A Look Back...

Twenty-five years ago this month Walter Bateman announced his retirement effective June of 1981. He was an instructor of sociology and anthropology at the College for 34 years. Bateman’s students found that he expected in them the same high standards of intellectual excellence he demanded for himself. Between 1965 and 1990 he published many books, including "How Our Government Began," "How Man Began," "The Kung of the Kalahari," "The Navajo of the Painted Desert," "Man the Culture Builder" and "Open to Question: The Art of Teaching and Learning by Inquiry." In addition, he published over 150 newspaper and magazine articles.

Regional Science Fair

RCTC will host the 48th annual Rochester Regional Science Fair at the Sports Center on March 2 - 3, 2006. There will be over 300 middle school and high school students participating in this event. On Friday, March 3 there will be a noon time presentation to the participants and other ISD 535 students by Roy Cooke, one of the Rocket Boys and author of the book October Sky.

Academic Accolades

Congratulations to two fine poets on our campus. English faculty member James (Scannell) McCormick has recently had one of his poems, "The Sea," published. It appears in the current issue (Spring 2006) of The Water/Stone Review, which comes out of Hamline University.

Lori Stoltz, long-time English adjunct, will be reading four of her poems Friday, February 17 at Ytterboe Hall on the St. Olaf campus. The theme of the poetry reading is "Risking..." and seven MN poets will be reading.

The dental assistant faculty Bonnie Crawford, Carol Schultz and Colleen Hueman and dental hygiene faculty Anne High, Robin Paynter, and Kecia Moldanado and RCTC students in the two programs partnered with the Good Samaritan Dental Clinic to provide free dental services to children ages 3-18 at the RCTC dental clinic on Saturday, February 4, from 8:30 am to 3:30 pm. During this time they provided service for about 50 children with the help of 10 voluntary dentists. The clinic was buzzing with activities as the kids received not only much needed dental services but also goody bags that certainly added to the smiles on their faces. Kudos to the dental faculty and students for all their hard work. They did a terrific job. For more information on the day's activities go to the "Give Kids a Smile Day" article on page 2.
Weekly funny...

Snapshots at jasonlowe.com

"You were doing the speed limit. I found that suspicious."

Marketing Fact
According to RCTC's November, 2005 Survey of Stakeholders, 41% of non-RCTC respondents (excluding RCTC faculty, staff, administrators, and students) over-estimated the average tuition & fees for RCTC students. RCTC faculty, staff, administrators, and students were more accurate with 25% over-estimating the cost.

Crossings Classifieds
Community Event: Alzheimer's Association Southern Minnesota Center is participating in Herberger's Community Day coupon booklet sale on Saturday, March 4, 2006. With each $5 coupon booklet purchase, you will receive a $10 coupon good on Saturday, March 4, 2006, for a purchase of $10 or more. Contact Gerise Thompson, Center Director at 289-3950 for more information or to purchase a booklet.


Give Kids a Smile Day
On Saturday, February 4, 2006 RCTC dental assistant and dental hygiene students and faculty along with the Good Samaritan Dental Clinic Staff participated in providing dental care, both preventive and restorative to the children (ages 3-18) years of the community. They worked in collaboration with 9 voluntary dentists. It was a tremendous effort that was a great success

Services provided: included exams, X-rays, Oral prophylaxis, fluoride treatments, fillings, pit and fissure sealants, composite restorations, endodontic treatments, extractions etc. They treated about 50 patients.

RCTC dental assistant students who participated in give the kids a smile activities: Gena Anway, Jodi Briske, Michelle Brown, Amanda DeOlivera, Christina Dessner, Michelle Eggerts, Laurie Haberman, Emily Laack, Amanda Marcks, Hattie Marx, Elizabeth Naatz, Sarom Ngin, Sarah Nygen, Andrea Olson, Bridget Raymond, Tina Runnells, Dana Schneider, Sarah Schreader.

RCTC dental hygiene students who participated in give the kids a smile day activities: Wendy Ohnsorg, Jody Easton, Amanda Ellison, Camey Fox, Jess Chute, Deb Wallerich, Heather Richardson, Casey Knutson, Alysia Nihart, Kaysie Kuehn, Crystal Otto, Bernadette Sand.

Dentists: Dr. Bernie Bouguet, Dr. Rick Nolting, Dr. Garth West, Dr. Susan Shatkowski, Dr. Sonja Josephs, Dr. Marshall Morris, Dr. Mike Sawyer, Dr. Mark Maguire, Dr. Terry Klampe.

Good Samaritan Dental Clinic Staff: Maureen Johnson, Pam Lawrence.

RCTC Faculty: Bonnie Crawford, Anne High, Colleen Hueman, Kecia Moldanado, Robin Paynter, Carol Schultz.

Valentine's Flower Sale
Tues. Feb. 14th from 8am -2pm
Horticulture Technology Center at the Heintz Center
Prices for all budgets.

It's a BOY!
Congratulations to Sue and Jeff Danielson on the birth of their son, Jack Howard. Jack was born on February 7th and weighed in at 6 lbs., 12 oz. and was 18 ½ inches long.

Graduation Reminder
Please remind your students that Tuesday, February 21 is the deadline for applying for Spring & Summer graduation. Graduation applications may be found online at http://www.rctc.edu/admissions/pdf/Gradapp.pdf or may be picked up in the Admissions Office. A separate application is needed for each major/award. Questions may be directed to the Admissions Office.
I’m writing to you from Central Lakes College where the presidential search team is in the middle of a week of campus visits, forums and interviews. I’m enjoying chairing the search committee, listening to the finalists share their stories, and picking up a few potential ideas that we might want to try at RCTC. As wonderful as I’ve found the citizens, students and staff at Brainerd and Staples, another campus visit is a great way to help one really appreciate the great things I left at home. If all goes as planned, this will be my last visit to Central Lakes until a new president is on board and my mentoring duties begin. I’m looking forward to getting back to Rochester and spending some extended time in the office.

RCTC will once again host the Rochester Regional Science Fair in the UCR Sports Center on March 2 and 3. The performance court will be transformed into a venue where proud students will present and defend their research. I encourage you to drop in between 3:30-5 p.m. on March 3 and check out the work of these talented students. If you find students, parents, judges or the public in need of accommodations, please make them feel welcome. Thanks to Nirmala Kotagal who has contributed many hours to the planning and serves as RCTC’s liaison to the annual event.

Again this year, Mathcounts was a great success. Many math faculty and RCTC staff contribute to the success of the annual event. ViAnn Olson coordinates the event that brings a dozen teams and almost 100 students to campus. Plans are already being made for the February 3, 2007 event. Thanks, ViAnn and colleagues!

RCTC notables…

- Brad LaPlante notes that intramural sports numbers are up significantly this year. This year, 104 students are involved in volleyball (compared to 65 last year), 132 (compared to 77) in basketball, and 43 in soccer (which wasn’t even offered last year).
- A steady stream of young patients made their way to the RCTC Dental Clinic on Saturday for the national American Dental Association’s “Give Kids A Smile Day.” Bonnie Crawford, Dental Assistant Program Leader, her colleagues and our students joined a host of local dentists and dental office professionals to provide oral exams, prophylaxis, fluoride treatment, sealant, restorations and extraction to children who couldn’t ordinarily access dental care. Thanks to all who participated in this great community service. Several members of the local legislative delegation stopped by to learn more about the program, visit with patients and thank the volunteers.
- Many thanks to the large delegation of RCTC faculty and staff who gave up a Saturday morning to participate in Coffee & Conversations. After a presentation on the Rochester Higher Education Development Committee recommendations, the large audience engaged in round-table discussions that generated a number of suggestions and ideas for committee members and legislators who will be advancing the recommendation at the Legislature.
- I hope you caught RCTC retired faculty member Tom Ostrom’s editorial in the Post-Bulletin that recognized the terrific work of faculty members Ivonne Tjoefat and ViAnn Olson. Reading the article reminded me just how fortunate our students are to be taught and served by such great faculty and staff; and how privileged I’ve been to work with such talented retired and current employees.
- Congratulations to Marilyn Treder who was recently elected treasurer of the Minnesota Mathematical Association of Two-Year Colleges and Paul Kinion who was elected to the Board of Directors.

Chronicle of Higher Education stories reveal that…

- Nearly two-thirds of male and female college students have been sexually harassed in college, according to survey results released last week. Of the 2036 students surveyed, 62 percent said they had experienced sexual harassment, which the survey defined as unwanted and unwelcome sexual behavior that interferes with one’s life. Almost one-third of the students said they had encountered physical harassment, such as being touched, grabbed, or pinched in a sexual way. Almost the same proportions of men and women encountered sexual harassment, with 61 percent of men and 62 percent of women reporting such experiences. The survey questioned 18-24 year-olds at a variety of public and private, small and large, two- and four-year institutions, in urban and rural communities.
- Two out of three college freshmen say it is essential or very important to help others who are in difficulty, the highest percentage in a quarter century, and a record number—83 percent—say they volunteered at least occasionally during their senior year in high school.
This year’s survey also found that slightly more men than women said making money was the most important factor in attending college. An equal number of men and women said they decided to attend college to get a better job. More students than ever said living near home was an important factor for choosing their college. This year’s survey found an increased level of political involvement among students, no decrease in the amount of collegiate alcohol consumption and more freshmen talking about spirituality.

If colleges hope to succeed in today’s changing economy, they must team up with industry to embrace new technologies, panelists told the Secretary of Education’s Commission on the Future of Higher Education. Speakers stressed the importance of working with business to provide internships. Panelists also discussed the need to educate more minority students. Panelists spoke of the need for higher education to adapt to rapidly changing technologies since the world is changing a lot and higher education has not responded to those changes.

Thought for the Week…

"In 1960 our economy needed about 20 percent of the workforce to be college-educated or highly skilled. Today it’s 60 percent, and we’re not ready for it."

--- Congressman (Ohio) and Committee Chair John Boehner

The open-entry access and affordability of two-year colleges, like RCTC, can help ready the workforce. Take pride in knowing you’re working in an American invention…the community college…that serves all.  

Don

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Scholarship Opportunities

Please inform and encourage students to apply for Rochester Community & Technical College Foundation scholarships for academic year 2006-07. Application forms are available in the UCR Counseling Center, the RCTC Foundation Office at the Heintz Center in HC 109 or on the web at: http://www.rctc.edu/foundation. There are a variety of scholarship awards available based on various criteria for new incoming students, returning students to RCTC, and students graduating from RCTC and continuing their education at a four year college or university. Something for everyone. DEADLINE TO APPLY: MARCH 7, 2006.

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GODDARD LIBRARY, LIBRARY TECHNOLOGY CENTER, AND DIGITAL MEDIA CENTER HOURS
February 18-20, 2006

Saturday, February 18
9:00 AM-5:00 PM

Sunday, February 19
1:00 PM-5:00 PM*

Monday, February 20
Digital Media Center
7:30 AM-10:00 PM

Goddard Library and Library Technology Center
9:00 AM-10:00 PM

*Digital Media Center Closed
(Hours are subject to change)

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Bringing The World to UCR
The Asian Student Organization presents a 2006 special event here at UCR. On Saturday the 18th of February, from 2-4 PM we will have workshops on martial arts, cultural diversity, Asian cooking and Asian travel. Then in the evening from 6PM to 9PM ASO will be hosting a number of events in the Hill Theater that will expose the beauty of culture and diversity. Events include a fashion show, martial arts demonstration, cultural dances, a fear factor eating competition, and other spectacular performances. There will be food served at the end of the event in the cafeteria: Egg rolls, fried rice, hot and sour soup, egg drop soup and other exotic dishes. General admission fee $10.00 - UCR Student with I.D. $5.00. Come and share and experience what ASO has to offer for our community and let us "Bring the World to our Community". All proceed will go toward the RCTC Asian Student Organization Scholarship.