



# Spring Semester COLLEGE Crossings

ROCHESTER COMMUNITY AND TECHNICAL COLLEGE...EXPECT THE UNEXPECTED.

*Thought for the week...*

**“There are exactly as many special occasions in life as we choose to celebrate.”** ~ Robert Brault

## THANKS TO ALL WHO MADE STUDENT SUCCESS DAY SENSATIONAL!



Student Success Day Photos by Jamie Prasser

### ATTACHMENTS

CLICK BELOW TO BRING UP ATTACHMENT ON SCREEN

Visit Guatemala and Earn College Credit!

### Outstanding Educator Award

On behalf of the Outstanding Educator Committee, I am pleased to announce that Pam Whitfield and Lori Halvertson-Wente have been selected as this year's recipients of this award (formally known as faculty-of-the-year). Please take some time to congratulate them! They were nominated by faculty/students/staff, and completed a significant portfolio of their work at RCTC in order to be considered for this honor. RCTC will be hosting a reception for them sometime this April. Their names and portfolios will also be forwarded to the Board of Trustees, and will be honored at a system-wide celebration.

~ Mike Bequette



## Scholarships

The application process is now in place for over 200 scholarships that are available for incoming, current and students who will graduate this year from RCTC. See the Foundation Scholarships website at <http://www.rctc.edu/foundation> for scholarship descriptions and applications.

For any additional questions please contact the RCTC Foundation Office at (507) 281-7771 - Heintz Center, Room HC109. Applications are to be submitted on-line by March 1, 2010, at [www.rctc.edu/foundation/html/scholarships.html](http://www.rctc.edu/foundation/html/scholarships.html)

## Dean's List

Excellence in scholastic achievement is recognized each semester by compiling a Dean's List. To qualify for the Dean's List, a student must successfully complete at least 12 college-level credits, with a minimum term grade point average of 3.0 or better, in the *same semester*. Additionally, the credit courses completed must have earned grade points. **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 local media. The 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 1,398 students who made the Dean's List for Fall Semester, 2009.

- \* 4.0: 297 students
- \* 3.5 - 4.99: 499 students
- \* 3.0-3.49: 602 students

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



## New Employee

I am pleased to announce that Joanna Boyd has accepted the full-time position of Coordinator of the UCR Proctoring Center. Many of you know Joanna: she has served as the temporary coordinator during the last year, and before that she had worked in placement testing at the College. Her good work this past year has helped grow the Center; in this last year, it provided over 1600 testing opportunities for students. Joanna reports directly to me; her first day was Monday, February 8. Please welcome Joanna, and stop up to see the Center if you have not done so!

~ Mike Bequette

## Condolences

Condolences to Chrisanne Pieper, Senior Programs Director, whose father Charles C. Keiholtz passed away on January 29th. Condolences are also extended to Connie Larson, French Instructor, whose father William Lewis passed away on February 5. Our thoughts are with these employees and their families.



**UCR IS NOW  
TOBACCO FREE**  
Effective as of January 1, 2010!

**(CHAT WITH THE  
PRESIDENT**

**Monday  
February 22, 2010**

**2:00 – 3:00 p.m. – Atrium  
3rd Floor Lounge**

**Please join President  
Supalla for the next Chat  
with the President  
session!**

## Upcoming Faculty Lecture Series

The next Faculty Lecture Series presenter is Dr. Lisa Schnepfer (Nursing, WSU-R). She will be presenting her dissertation research, "Healing Touch and Health-Related Quality of Life in Breast Cancer Patients Receiving Radiation." Since breast cancer is so commonly diagnosed, Dr. Schnepfer's work with healing touch as an intervention is especially timely. I hope to see you there!! Friday, February 19th at 12:00 noon in Hill Theatre. Followed by an informal reception outside the theatre.



# SUPALLA'S SCRIBBLINGS

I'm drafting this edition following the second day of the three-day Minnesota Quality Council evaluation team on-site visit. Next week I'll share more details from the exit conference. I want to thank the evaluators for the time they spent reviewing our application, drafting a comprehensive set of questions, examining documentation exhibits, conducting intense interviews and compiling an exit presentation. A final feedback report will be shared by Council representatives in March. I join the evaluation team in thanking those of you who participated in scheduled and random conversations.

The MnSCU accountability dashboard is being updated and RCTC has been notified that when the update is complete, the college will exceed expectations in three of seven measures. The three RCTC gold ratings were for student engagement, licensure exams pass rate and facilities condition index. I congratulate all of you who had a part to play in turning three of the dashboard indicators gold (exceeds expectations)! These three measurements represent several areas of our operation and are impacted by the good work of many faculty and staff. If you haven't visited the system dashboard, I encourage you to explore and compare at <http://www.mnscu.edu>, click on accountability.

On Tuesday, the Office of the Legislative Auditor released its eagerly awaited report on the "MnSCU System Office." In a nutshell, the 130-page report noted the following major findings and recommendations:

#### Major Findings:

- In FY09, the MnSCU system office spent about \$89 million to administer and oversee 32 colleges and universities
- System office expenditures grew faster than MnSCU's other expenditures largely due to expanded services to campuses, especially information technology
- Campus officials have mixed views of the system office; they view some functions as critical supplements (legal and finance-related services) and some as adding little value (centralized fundraising)
- The system office has made important upgrades to its IT network since 2007, while progress on IT projects intended to improve key MnSCU business functions has been mixed
- There may be opportunities for efficiencies through multi-campus (or perhaps centralized) delivery now provided by each institution
- The system office has taken steps to improve student credit transfer among campuses, but concerns expressed by some campus officials and student associations suggest more work is needed
- The Board of Trustees and chancellor have set clear goals for the system and efforts to monitor progress toward these goals are improved but incomplete

#### Recommendations:

- MnSCU leaders should consider changes in organization, staffing, and oversight for certain system office activities
- The Board of Trustees should exercise stronger oversight of the system office
- MnSCU should delegate authority to classify employee positions to selected campuses
- System office officials should improve the process for selecting and implementing new IT projects
- The board should scrutinize professional/technical contracts more closely and evaluate contractors' performance

A copy of the entire report and a summary are available at <http://www.auditor.leg.state.mn.us/>.

#### From the Ninth District Federal Reserve Outlook...

*There's good news and bad news for Minnesota higher education. In a nutshell, college enrollment rates have never been higher, and more students than ever are choosing out-of-state schools, according to a December analysis by the Minnesota Office of Higher Education. In 2008, the state's fall college participation rate for graduating high school seniors broke the 70 percent mark for the first time ever – a significant jump over the 65 percent rate seen just five years earlier. However, all of that growth funneled to out-of-state institutions. A total of 50.8 percent of high school graduates chose an in-state college in 2008, which is unchanged from 2003. At the same time, the percentage choosing to attend college out of state increased from 14.7 percent to 19.4 percent. Most of the students are attending college in a neighboring state. The three most popular out-state college destinations for Minnesota students in 2008 were North Dakota State University, the University of North Dakota and the University of Wisconsin – Madison.*

#### Thought for the week...

*Most communication resembles a Ping-Pong game in which people are merely preparing to slam their next point across; but pausing to understand differing points of view and associated feelings can turn apparent opponents into true members of the same team.*

-- Cliff Durfee (Creator of the Heart Talk process)

No Ping-Pong at RCTC please.

*Don*

## Art Exhibit

EXIT: Making It Through by Catherine Kennedy will be in the UCR Art Gallery through March 2, 2010. For gallery hours go to <http://www.rctc.edu/studentlife/art>

### Crossings Classifieds

**FOR SALE:** The American Cancer Society Daffodil Days is March 15-19th. Rose Conway is the contact person for RCTC. The deadline to order daffodils is February 19th. For more information or ordering contact Rose Conway at [rose.conway@roch.edu](mailto:rose.conway@roch.edu).

**SNOW REMOVAL:** My sons and I will plow your driveway, shovel your walks and steps, even rake the snow from your roof. No job too big, no job too small. Very reasonable rates. Reliable and dependable. You will be pleased and your back will thank you. Call Mark Stanchfield at 507-259-0524.

**FREE TO A GOOD HOME:** Jada is about 5 years old kitty who is quite petite. She is fixed, declawed and up to date on all her shots. She comes with her own bowls and covered litter box. She has never been outside and would need to be an indoor cat. The home that she lives in has had daycare so she is used to kids and other animals may be good for her. We are also offering \$50 for food, litter and some toys. If you or someone you know could give Jada a good home please contact me at [pingreeanna@yahoo.com](mailto:pingreeanna@yahoo.com) or by phone at 507-259-2035. **CLICK HERE** for photo of Jada.

### Parking Permits

Please, if you have not purchased your Spring parking permit stop at the Cashier's office to do so. It will save us time from having to invoice you!

~ Ruth Siefert

Snapshots at [jasonlove.com](http://jasonlove.com)

