Another Successful Beat the Odds
On January 25, 2007 over 300 people attended the 7th Annual Beat the Odds scholarship fundraising event at the Kahler Grand Hotel. Attendees were treated to a social hour including opportunities to bid on silent auction gifts and buy raffle tickets to win Dom Perignon champagne or diamond solitaire earrings.

Kathy Richardson, Upward Bound academic advisor was the lucky winner of the diamond earrings, valued at over $2600. Special thanks to Bob Church and Lasker Jewelers for again donating such a fabulous prize.

All proceeds benefit Rochester Community and Technical College Foundation and scholarships. This year $15,000 of scholarships was awarded area students who struggled in difficult situations but stayed on track to graduate from high school with plans for college in the fall. A gracious thank you to all RCTC staff who worked hard to pull off another wonderful evening.

Academic Accolades
Dr. Pam Whitfield (English) will be presenting at two conferences this spring. First, in April, she will be on a panel discussing new faculty development at the College English Association (New Orleans); her talk is titled “Developing Professional Identity Through Collaboration.” And in June, she is chairing a panel called “Women and Academic Leadership” at the National Women’s Studies Association (St. Charles, IL). Both panels are designed to jumpstart a collaborative project she has been working on with colleagues nationwide: a guide to prof development for junior (esp female) faculty. Pam reports that no such guide currently exists with a feminist/collaboration/English dept focus. Way to go, Pam!

A reminder—if you present at a national or regional conference, you are eligible for extra funding for the trip. Contact David Atwood (Professional Development chair) for more information.

Graduation Application Deadline
The Spring and Summer Graduation Application Deadline is: Thursday, February 22, 2007. Graduation applications are located online @ http://www.rctc.edu/admissions/html/graduation_application.html or may be picked up in the Admissions & Records Office. A separate application is required for each major/award. Incomplete applications will be returned to the student. Questions may be directed to the Admissions Office.
Weekly funny…

"I'm looking for the Middle of Nowhere."

Snapshots at jasonlove.com

Crossings Classifieds

For Sale: Treadmill: Proform Crosswalk GTS. Includes, incline, arm resistance handles, motorized belt, 2 storage/beverage holders; Electronic Indicators of time, distance, fat cal, speed. Very Minimal Use. $350. Contact Jen at X7233 or Jen.Bruce@roch.edu.

Marketing Fact

In the Fall of 2005, 399 students were enrolled in Developmental English (0910 or 0980). 285 of those students were still enrolled at RCTC in the Spring of 2006. 195 of those completed a College-level English Class that spring. 127 of those passed their College-level English class with an A, B, or C.

Upcoming Benefits for RCTC Family

Mark your calendars for two important benefits for members of our RCTC Family:

Heather Hoffman Benefit - Sunday, February 11, 2007 - 11:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. - Eyota American Legion (see attached flier)

Heather Hoffman (daughter of Rose Conway, Counseling Receptionist/Secretary) has been diagnosed with bone cancer. The benefit includes Chili and Chicken Noodle Soup, silent auction, bake sale, and a live auction beginning at 2:00 p.m.

Danielle Hucke Benefit - Saturday, February 17, 2007 - Noon - 5:00 p.m. - Byron Middle School (see attached flier)

Danielle Hucke, daughter of Steve (Physical Education Instructor and Coach) and Dawn Hucke, was diagnosed with Ewing's Sarcoma back in May. She is currently undergoing chemotherapy and radiation treatments. The benefit includes a meal, carnival/entertainment, and a silent auction.

Please remember these individuals and their families, and consider attending the event and/or making a donation to their benefits.

Anyone wishing to make a donation should make their checks payable to:

Helping Hearts and Hands for Heather - For Heather's Benefit
Christ Lutheran Church % Danielle Hucke Benefit - For Danielle's Benefit

Judy Kingsbury in the President’s Office will be collecting donations through Monday, February 5, 2007. Please either drop them off to her in SS202, or send them through intercampus mail to Box 1.

Mayo Clinic Blood Drive

Monday, February 12
8:30 - 3:30 in AT302

Walk-ins are welcome. If you prefer an appointment, please call 284-4475. For more information on blood donation, visit http://www.mayoclinic.org/donateblood

Please encourage students to donate!

Flowers for your Valentine!

Wednesday, Feb. 14
11am to 4pm

Horticulture Technology Center at the Heintz Center
Variety of arrangements available with a price range of $5 to $30

Way to Go Echo Staff!

On Jan. 26, the Echo earned two prestigious awards from the Minnesota Newspaper Association's Better College Newspaper Contest: first place, General Excellence and first place, Cartoons (awarded to Megan Knauer, staff cartoonist). The staff is very proud to achieve such recognition from the MNA, and they look forward to carrying on such quality journalism into the future. If you see any of the Echo staff around campus, please offer them congratulations on their success.
Plan Ahead ~ Scholarship Time!
Once again it is scholarship application time. That time of year when savvy students begin to think about Fall Semester 2007 and remember that they can apply for scholarships now to help pay for tuition then! We have many very generous scholarships available for students who will be entering RCTC in the fall, returning as second year students or graduating this spring and heading to another institution in the fall.

Please encourage your students to seek out scholarship information and apply. Applications are available at http://www.rctc.edu/foundation or in the counseling office. DEADLINE: March 15, 2007 APPLY EARLY AND BE ENTERED TO WIN PRIZE! All Scholarships applications received before February 28th, 2007 will be entered in a drawing for a $25.00 Gift Certificate at Chipotle’s.

Club Meetings
RCTC Martial Arts Club meets Monday and Wednesday (2/5 and 2/7) from 8-10pm in SC108.

Circle of Friends meets Wednesday, 2/7, from 11am-12pm in EA123.

Philosophy Club meets Monday, 2/5, from 6:30-7:30-pm in CC408.

Art Opening
Please Join us on Tuesday, Feb 6th, from 6:30 PM -8:00 PM in the UCR Art Gallery across from the Hill Theater for our latest exhibition featuring the paintings of David Rich. Questions and Answers will be at 7:00 PM. David Rich is a Twin Cities artist who has been a painting professor at the Minneapolis College of Art and Design for over the past twenty years.

This exhibition of his newest body of work is titled Local Implications. It combines the physicality and immediacy of urban landscape with the openness and layered improvisation of abstract painting. Configurations of light punctuate dark passages with bold and brilliant color.

David is a passionate artist and a motivated speaker- so please join us! Refreshments will be served

Mark Your Calendar
Retirement Party!!!
32 years of Service
For: Maureen Welder
When: Tuesday, February 27, 2007
Time: 11:30am - 2:00pm
Place: Staff Lounge: Atrium 3rd Floor

Goddard Library ... Favorite Reads!
Show your "LOVE" at Goddard Library by submitting your "Favorite Reads" in person at Goddard Library - or by email to Library@ucr.roch.edu. Submissions will be posted on a display board within the library.