



# College Crossings

Rochester Community and Technical College

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SPRING SEMESTER EDITION

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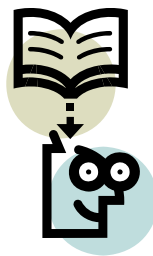
## Meeting Minutes

Click below:

[http://www.rctc.edu/intra/html/meeting\\_minutes.html](http://www.rctc.edu/intra/html/meeting_minutes.html)

## Two RCTC Students Named to All-Minnesota Academic Team

The Phi Theta Kappa International Honor Society and the Winn-Wi-Kota Region of PTK are pleased to announce that two RCTC students, Kendall Craven and Richard Woo, have been named to the 2007 All-Minnesota Academic Team for two-year colleges. Ranking on the All-state team is determined by the student's score in the national competition. A total of 33 students from Minnesota's two-year colleges were selected to the 2007 All-Minnesota Academic Team. A formal recognition luncheon and ceremony for the 2007 All-Minnesota Academic Team will take place on Thursday, February 22. MnSCU Chancellor McCormick will be present, and Governor Pawlenty has been invited, as well as legislators of each of the nominees and representatives of Minnesota's four-year colleges. Congratulations, Kendall and Richard! We are very proud of you!



### Academic Accolades

Educational Technology is proud to announce this month's innovator of the month: Rashmi Roy! Rashmi is the first staff member to have taken advantage of the software newly available to all staff - "Study Mate." This software is brought to you by the same company that makes Respondus - the quiz creation software. Studymate creates interactive games such as flash cards, crossword puzzles, matching, etc and is very simple to use. The directions on how to download this software to your home computer as well as Rashmi's example are both located in Ed Tech's Resource Room.

## UCR Faculty Lecture Series

This lecture will be presented by Joe Marchesani of UMR and will focus on students as consumers --the choices they make and the rights and responsibilities of those choices. The lecture is Thursday, Feb 22 at 11 am in Hill Theater. There will be a reception (with food, coffee, and lemonade) in the Quiet Lounge following the lecture, giving everyone a chance to talk with Joe and with others about the content of the lecture. Click here for more information.

### RCTC – Show Off Your Talents!

Staff Development Day - Feb. 20, 2007 - 8:30am - Hill Theatre

A schedule is attached to this week's *Crossings*.

Weekly funny...

Snapshots at jasonlove.com



"I buy you a book to help our marriage, and what do you do? You eat it."

**Thank You**

Thank you to all the allied health folks and all of the RCTC family for their words of comfort and support. We appreciated the cards and plants as well. We are doing the best we can. I have the greatest coworkers and students.

*Mary, Todd and Sami Schwanke*



**Your Love & Support Are Appreciated**

I am having a hard time finding words to express how my family "Thanks you" for your support for Heather and family. We were all over-whelmed with all the donations, the people attending the benefit, the hugs, the prayers, everything. We know with all the chemo treatments she will be receiving and the surgery, this will all help her stay strong knowing how much love and support she and family are receiving from so many caring people. Hugs to all, and thank you so much.

*Rose Conway & families*

Dear RCTC friends,

Lance and I would like to thank everyone for your kindness, generosity and prayers. We were very overwhelmed to have so much support from the people of RCTC. My Mom works with very special people. May God bless you all.

*Heather Hoffmann and family*

**Marketing Fact**

63% of all households surveyed in the Knowledge and Awareness Study indicated that they or an immediate family member have previously attended RCTC. The nearest competitor is WSU with 30%.

**Want to Win Some Free Stuff?!**

Please see the flier attached to this week's *Crossings* (entitled: Simple Classroom Technology Pedagogy) for the Tuesday, March 13th Workshop/Discussion. Heather Sklenicka will be demonstrating the simple use of "computer tablets". Kevin Dobbe, Learning Technology Liaison will be moderating the pedagogy discussion on how/why this could be incorporated into effective teaching strategies. There will be FIVE drawings to win a computer tablet for yourself/or department (\$100 value). Mark your calendars... see you there,

*Kevin Dobbe  
RCTC Learning Technology Liaison*

**RCTC Winter Concert - "Mid-Winter Melodies".**

The concerts will be held Wednesday and Thursday, February 21 and 22 at 7:30pm in Hill Theatre. Performances by the RCTC concert choir and the concert band and an exciting new music and visual arts performance by "Three Sticks. Their style is influenced by "Blue Man Group". Seating is reserved and the cost is \$5.00 per ticket. If you would like tickets, you can either stop by the box office or call Rhonda Jensson at 285-7200.

**Condolences**

Condolences are extended to Jan Stephenson (Associate Director/Advisor for WSU-RC) whose husband, Tom, passed away the morning of February 16. Our thoughts are with Jan and her family.

**Club Meetings**

Philosophy Club meets Mon. from 6:30-7:30pm in CC408  
 Martial Arts Club meets Mon./Wed. from 8-10pm in SC108  
 Circle of Friends meets Wed. from 11-12 in EA103

**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



### Supalla Scribblings



MnSCU produces nearly two-thirds of all Minnesota undergraduates, 80 percent of whom stay in the State. Now, the system would like more money to fund higher education. In addition to its current base appropriation of \$1.2 billion, MnSCU is seeking an additional \$177 million for the upcoming biennium. Included in the budget request is a four percent tuition cap – the system’s lowest since 1999. Today, students are paying 88 percent more than they did in 2000, due to tuition increases triggered largely by cuts in state funding during the last several years. The MnSCU request addresses four strategic priorities set forth by the Board of Trustees: access, opportunity and success; academic innovations; technology infrastructure and inflation. Governor Pawlenty has proposed funding approximately 70 percent of the request, but has not included an inflation factor in his recommendation.

Rochester and Southeast Minnesota residents have a unique opportunity to provide live legislative input without having to leave town. The 30-member House Ways and Means Committee plans to hold a hearing in Rochester, February 26, 7:30 p.m. at Kellogg Middle school and you’re invited to testify. The committee will be taking testimony on three topics of interest to Ways and Means:

**\* Property tax relief \* - \* Higher education \* - \* Health care \***

I encourage you to take advantage of this opportunity. Speakers are requested to take 3-5 minutes to address the committee. The Ways and Means Committee sets the “spending targets” for all the finance divisions and tax committees in the House.

Initial reports indicate that more than 730 students participated in Student Success Day. Each of these participants will have the opportunity to provide feedback on their experience. Many thanks to the planning task force, presenters and faculty who encouraged students to take advantage of this worthwhile experience.

Larry Shellito, Adjutant Major General of the Minnesota National Guard, has sent a letter extending heartfelt thanks for the support RCTC has shown our combat veterans and their families. On Saturday, February 24, RCTC will host a Reintegration Event expected to be attended by more than 300 soldiers and their families. Beginning Saturday, a Veterans Resource Center on the fourth floor of the College Center will be furnished and opened for veteran support.

Chancellor McCormick has signed the amended 1B.1 Nondiscrimination in Employment and Education Policy and Procedure which is effective immediately. It is very important that members of the RCTC family be aware of the amended policy and procedure, so that you know the appropriate steps to take if you witness or are the targets of discriminatory acts. One of the significant changes in the policy and procedure concerns consensual relationships. Please note that the new language in the 1B.1.1 procedure concerning consensual relationships states:

*A faculty member or other employee is prohibited from undertaking a romantic or sexual relationship or permitting one to develop with a student or supervisee who is enrolled in the person’s class or is subject to that person’s supervision or evaluation. If a consensual, romantic or sexual relationship exists between an employee and another individual and subsequent events create a supervisor/supervisee, faculty/student or similar relationship between them, the person with evaluative or supervisory authority is required to report the relationship to his or her supervisor so that evaluative functions can be reassigned if possible. If an individual reports that he or she is in a consensual relationship, the supervisor should work with the Human Resources Office to reassign evaluative authority if possible.* Please contact Beth Arntson, Chief Human Resources Officer, if you have questions regarding this amended policy/procedure.

#### Community Colleges at a Glance...

Eleven million, six hundred thousand students attend community colleges, which is 45 percent of all undergraduates in the U.S. (60% are enrolled part-time). The average tuition at a public community college is \$2,191. Minnesota’s two-year tuition and fees are much higher, placing the state in the top five highest costs in the country. Forty-two percent of first-year community college students take a least one remedial or developmental course, costing community colleges \$1.4 billion annually.

*Source: American Association of Community Colleges*



### Thought for the Week...

*“The way we organize schools and provide instruction is essentially the same as it was when our Founding Fathers went to school... We still educate our students based on an agricultural timetable, in an industrial setting, yet tell students they live in the digital age.”*  
~ Roderick Paige, former U.S. Secretary of Education

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