



College Crossings

Rochester Community and Technical College

February 4, 2008
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SPRING SEMESTER EDITION

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Attachments

(CLICK on links below to read)

- ❖ Student Success Day
- ❖ Writing Well in the Working World
- ❖ Guatemala Trip Poster
- ❖ Guatemala Trip Calendar

Meeting Minutes

Click below:

http://www.rctc.edu/intra/html/meeting_minutes.html

Student Success Day

Howdy Partners...It's time to wrestle up some students for a little cow- poke training. Student Success Day is happening on Thursday, February 7th. Students are encouraged to meet with their instructors, learn some new skills, or participate in program specific events. Be sure to check out the full schedule attached to the *Crossings* or at <http://www.rctc.edu/successday> for a complete listing of sessions and their descriptions.

We hope to see you there!

Saddle Up For Success!



Get Your Tickets!

It's time again for the annual BUM Club Raffle. We have many nice prizes from a battery operated drill to gift certificates. The cost is \$5.00 per ticket (and you can buy as many tickets as you want - until we are out - we only made 600 tickets). If you would like to purchase a ticket(s) and help out the BUM students, stop by and see me in HB111B, call me at x3130, or send me the money and I'll send you the ticket. Thank you from the BUM Club Students.

~ Tom Soltau (Head BUM Clubber)

Workshop Rescheduled

The Voice-Thread Workshop that was canceled due to the closing of the campus last Tuesday has been rescheduled for:

Voice-Thread Workshop - Tuesday, February 12 from 2:00-2:50 in GL-132
Co-lead by Kevin Dobbe and Missy Hagen

Interested in using a multimedia based WIKI? Come check it out...Headphone/Mics will be given to each attendee

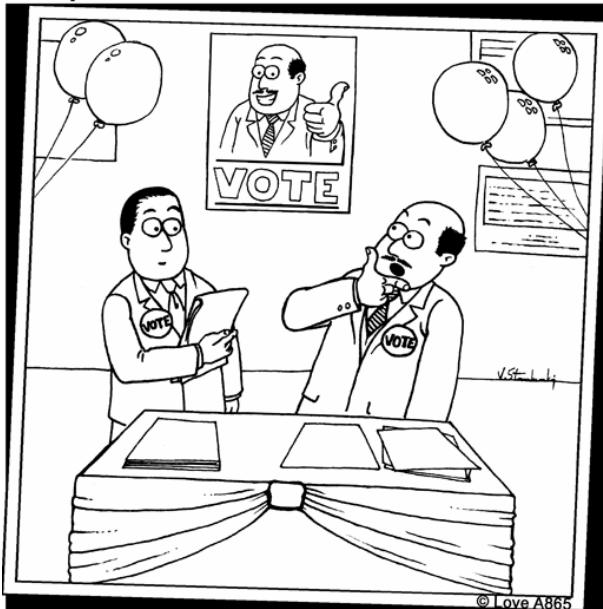
~ Kevin Dobbe

RCTC-LTL (Learning Technology Liaison)

Happiness is never stopping to think if you are.
~Palmer Sondreal

Weekly Funny

Snapshots at jasonlove.com



"I haven't done anything for the unemployed. Can we say I've created 'countless' jobs?"

Foliage Plant Sale

Heintz Center Greenhouse

SALE HOURS:

- Mon. Feb. 4: 10 - 4
- Tues. Feb. 5: 11 - 2
- Wed. Feb. 6: 10:30 - noon
- Fri. Feb. 8: 9 - noon



Club Meeting

Martial Arts Club meets Wednesdays from 7-9pm in SC108.

Duplicating Hours

Presidents Day, Monday, February 18th - 10:00am - 6:00pm

Congratulations!

We are delighted to announce the arrival of a new grandson to Beth Arntson (Chief Human Resources Officer). Julian Edward Sell was born to Beth's daughter (Abbey) and son-in-law (Travis) on Monday, January 21, 2008. Julian weighted in at 8 lbs and was 20 1/2 inches long.

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. Tickets are available for \$20. **You must pre-register and pay in advance.** For tickets or more information visit <http://www.savvysingle.net> or e-mail Jtopness@charter.net or Lguenet@aol.com All proceeds will be donated to the Houston Flood Relief Fund. Sponsored by the RCTC Service Learning Program.



Thank You

Words can not express how grateful I am that Marty works with such a generous group of people. Your prayers, gifts, and friendship have helped our family beyond belief. Marty gets stronger everyday and will hopefully be back working with you soon. Thank you so much for everything.

~Ann Leonard (wife of Marty Leonard)

Supalla Scribblings



Next Tuesday, Minnesota joins almost two dozen states holding primaries or caucuses. This is a reminder that on Super Tuesday, February 5, no classes will be held after 6 p.m. I invite you to attend a caucus and to encourage your students to join in this important civic engagement activity. The 2008 session of the Minnesota Legislature convenes at noon on February 12. This year Governor Pawlenty will deliver his State of the State Address from St. Cloud on February 13. Constituents are anxiously awaiting release of the February state budget forecast, which many are speculating will not be fiscally rosy. The college will be well represented at Rochester on Tour (at the Capitol) on March 12. If things progress as expected, the legislature should conclude the session in May. Stay tuned.

Access and affordability have always been a focus of Minnesota State Colleges and Universities and RCTC.

Recently the Making Opportunity Affordable organization released a state-by-state “Adding It Up: State Challenges for Increasing College Access and Success” report that revealed some eye-opening information. *For years, the U.S. has led the world in the percentage of adults possessing a college degree. This leadership has propelled the national economy to unprecedented levels, harnessing knowledge to drive innovation and improve social mobility. But the nation’s competitive edge is slipping away:*

- *According to the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, the U.S. now ranks tenth among industrialized nations in the percentage of 25-34 year olds with an Associate’s degree or higher, and stands as one of the only nations where older adults are more educated than younger adults.*
- *The organization’s data show that the U.S. ranks near the bottom of industrialized nations in the percentage of entering students that complete a degree program.*
- *According to the U.S. Census, disparities in educational attainment persist across racial and ethnic groups, even as the nation’s population becomes more diverse. Today, 42 percent of whites ages 25-64 have an Associate’s degree or higher, compared with 26 percent of African Americans and 18 percent of Hispanics. Looking ahead, the U.S. will have to ramp up just to keep up when it comes to degree production.*

Minnesota’s civic health, prosperity, and success in creating good jobs for citizens depends on its ability to increase college success for all students, including low-income and first generation college-goers, adult learners, and students of color. Today, Minnesota is among the best-performing states in the nation in the percentage of adults 25-64 who have a college degree. However, this still leaves the state short of the college-educated population needed to meet workforce demands and complete with the best performing nations. To expand its college-educated population, Minnesota must pay special attention to projected demographic changes, especially an overall decline in its college-age population. Minnesota must address the racial and ethnic disparities in the percentage of college-educated adults, particularly with respect to Hispanics and African Americans. Minnesota currently stands a one of the best-performing states in the nation in the percentage of students completing high school and in the percentage of recent high school graduates going on to college. Further along the pipeline, Minnesota must increase the proportion of students completing both two- and four-year college programs to be competitive with best performing states and nations by 2025. You can access the entire report at www.makingopportunityaffordable.org.

Campus Kudos...

- Once again, RCTC nursing students did very well on recent State Board tests. Ninety-six percent of the RCTC Associate Degree nursing graduates, and 89 percent of the Licensed Practical nurse graduates passed the exam. A higher percentage of RCTC Associate Degree nurses passed the exam than graduates from Winona State, the University of Minnesota or St. Cloud State University. Congratulations to students, faculty and staff!
- Thanks to Honors Program faculty members Bob Sanborn and Kristin Buck who coordinated a wonderful presentation by Nakoma Volkman, Lakota native. The informational presentation gave the full-house crowd plenty to ponder. Nakoma’s reminder that we must care for the world, our family, and others served as a wonderful New Year’s resolution.
- Dave Weber has been invited to deliver a break-out session at the 2008 University of Minnesota Quality Fair. Dave’s presentation, on January 31, at the McNamara Alumni Center in the Twin Cities is entitled, “How Other Schools Measure Accountability Inside and Outside the Classroom.”
- Thank you to those that recognized a colleague in need and stepped up to help out Marty Leonard. Collectively, you contributed more than \$1600 in the “Money for Marty” campaign. You now have a second opportunity to help out through the State’s Vacation Donation Program. Staff may donate up to 12 hours of vacation and faculty may donate up to a day and a half of personal leave per year. The Vacation Donation Contribution Form is available on the J Drive or in the Human Resources Office. What a wonderful opportunity this is to keep Marty on payroll and with health insurance.

An Anonymous Thought for the Week...*How good is hot chocolate? You can only know if you have been outside, sledding, careening down hill about as fast as you ever want to go, until you’ve gone until you just cannot climb the hill even one more time, until you realize that your clothes are drenched, and coldness has gripped through your skin down to your very core, until you drag yourself to the kitchen, to warmth and sustenance and light. That’s how good hot chocolate is.*

Splurge...treat yourself to sledding and hot chocolate!

~Don

