



# College Crossings

Rochester Community and Technical College

January 21, 2008  
Volume 13, Issue 17

SPRING SEMESTER EDITION

## Inside this Issue

- Service Learning – Pg 2
- Scholarships – Pg 2
- Scribblings – Pg 3
- Food Service – Pg 4
- Minutes – Pgs 5-6

Event Schedule – click below  
[R25](#)

## Attachments

(CLICK on links below to read)

- ❖ Marty Leonard Benefit
- ❖ Campus Incident Report
- ❖ Mailbox Changes
- ❖ Guatemala Trip Poster
- ❖ Guatemala Trip Calendar

## Meeting Minutes

Click below:

[http://www.rctc.edu/intra/html/meeting\\_minutes.html](http://www.rctc.edu/intra/html/meeting_minutes.html)

## Dean's List

Excellence in scholastic achievement is recognized each semester by compiling a Dean's List. Students successfully completing at least 12 college-level credits with grade points, as well as a minimum term grade point average of 3.0 or better qualify for the Dean's List. Credits for P and grades of I, AU, CR and W are excluded from the count. Letters of congratulations are sent to students receiving a GPA of 3.5 and above. The Dean's List is posted in the Admissions and Records area and at the Heintz Center, as well as distributed to listing can also be downloaded by going to:



<http://www.rctc.edu/about/html/Deans-list.html>.

Congratulations to all who made the list! There are 1,232 students who made the Dean's List for Fall, 2007.

- \* 4.0: 269 students
- \* 3.5 - 4.99: 436 students
- \* 3.0-3.49: 527 students

Questions regarding the Dean's List can be directed to Roxy Roadway in the Office of the Vice President of Student Development Services at (507) 285-7127 or by e-mail at: [roxy.roadway@roch.edu](mailto:roxy.roadway@roch.edu).

## Service Learning Info Fair

We are excited to offer another opportunity for students and instructors to learn about community agencies and programs during a **western theme "SERVICE LEARNING INFO FAIR"**

**on Tuesday, January 29, 2008 from 10 AM – 1 PM in the RCTC Atrium.**

Various community organizations will have a display and brochures about their programs and opportunities for students to volunteer. If you are requiring Service Learning as part of your curriculum, this is a chance for students to learn more about opportunities they could learn from while serving the community. If you have not yet decided on Service Learning curriculum, contact Lynn Guenette, 280-2928 or [lynn.guenette@roch.edu](mailto:lynn.guenette@roch.edu) or the RCTC Service Learning web site, <http://www.rctc.edu/servicelearning/> to learn more.



**Attitudes are contagious. Are yours worth catching?**  
~Dennis and Wendy Mannerig

Weekly Funny

Snapshots at jasonlove.com



Just when all hope was lost, Kirby happened upon a vision shared by all homeless cuckoo birds -- the abandoned clock.

**Scholarships**

Details of Scholarships and Applications for the 2008-2009 college year are now available at the RCTC Foundation Office (HC 109), RCTC Counseling and Career Center (SS 133) and on the RCTC web site at [www.rctc.edu/foundation/html/scholarships.html](http://www.rctc.edu/foundation/html/scholarships.html). The RCTC Foundation is proud to announce that over 200 scholarships are available to qualifying RCTC future, returning, and graduating RCTC students for the upcoming academic year. Scholarships have a variety of criteria to accommodate the needs of a multitude of students and amounts range from \$200 to \$2500. Visit the Foundation office, Counseling Center, or RCTC website today. Application deadline is Saturday, March 15, 2008. Please share this information with students and encourage them to contact the Foundation Office at 507-281-7771, [jean.jech@roch.edu](mailto:jean.jech@roch.edu) or visit the Foundation Office with any questions they may have.

~ Jean Jech

**Congratulations!**

Congratulations to Jamie Malcore Tjossem...Jamie (Biology Instructor) and Logan Tjossem were married during a private ceremony at their home in Rochester on Monday, December 31, 2007. We wish you the best!



**D2L Statement**

The Teach Act requires that the following or a similar statement be posted on distance education websites including all RCTC classes using D2L. To assure RCTC compliance with Teach Act regulations, please include the following onto your D2L sites:

**Copyright Notice to Students:**

Materials used in connection with this course may be subject to copyright protection. Retention of the materials for longer than the class term, unauthorized further dissemination of the materials, or use of copyrighted materials in any way other than intended for this class is prohibited by Copyright and Teach Act laws.

~ Dale Pedersen

**Student Life Newsletter**

Student Life is publishing a new weekly newsletter covering RCTC Student Life events and activities. Please send any student-related information, along with your logo, graphics, pictures, etc., you would like published in our weekly online newsletter to Gordon Runkle, Student Life Volunteer, at [gordon.runkle@roch.edu](mailto:gordon.runkle@roch.edu)

**Club Meeting**

RCTC Martial Arts Club trains from 7-9pm in SC108 (the wrestling room in the Sports Center). Come learn street effective martial arts in a relaxed atmosphere. We do boxing, kickboxing, Brazilian jujitsu, and more.

**Service Learning – Flood Relief Fundraiser**

Savvy Singles of Rochester is excited to host a Speed Dating event at the Mayo Civic Center Ballroom on Valentine's Day, Thursday February 14th starting at 6:30 P.M.



Love finds the person who is easy to find. What is Speed Dating? The basic concept of these mini-dates is musical chairs with chemistry. It combines a glimpse of personality and a chance to ask a few questions of each "date." It's an excellent opportunity to meet many of Rochester's best eligible bachelors and bachelorettes.

Tickets are available for \$20. You must pre-register and pay in advance. For tickets or more information visit [www.savvysingle.net](http://www.savvysingle.net) or e-mail [jtopness@charter.net](mailto:jtopness@charter.net) or [Lguenet@aol.com](mailto:Lguenet@aol.com)

All proceeds will be donated to the Houston Flood Relief Fund.

Sponsored by the RCTC Service Learning Program.

## Supalla Scribblings

This week, MnSCU Chancellor McCormick recommended the lowest tuition increases for state colleges and universities since 1998. Tuition rates would go up an average of 2 percent at the two-year colleges and 3 percent at the state universities beginning fall, 2008. The recommendation follows direction from the Board of Trustees last year to keep tuition increases as low as possible while enhancing the already high quality of the system's 3,700 programs. Under the recommendation, tuition and fee increases would range from \$72 a year to \$238 a year, depending on the institution. System officials worked closely with each college and university to develop the chancellor's recommendation. Tuition rates vary due to program offerings, local market conditions and other factors. The increases would bring the average tuition to \$4,080 for a full-time two-year college student and \$5,561 for a full-time state university student in the 2008-2009 academic year. Overall, tuition and fees for the system's 32 colleges and universities would rise an average of 2.7 percent or \$129 to \$4,849. The Board of Trustees is expected to act on the recommendation at its March meeting. "We are grateful that strong financial support from the Legislature and governor, along with some significant cost cutting throughout the system to improve efficiency, allowed us to propose such a modest increase," said Chancellor James H. McCormick. "We also know that even this small increase will strain some students, requiring them to juggle studies and long hours of work to meet their career goals. "Several of our colleges and universities have had to make some tough decisions about programs with extremely low enrollments. I commend them for carefully analyzing how best to meet the needs of their students and communities," McCormick said. "I'm clear that our colleges and universities continue to offer the greatest value of higher education in the state." Included in the chancellor's recommendation is an \$83 annual tuition increase for RCTC; and a \$163 annual tuition and fee increase. RCTC has proposed increases in both the technology and parking fees for the upcoming year.



Earlier this week, Governor Pawlenty announced his capital bonding priorities for the upcoming legislative session. He was very generous to transportation (roads, bridges, etc.), earmarking 40% of his total recommendation for such projects. Already, several legislators have been critical of the recommendation, noting that they believe he short-changed higher education. In essence, when you factor in the real state money (recommendation less user financing), MnSCU's recommendation was less than a third of the system office request and less than the amount recommended for the University of Minnesota. Four million dollars for the Regional Public Safety Training Center is the only Rochester project included in the Governor's recommendation. Remember, this is only the Governor's recommendation and the final bill will certainly look different than his list. But, MnSCU certainly has some serious work to do to boost the final appropriation.

Three student leaders joined Beth Arntson, Dave Weber, Stan Cram, Mike and Mary Jo Bequette, Scott Krook and me at last Friday evening's inaugural Minnesota State College Student Association Leadership Scholarship Dinner at the Bloomington Sheraton. The social and silent auction hour was followed by a dinner, speakers and the awarding of seven scholarships. The Rochester delegation braved treacherous roads but returned home with some nice silent auction purchases. MnSCU's two-year student association plans on repeating the event annually.

A Presidents' Review Committee has been established that will assist the Chancellor in identifying the key principles important in providing new incentives through the allocation (state funding) framework. The committee has been charged with determining ways to enhance the model given the changing higher education environment within a local, regional and state perspective. President Judith Ramaley has been named co-chair and will represent the southern Minnesota colleges and universities.

Data privacy law currently prevents MnSCU officials from telling parents when their children get into minor trouble with alcohol and drugs on campus. After the death of a St. Cloud State University student over the holidays, and several Minnesota student deaths in 2007, MnSCU wants to change the law. Representative Paul Marquart has said he would introduce a new notification bill next month when the Legislature convenes. Many college students prefer the law as it is.



*Advice for the week...Research shows that laughter can reduce stress, improve breathing, enhance the immune system and reduce pain. In fact, there are so many health benefits associated with laughter that many people are now joining laughing clubs. Have you had your good laugh for the day?*

You won't see me on campus much the next two weeks (except evenings and weekends) as I'm fulfilling my civic responsibility as a juror. Other members of the leadership cabinet can assist you in an emergency.

Don

### Condolences

Condolences to Shirley Wilson whose father, Sidney Glock, passed away on Friday, January 11, 2008. Our thoughts are with Shirley and her family.

### Taher Food Service

All week At the Heintz Center Cafe: Mexican Grill: featuring Chicken Burritos, \$4.99, Chicken Quesadillas, \$4.59 and Tacos, \$1.69 each. All week at The UCR Cafe: Bowtie Pasta with Tomato Basil Pesto Sauce and Grilled Chicken, \$4.79 and Grilled Beef Panini \$4.89

### Cafe Express Hours Change

Because Friday sales have been very low the Cafe Express will be closed. The Cafe Express will be open Monday - Thursdays 8am to 6pm. We may try and open the Cafe Express on Fridays again in a few weeks. The Main Cafeteria is open 7:30am to 2pm Monday - Friday.

~ Gary Peterson, Food Service Director

### Crossings Classifieds

For Sale: Lhasa-poo mix puppy. Non shedding - hypo allergenic not to mention adorable. 8 weeks old. First shots done! \$100. Contact Missy Hagen at x6126.



Minutes – Pages 5-6

Rochester Community and Technical College
Minnesota State College Faculty (MSCF) Faculty Shared Governance Council
Minutes for Tuesday, November 27, 2007 – 2:00 p.m. – AT109

Present: Administration Bequette, Cram, Hansmann, Supalla
Faculty Gust, Israelson, Marconett, Wright (Chair)
Recorder: Kingsbury

ITEM 1 (A) Search Update – Deferred in Arntson's absence. ACTION: Search Update will be placed back on the agenda for the next meeting.

ITEM 2 (A) AQIP Strategy Priorities – Supalla thanked the four faculty who participated in the recent AQIP Strategy Forum and announced the Team agreed to continue focusing on human resources and student learning assessment; but to replace institutional assessment with a new customer service priority. ACTION: Information Only.

ITEM 3 (A) FY09 Tuition/Fees – Hansmann distributed a budget proposal which reflected a 2% tuition cap and 4% spending cap for FY09. Supalla added consideration is being given at MnSCU to have the salary of the campus presidents paid out of system funding, freeing up some additional funds on each campus. Hansmann also announced the proposal reflects a 50 cent per credit parking fee increase, bringing the total parking fee to \$168.75 for the full year. ACTION: Faculty will forward any concerns/questions to Hansmann.

ITEM 4 (A) IPP Schedule - Tentative – Hansmann distributed a tentative schedule for the 2009 IPP process. Hansmann also announced plans to add the repair and replacement budget, auxiliary enterprise, and staffing requests to the IPP process so the information is available to everyone for viewing. Hansmann also announced the mid-year reporting for the FY08 IPPs will be due in January in order to free up unneeded dollars to fund IPPs previously not funded. Supalla added it would be appreciated if faculty report to their respective Deans the status of any unused capital equipment funds previously approved to provide an opportunity to reassign the dollars to other areas. ACTION: Information Only.

ITEM 1 (F) Stadium Scheduling – Marconett announced the coaches are unclear as to the process for scheduling and charging for the stadium once complete, and requested clarification. Hansmann responded the College has a joint powers agreement with the City of Rochester to build the facility on the UCR Campus; but the facility is owned by the College because it is located on state property. Hansmann added the facility will be operated as an auxiliary enterprise with expenses being paid by revenue generated. Hansmann clarified the differences between the Sports Center and the Stadium, noting the Sports Center will never break even because RCTC doesn't charge for space used for classrooms and faculty offices; but it was agreed the Stadium will be charging rent for all use in order for the operation to be self-sufficient and generate enough funds for necessary replacements in the future. Hansmann confirmed RCTC will contribute \$50,000 to the annual stadium operating budget. Usage of the facility by the College will initially come out of that account, but eventually departments will need to budget for use exceeding the \$50,000 annual contribution. The cost is estimated to be \$850 per game (\$350 per hour) for rental of the bubble (figures that came from a feasibility study). Supalla added there is an advisory task force being formed (representatives from both the City and the College) to bring forward a recommendation for the final rates. ACTION: Information Only.

ITEM 5 (A) One Class At A Time (OCAAT)- Bequette announced the Teaching and Learning Committee is contemplating an online pilot (similar to what Cornell College has been doing for some 15 years in a face-to-face format) to provide instruction in tight time frames/blocks of 18 days in length. (Science courses would be a little longer.) The concept schedules classes for students one class at a time, and RCTC's proposal would provide an opportunity to distinguish RCTC's online AA degree. Bequette distributed a draft copy of what a schedule may look like for a student. Consideration is also being made to offering this opportunity at a flat tuition rate, which might also include the cost of books for the courses. Cram requested the committee consider all the financial aid implications that may result from this schedule. Bequette announced plans are underway to launch the new program in the Fall of 2008. Wright questioned if the accrediting agency will question whether RCTC is selling credits or is there some time commitment of the students equal to that for the other courses, noting even the hybrid classes have a calculation that a credit is so many hours. Bequette responded he did not think this would be an issue

with the Higher Learning Commission. Israelson added it sounded similar to summer session offerings being concentrated to fit in a shorter schedule. Wright questioned if a faculty member teaching the English 1117 course would fill the rest of their credit load with regular classes. Bequette proposed the faculty member would be assigned all four English 1117 courses for the semester. Initially the courses might have an enrollment maximum of 20 students, and Bequette added consideration is being given to faculty teaching 3-credit courses to be given the remaining three credits in release in order to work as a cohort of faculty to assess and refine the pilot. Gust noted OCAAT appeared to be similar to the accelerated programs offered at other institutions. Bequette responded the committee does not believe it should be considered an accelerated program, in that students would not be able to earn an AA any faster than two years. Gust questioned why it should be different from faculty who are already teaching online with no credit release. Israelson also questioned if the faculty teaching 4-credit courses would be given the same 3 credit release. Bequette responded it would be considered or paid with four credits overload. Other concerns raised include the fulfillment of physical education credits for the programs and who would be selecting the faculty to teach. ACTION: Further discussion/consideration of the proposal will be held within Leadership Council before final presentation to the faculty.

**ITEM 2 (F) Spring 2009 Schedule Timeline** – Israelson questioned if there was a submission deadline for the Spring 2009 schedule, and questioned (given the class cancellation issues) whether it would be effective to delay the schedule until it can be determined which Spring 2008 classes will be cancelled for low enrollment. Bequette responded the class cancellation decisions will be made prior to the deadline submission for Spring 2009. Wright also questioned how the class cancellation will affect the three STAR sessions scheduled in January. Bequette responded the average enrollment in the classes cancelled are 5.5 students; hence should not affect the STAR sessions. ACTION: Information Only.

**ITEM 6 (A) December Meeting** – It was noted the December meeting is currently scheduled during the winter break. ACTION: The December meeting is cancelled, and any pressing issues will be resolved through discussions between Wright and Supalla.

Adjourned at 3:10 p.m.

<b>NEXT MEETING:</b> January 29, 2008 – 2:00 p.m. – AT109
---