Student Success Day is Just a Week Away!

Get ready for the best Student Success Day yet! “It’s a Jungle Out There!” is the theme. Students will have access to 27 different short sessions on becoming more successful; opportunities to meet with faculty one-on-one; special program activities; plus food, give aways and raffles for two remote control Hummers (proper jungle vehicles!)

A full schedule of Student Success Day sessions and schedule is attached to this week’s Crossings. Please join the planning committee in making this day a valuable one for our students!

Mark Your Calendar!
The RCTC Horticulture Department will have its annual Valentine's Day flower sale on Friday, February 11 from 8am-1pm and Monday February 14 from 2-4pm. The sale will be in the Horticulture Technology Center at the Heintz Center.

UCR Campus Closing Survey Results
Attached to this week’s Crossings are the summaries by institution and demographics. The raw data from the UCR Campus Closing Survey can be viewed on the RCTC Intranet Website. To access those results, please go to:

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

RCTC Professional Development Opportunity
Mark your calendars for the next all college Staff Development day!

WHEN: Wednesday, April 13
TIME: 8 AM - 3 PM
WHERE: Hill Theater
Weekly Funny

“You collect the plants, didn't you?”

Marketing Fact
The most popular career field for community college students nationally is health sciences and technologies (30%), followed by business (17%), and computer and information technology (15%). (AACC, Faces of the Future Survey, 2002)

Crossings Classifieds

PET FOR SALE: Grey/black blend male chinchilla, 1 year old with cage and accessories $200. Call Deb Schloegel at 884-9698 or 280-0932.

GIVE AWAY: 5'x4' bathroom mirror in great condition. You remove, it is yours. Audrey Lidke 288-8726 or work 285-7469 during lunch time.

EVENT NOTICE: Special Event Regarding Global Warming. Friday, February 25, 2005 from 7-9 p.m. at Assisi Heights. Program Name: Heading the Cry of Creation: A Moral Response to Climate Change. Public invited, free will offering, no registration required. For more information: Laurel Panser at 529-6130.

College For Kids
Reminder of Deadline - February 18, 2005 for Course Proposals. If you are interested in teaching or have questions bout College For Kids, July 25-29 for Middle School; Aug 1-5 and 8-12 for grades 3, 4, & 5, please contact Colleen Landherr Maddox (colleen.landherr@roch.edu) by February 18. See attachments for Course Proposal form and information.

Thanks to those who have already submitted proposals. This is going to be an awesome opportunity for community youth!

College For Kids

2005

Condolences

Condolences are extended to Mary Long whose brother-in-law, David Forland, passed away on January 30th. Our thoughts are with Mary and her family.

Condolences are also extended to retiree Edna Gutman whose sister, Lynnette Engh, passed away on February 1st. Our thoughts are with Edna, Ed and their family.

Goddard Library Resources

Goddard Library has added new instruction resources including a new mission statement, instruction handouts for article databases, faculty and staff resources and a virtual library tour. Visit the website at http://www.roch.edu/library and click on Library Instruction to view these updates.
Supalla’s Scribblings

Recently, MnSCU Chancellor Jim McCormick appeared before both the House and Senate budget committees. The message he delivered there is now available for Webcast viewing on the RCTC Intranet. Here is a summary of his remarks. As you visit with legislators, stakeholders, neighbors and others, please remember to share the message that MnSCU is one of Minnesota’s best investments.

The 2005 session is critically important for our future. Between now and May 23, the Legislature and the governor will be deciding how much money to spend on public higher education for the next two years and how much will be designated for our 32 colleges and universities. The 2005 Legislature also will be considering our request for money to keep our buildings safe, well cared for and as up-to-date as possible. Getting the capital budget request approved early in the session is one of our top priorities. The 2005 request is for $292.6 million, which includes $184 million for projects such as science space, laboratories and technology-equipped classrooms. The 2005 capital request has been adjusted to account for construction project inflation of 8.6% in the past year. The other top priority is funding the biennial budget, which our colleges and universities use to operate over the next two years. In Minnesota, funding for higher education is based on student demand. Minnesota law requires that the budget of MnSCU be adjusted every two years to reflect changes in enrollment. When enrollment grows, as it has over the past several years, the law requires the base budget to be adjusted upward; when enrollment declines, the base budget is adjusted downward. This year, the adjustment amounts to $130.8 million, based on our enrollment growth over the past three years. Obtaining this base adjustment is very important to us; these funds are used by the colleges and universities for educational programs and services needed to serve the additional students. Beyond the base adjustment, the Board of Trustees has approved a request for an increase of $66.5 million over our adjusted base budget. This is the smallest requested increase in the system’s history, partly because we recognize the difficult budget position the state is in as it tries to solve a projected $1.4 billion deficit. The details of our proposal are outlined in our budget publication, “Degrees of Excellence,” which is available online at the MnSCU Web site (www.mnscu.edu/media/publications). Please realize that getting the base adjustment and the budget increase we are requesting will not be easy. I will be working as hard as I can to convince the Legislature to invest in MnSCU. I have visited nearly every legislator in his or her home district; with the help of our presidents, we are organizing regional meetings this month for legislators; we are making formal presentations of our budget request to both the House and Senate higher education committees, and we will continue to meet with legislators as the session progresses. We are also working with the faculty, staff and student associations to coordinate our messages and build support for our request. But we will need your help, too. We need you to help us make our case to the people of Minnesota and the officials who represent them in the Legislature. We need you to talk to your legislators and write letters or send emails to them. Tell them how public higher education is a public good that benefits everyone, not just those who participate in it. Tell them how important public higher education is to their local communities and the region they represent, and urge them to support the MnSCU budget request. Minnesota’s most precious resource is its people. As the state’s largest higher education provider, we educate Minnesota; we make it work. Investing in public higher education is a smart investment; the state’s future depends on it.

Chancellor James McCormick

Did you know?

- Marilyn Hansmann and the entire Business Office staff was recognized for the second consecutive year with an “Excellence in Financial Management” award from the Office of the Chancellor. RCTC was one of only 12 colleges and universities recognized for excellence in financial and facilities management. Congratulations!
- Fan Shen’s book, GANG OF ONE, was selected for a Booklist Editors’ Choice award by the American Library Association. Selected by the Books for Youth editors, the book constitutes the year’s best personal reading for teenagers among adult books published in 2004. Way to go, Fan!
Jean Marconett will be recognized on Tuesday, February 8 at the State Capitol with a “Breaking Barriers Award.” The award is presented to individuals who have made a significant contribution to the advancement of opportunities for girls and women in sport. Congratulations on your much-deserved recognition, Jean!

Brenda Nerud and Ellen Kroc hosted a Veterinary Tech national accreditation team last week. The team of doctors, technician and accreditation agency staff spent several days assessing RCTC’s program. The results of the visit will be known when the Commission meets in April. Good job and good luck!

The first installment of spring semester financial aid payments to 2,174 RCTC students was successfully disbursed. In all, $5,422,658.50 was released…and this does not include Mayo Scholarships, TAA or Workforce grants, or other third party awards. Of the $5.4 million disbursed, $3.3 million (62%) was student loans. Nice work, FA team!

Thought for the Week…

”Freedom is the right to be wrong, not the right to do wrong.”

– John G. Riefenbaker

Since Groundhog Punxsutawney Phil predicts six more weeks of winter, enjoy this beautiful February weather, but keep those coats, mittens and hats handy.

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**Upward Bound Summer Positions**

June 6 - July 7, 2005

*Half-day, 8:00 - 12:10, Monday - Thursday, $1500*

**English Composition**, 4-morning classes, same material (one advanced)

**Math Instructor**, 4-morning classes, all levels up to calculus

*1 hour per day, 1:50 - 2:40 PM, Monday - Thursday, $400*

**Science/Marine Biology**, 4-morning classes (one advanced)

Please call Molly Rohe, 280-2931, if you have any questions. Please submit a letter of interest, addressing your qualifications for the position, along with a current resume by March 4, 2005 to: Upward Bound, Box 53

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**ALPHA DELTA KAPPA SCHOLARSHIP: $500**

Available to education majors - **DEADLINE TO APPLY: March 31, 2005.**

**QUALIFICATIONS:**

Accepted into a teacher education program; Enrolled full-time majoring in education for the 2004-05 academic year; 3.0 Cumulative grade point average; Minnesota resident

**LETTER OF APPLICATION TO INCLUDE:**

* Name, address and phone number
* Official copy of all post-secondary transcripts
* Autobiography
* A narrative which addresses: Experiences and activities related to the field of education; goals and accomplishments related to those goals
* Two letters of recommendation

**SEND LETTER OF APPLICATION TO:**

Alpha Delta Kappa Scholarship Committee
Jeanette Bergler, chairperson
615 Toogood CT SW
Rochester, MN  55902