him if you have an opportunity. We are delighted to have Dennis as a part of the TSC support staff at RCTC, and are confident his addition to the institution is significant.

~ Scott Sahs, CIO

Congratulations

Congratulations, Brian LaPlante, on his 200th win. The Men's Basketball coach entered the Yellowjacket vs. Fergus Falls game on Wednesday, January 7, 2009 with 199 career coaching victories. After a decisive win (85-61) over the Spartans, we're delighted to celebrate Brian's 200th victory.

As a side note – the Women's Basketball team were also victorious over the Spartans that evening (95-46)!

