

▶ OPEN FORUM SESSIONS
SCHEDULED FOR CHIEF HUMAN
RESOURCES OFFICER POSITION
ON CAMPUS 2

○ ISSUE 18 | ○ VOLUME 13 | ○ SPRING SEMESTER 2008-09

January 19, 2009

▶ VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR
STUDENT SUCCESS DAY ... 4

CHECK UCR EVENTS

CHECK MEETING MINUTES

▶ NEWS FROM THE
EDUCATIONAL TECHNOLOGY
DEPARTMENT 5

COLLEGE *Crossings*

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

Thought for the week...

If you lose hope, somehow you lose the vitality that keeps life moving, you lose that courage to be, that quality that helps you go on in spite of all. And so today I still have a dream.

~Martin Luther King, Jr.

Plant the Seeds!

There will be a Service Learning Info Fair next Thursday, January 22nd from 11 AM-1PM in the Atrium with a theme of "Plant the Seeds". Come and meet our Service Learning Community Partners and arrange your service learning assignment. The first 150 students to visit four partners will earn valuable "seed bags".



Also, Channel One Food Shelf will have collection bins in the Atrium and Heinz Center Commons next week to collect non-perishable food items for those in need of food in Southeastern Minnesota. Please encourage your students to participate! Any questions??? Contact Lynn.Guenette@roch.edu or Colleen.Landherr@roch.edu



STARTING SPRING SEMESTER...

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 ~ HA104

Stop in for treats and refreshments!

ATTACHMENTS

CLICK BELOW TO BRING UP
ATTACHMENT ON SCREEN

GANZA Event
**Brain Gym: Let Physical
Movement Enhance Your
Mental Abilities**



Upcoming Events

Regional Sport Center

- 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 - RCYBA Girls Big Nine
- Jan. 27 - RCTC Wrestling vs. Saint Olaf 7pm
- Jan. 28 - RCTC Basketball 6pm/8pm

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday

In 1983, President Ronald Reagan signed the Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday into law. Since then, on the third Monday in January, we celebrate Dr. King's birthday, his life, and his work. He was born on January 15, 1929, in Atlanta, Georgia. Dr. King, a Baptist minister, was instrumental in leading the civil rights movement during the late 1950's and early 1960's. He believed in creating change through peaceful protest, and was a powerful, persuasive speaker. Most of us are familiar with his "I Have a Dream" speech, which was delivered on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial in Washington, DC, on August 28, 1963 (Hear Dr. King give this speech and see video of the civil rights movement at: <http://www.americanrhetoric.com/speeches/mlkihaveadream.htm>). This speech is notable for impacting the nation deeply and influencing the implementation of the 1964 Civil Rights Act. In 1965, Dr. King was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize.

In April 1968, Dr. King went to Memphis to aid sanitation workers who were on strike. He made what was his last speech on April 3rd, and on April 4, Dr. King was shot and killed as he left his motel room. His wife, Coretta Scott King (who died in 2006 at the age of 78), and their children have continued his work.

Dr. King dreamed of a world in which all people lived together in equality, where mankind had triumphed over poverty, racism, war and violence. He called us all to service. His dream is as apt today as it was forty five years ago.

You can find more information at: <http://www.thekingcenter.org/holiday/> (information about the King Center), <http://www.mlkday.org/about/overview/index.asp> (information on commemorating the MLK Jr. Holiday with a day of service), <http://www.splcenter.org/crm/memorial.jsp> (information about a civil rights memorial).

~ Ricki Walters

Regional Diversity Trainer/Investigator

Search for Chief Human Resources Officer

The Chief Human Resources Officer (CHRO) Search Committee has identified five finalists who will visit our campus to interview and meet with members of the college community during open forum sessions. As you know, the CHRO position is a critical position for our college. Please mark your calendars and plan to participate in the open forums. The dates are January 23, 26, 27, February 9, 20, 2009 from 9:15-10:05 in room. I encourage you to join us for the forums and ask questions! Forum participants will be asked to provide written feedback about each candidate. Your feedback will be used to help committee members shape their final recommendation. Hope to see you at the Public Forums!

~ Barb Mollberg

CHRO Search Committee, Chair



Nakoma Volkman on Campus Jan. 26th!

Renowned Native American artist, Nakoma Volkman will present on campus on January 26th, 2009 in room CF206/208 from 5:30-7:00pm. His visit is made possible by a grant from IBM, and it is sponsored by the Honors Club. Also attending will be my HUM 1990 class, Native American Studies.

There is no charge for admission and all interested students, faculty and community members are invited to attend.

~ Bob Sanborn

ENJOY THE 3-DAY HOLIDAY WEEKEND!



SUPALLA'S SCRIBBLINGS



For the first time in a long time I've heard folks say, "We're having an old-fashioned Minnesota winter." One of those winters of never-ending snow, bitter cold and biting winds. As the ditches fill with snow and huge piles ring the campus parking lots, it makes it more challenging for plowing crews to keep the roads open and parking lots clear. When inclement weather strikes, be sure to check media sources for class cancellation or campus closure notification.



Preliminary enrollment numbers for spring semester continue to show the largest year-to-year increase in several years. In the middle of the first week of classes, 5,651 students have registered for 61,282 credits (4085.5 FTE). It's likely that when official tenth day numbers are in, both headcount and credits sold could be up between five and seven percent. Applications for the next academic year are currently up more than 15 percent over this same time last year. Thanks to all who've worked hard to grow our enrollments and assure that there are sufficient classes available to meet demand.

The Governor's State-of-the-State Address leads one to believe that when the February biennial budget forecast is released in mid-February, the Legislature could be grappling with the largest deficit in state history. If current estimates are correct, the state could be looking at a biennial deficit between \$5-7 billion. Such a deficit will almost certainly mean both MnSCU and the University of Minnesota will be faced with decreasing state appropriations. For MnSCU, a decrease in state funding would come at a time when it appears the Board of Trustees doesn't have an appetite for the successive double-digit tuition increases that helped colleges and universities weather previous state appropriation losses. In an effort to keep students and staff apprised of the situation, President Ramaley and I have scheduled a joint RCTC/WSU "Listening Session" from 10-11:30 a.m., February 19 in Hill Theatre. Session reminders will be sent as the date nears.

On January 13, Jean Jech and I shared a Foundation and college update with die-hard retirees who haven't headed south. A good turnout of retirees, some who left our employment in the last five days and some who've been retired for more than two decades, gathered for breakfast at the Real Life Retirement complex to swap stories, share personal updates and learn about campus happenings. These retirees are justly proud of their service, hungry for information about what's happening on campus today and very pleased that you're continuing their legacy.

In light of Minnesota's rapidly diversifying population, MnSCU is taking additional steps to encourage more students of color and low-income students to attend college. A new brochure, "Make College a Part of Your Future," a related wall poster and Web site, yesyoucan.mnscu.edu, are intended to answer common questions about college. The materials and Web site are available in English and eight other languages – Dakota, French, Hmong, Ojibwe, Russian, Somali, Spanish and Vietnamese. If you'd like a supply of these materials for distribution to prospective or current students, please let Judy Kingsbury know the number you'd like in each of these nine formats. Judy will be submitting an RCTC order soon.

The migration to the Oracle database from RDB is a pivotal system-wide project and is a platform dependency relied upon by many other information technology projects. The project team has been working to determine the best time to make the transition – a time strategically selected as the least intrusive upon core student services and related functions including financial aid, registration, other high-priority updates and least disruptive of our teaching and learning community. It's expected that the conversion to Oracle will take from 1-3 days. Thus, the migration is currently scheduled to occur during the President's Day holiday weekend. The project team will be ramping up communications dramatically in the coming weeks to make certain that system constituencies know how this migration will progress.

The National Endowment for the Arts recently shared some rare good news about reading in the United States. From 2002 to 2008, the percentage of adult Americans who read literature (defined as fiction, poetry and plays) grew from 46.7 percent to 50.2 percent. That jump departs from an overall downward trend dating to 1982, when the agency began its periodic surveys. Young adults, long an object for reading advocates, came off well in the survey. The 18-to-24-year-old cohort showed "a particularly inspiring transformation from a 20-percent decline in 2002 to a 21-percent increase in 2008 – a startling level of change."

Thought for the week...

Take the first step in faith. You don't have to see the whole staircase. Just take the first step.

-- Dr. Martin Luther King

Enjoy the weekend warm-up, drive safe, and celebrate the legacy of Dr. King on Monday. Don't forget the upcoming "Chat with the President" on Thursday, January 22 in the third floor Atrium.

~ Don

NEED HELP WITH...

Student Assessment?

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



Martial Arts Club

RCTC Martial Arts Club meets on Mondays from 6:00-9:00 PM in SC 108, and Thursdays from 8:00-10:00 PM in SC108. Learn kickboxing, jiu-jitsu, and more. No experience needed. Come train with us for a month and get a FREE club T-shirt!

Snapshots at jasonlove.com



"If he says 'got milk,' I'm gonna kick him."

Employee News

We are delighted to announce that Rosemary Hicks (Director of Financial Aid) has become a grandmother for the third time. Allie Rose Hicks, was born to Rosemary's son (Mic) and daughter-in-law (Jill) on Monday, January 12, 2009, weighing in at 6 lbs 5.7 oz and 19 inches long. Welcome Allie Rose Hicks to the RCTC Family!

Thank You

Thank you for your kind expression of sympathy for the loss of my mother.

~ Earlene Hackenmiller

Employee News

Kenyatta Kruetzfeld, daughter of Rebecca Kruetzfeldt (Information Technology Specialist), recently won a Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Poetry Contest (*poem below*). Ten recipients were chosen out of the 170 contestants (one from each third through twelfth grade), and Kenyatta was top in the entire 5th grade in Olmsted County. She was recently interviewed by Nickelodeon and the interview will air on the Nickelodeon Channel's "Nick News" on February 8, 2009. More details will be announced in an upcoming Rochester Post Bulletin article. Congratulations, Kenyatta! We are all very proud of you!

I Am ~ By Kenyatta Kruetzfeldt

I am a believer in civil rights
I wonder if we will ever be treated equally
I hear prejudicial words still today
I see America will have its first African American president
I want there to be no more racism
I am a proud African American

I pretend not to hear prejudicial comments
I feel sad for ignorant people
I touch others with my beauty
I worry about how I will be treated when I get older
I cry when I think of what my people had to go through
I am a very proud African American

I understand I will have to work harder through life
I say "I will persevere"
I dream that I can be anything I want to be
I try to treat others the way I want to be treated
I hope I will be judged by the content of my character
I am and will always be a proud African American

Student Success Day Volunteers Needed

Student Registration: This job requires that you greet students as they enter the Atrium and register them for the day. Generally, you will take their ID, enter them into the computer, and hand out tickets.

Session Moderation: This job requires that you take student tickets for a specific session, take a head count of attendees at the session, and hand out prizes at the end of the session. Lunch: See to the smooth circulation of students during the provided lunch. You will be taking tickets and handing out prizes. Please let me know soon if you would like to be added to my list of awesome people (aka: volunteers).

~Jamie Parkin, Psychology Instructor



Only 70 days 'till the first day of spring!

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.

Educational Technology News

The Teaching and Learning and Technology divisions of RCTC jointly announce a change in organizational structure as of Monday January 12, 2009. The Educational Technology department—responsible for the academic technology support, online/distance learning resources, internal training and instructional content development—will be part of the Technology Division of the College.

With the creation of a unified technical support center in the Technology Support Center, and the commitment to develop cross-functionality within IT/Media Services/ITV and Educational Technology, the change brings together truly complementary resources and services.

IT will maintain its valuable alliance with Teaching & Learning , with the goals of continuing to provide exceptional customer service and always meeting the instructional technology needs of faculty, students and staff.

Please join us in celebrating this exciting development, and feel free to send any questions or comments.

*~Scott Sahs, Chief Information Officer
~Mike Bequette, Chief Academic Officer*

New Employee in TSC

I am pleased to introduce Jesse Krusmark as a new staff member in the Technology Support Center. Jesse has been hired to provide technical support to students, faculty and staff in the Technology Support Center (TSC) and is instrumental in our goal of increasing hours of service and expertise. Jesse has been with RCTC in a variety of roles including intermittent in Media Services and ITV, offering exceptional customer service and technical assistance. Today is his first day on the job, so please welcome him if you have an opportunity. We are delighted to have Jesse as a part of the TSC support staff at RCTC, and are excited about his addition to our institution.

~Scott Sahs, Chief Information Officer

Sales Tax Increase

Sales Tax Increase Effective July 1, 2009 - Those of you who are doing budgets and trying to project revenue from taxable sales should be aware that the state general sales tax rate will increase to 6.875 % on July 1. With the addition of the 0.5 % local sales tax in Rochester, the sales tax rate in Rochester will be 7.375 %.