RCTC loses colleague and friend...

RCTC lost a vibrant, vital member of its team yesterday. Joel Swisher built upon the traditions of a yellowjacket football program making it a premiere program, nationally recognized. Joel stressed commitment—pride and excellence. These are traits he exemplified both as a coach and instructor. His philosophy of football carried on-field and off-field expectations for his student athletes including:

- Good citizenship — honesty, loyalty, respect, and trust. Joel could be heard saying, “I expect my players to be more than good players, I expect them to be good people.”
- Hard work — discipline and practice during the season and during the off-season.
- Putting the team ahead of personal glory.
- Success on the field and in the classroom.

Joel expected the same for himself as he did for his team. His ability to instill these expectations led to RCTC’s national recognition as a football powerhouse. During his five years as head coach at RCTC Joel:

- Assembled an outstanding coaching staff.
- Won five consecutive southern division titles.
- Won three consecutive state community college championships.
- Appeared in four bowl games.
- Compiled a 44-9 overall record.

Joel was passionate about football. **We remember his passion…**

- Standing on top of the press box at Century High School, no one on the field needed a microphone to hear Joel.
- Shouting a passionate warning from atop the box: “Don’t let 45 get the ball!” 45 got the ball and scored a touchdown.
- Reviewing and reviewing and reviewing the same game tape over and over and over.
- Tirelessly hosting potential recruits.
- Providing opportunities to challenge his players, driving them as he was driven to perform their best.

Joel Swisher’s passion for football spilled over into all he did. But passion without compassion can be dangerous. Joel’s measure of passion was matched by an equal measure of compassion. Joel’s compassion for people will echo forever through the halls of RCTC. **We remember his compassion:**

- A colleague recovering from an accident that resulted in surgery and an awkward cast presented by Joel with a rubber ball to exercise her hand.
- A student who felt misunderstood by Joel and confronted him. Joel listened and to the student’s amazement, he apologized. Here are the student’s exact words: “he made me realize how each of us needs to treat each other.”
- A weary colleague cheered by an arm slung around a shoulder and a cheery “Now, nothing can be as bad as that!”

**We remember Joel’s humor:**

“We may be small and slow but we’re well coached.” “You know what the biggest room is – room for improvement.”

Joel was filled with a passion for everything he did and a compassion for everyone he encountered. Joel Swisher was hero and role model to his players, his coaches and his colleagues. Now, it’s our turn to model the compassion he taught us. We, as a college community, extend our thoughts, prayers and sincere sympathy to his wife Barb, the Swisher family, and all those hurting from the loss of our friend.
COME AND GET IT!
Taher, Inc.

REGULAR HOURS
DINING ROOM - UCR Commons
HEINTZ CENTER SNACK BAR - Heintz Ctr.
Mondays - Fridays: 7:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

SPECIALS THIS WEEK!!
Panini - tarragon chicken and provolone cheese
Wrap - margarita chicken and roasted peppers
Grill - mushroom, onion and Swiss burger

New menu item - Boca Vegetarian Patty

UCR Dining Room
Monday
LIMITED SERVICE HOURS 11am-1pm
Beef roll/wild rice, potatoes, veggie, roll
Chicken rice soup

Tuesday
BBQ pork sandwich, spicy fries, drink
Beef pot roast, carrots, potatoes, bread
Minestrone with beef soup

Wednesday
Breast of turkey/cranberry sage dressing
Beef and lamb gyros/tzatziki sauce
Mushroom and wild rice soup

Thursday
Portabella mushroom burger, fruit cup, drink
Citrus chicken piccata, veggie, bread
Vegetable beef soup

Friday
Taco bar
Seafood chowder

Heintz Center Snack Bar
Monday
CAFETERIA CLOSED

Tuesday
Roast turkey, dressing, veggie, bread
Vegetable beef soup

Wednesday
Roast beef sandwich, potatoes/gravy, veggie
Chicken noodle soup

Thursday
Tuna casserole, veggie, roll
Beef noodle and dumpling soup

Friday
Grilled ham/cheese, fries, 20 oz. soda
Chicken wild rice soup

Weekly funny...

"I can't remember where I put all the information you had on your hard drive. However, a raise in my allowance might jar my memory."

Recipient for vacation donation program
Listed below are new individuals who have been approved as recipients for the vacation donation to the sick leave account program. These individuals may have already or will be exhausting all paid leave time and will be losing health insurance coverage's. State employees may donate up to 12 hours (per recipient) per fiscal year to theses individuals or any other recipients on the sick leave account. More details regarding these individuals is available and forms to donate leave are available from the human resources office.

Barb Johnson, Department of Revenue
Molly Dvorak, Department of Transportation, Metro Division

Thank you
Thank you very much for the lovely fruit basket and get-well balloon. It certainly lifted my spirits! I’m feeling stronger each day and hope to return to work soon. The get well wishes from many of you have been very heart-warming.

—Margaret Bowman

Mark you calendars!
April 27: Scholarship Night
May 2: Recognition Night
May 11: Graduation Night
(Note this is a Thursday night; finals continue on Friday, May 12).

Thought for the week...
Character is what you know you are, not what others think you have.

—Marva Collins
Supalla’s Scribblings

Last week the Senate and House higher education committees focused on the MnSCU and University of Minnesota HEAPR project requests. Both systems presented compelling testimony that inspired members of both parties and from both chambers to suggest that it would be good public policy to invest even more than MnSCU’s $100 million request. Senator Kiscaden led the dialogue suggesting that to not invest these resources would be “penny wise and pound foolish.” Several legislators have publicly chided the Governor’s recommendation that provides MnSCU just 15 percent of his $400 million bonding proposal while MnSCU maintains more than 30 percent of the state’s property. Check out weekly “Legislative Updates – 2000” each Friday afternoon at www.mnscu.edu (News Room).

I hope that many of you had an opportunity to hear Archbishop Desmond Tutu’s “Education as a Vehicle for Change” presentation. Thanks to the Mayo Graduate School for inviting the public to this year’s Occidental Petroleum Nobel Laureate Lectureship. I’d be surprised if there’s another city in the country where citizens had the opportunity to hear, within a period of one month and at no cost, the likes of Jesse Jackson and Desmond Tutu.

Don’t miss poet and author Robert Bly who will be appearing in Hill Theatre at 9 a.m. on February 23. Bly is a winner of the National Book Awards for Poetry and authored the #1 New York Times best-seller, IRON JOHN. Touted as the poet who inspired more young poets than any other American writer in recent history, you don’t want to miss this opportunity. Author Bly will deliver a repeat presentation at 7 p.m., February 23, in the Rochester Public Library Auditorium. Both presentations, part of this year’s Visiting Scholar Series, are free and open to the public.

RCTC’s been selected by MnSCU for a civil rights on-site review. The scheduled on-site visit by a team of MnSCU employees will occur on March 30&31 with follow-up activities as necessary. The U.S. Department of Education’s Office of Civil Rights mandates this review for colleges that receive federal vocational education equity funds. The on-site team will review college information relating to the participation of women and other protected groups in vocational education programs as well as direct interviews with students, faculty, and administrators. Susanne Sheehan will serve as RCTC’s on-site coordinator and will provide more information as the visit date approaches and following the visit.

Partnerships for the 21st Century: Academic Plan for Rochester, Minnesota, drafted by academic representatives of the three UCR partners, was distributed to the Legislature last week. The “Executive Summary” of the Plan, which was mandated in University of Minnesota legislation last session, is shared for your review. The academic partnerships at the UCR present a likely model for higher education in the future. Expanding higher education in Rochester involves the partner institutions in an educational experiment like no other, characterized by strategic joint program planning and a unique technology environment for all levels of higher education and professional development/continuing education. Each institution contributes mission-related strengths to multiply the opportunities for students in Rochester. RCTC offers lower division academic programs and technical programs that readily respond to work force needs. These programs are complemented by the upper division liberal education programs, selected professional programs, continuing education, and selected graduate programs offered by WSU. These resources are further augmented by professional upper division, graduate, professional degree, technology-transfer, and outreach programs offered by the U of M. An expanded technology center will ensure that the UCR offers state-of-the-art course delivery to both local students as well as students at more distant locations. Through collaborative planning and governance, with clearly defined missions, leadership, and responsibilities, the partner institutions will work together to leverage resources, avoid duplication, and build the market to provide higher education programs that match the needs of the greater Rochester community. Contact Judy Kingsbury if you’d like a copy of the entire 30-page Plan.

The Shell Poll, Shell Oil Company, 1999, asked a representative sample of the 81 percent of randomly selected high school students who plan to continue their education…After high school, what kind of institution do you plan to attend? 79% - Four-year College/University — 21% - Community/Technical College

Alex Kromminga shared this week’s quote… “Do not follow where the path may lead…go instead where there is no path and leave a trail.”

Stephanie and I are leaving a trail in Florida this week. Hope you enjoyed the long weekend!

—Don
2000 Visiting Scholar Series

Robert Bly, is a winner of the National Book Award for poetry. He authored the number one New York Times best-seller, Iron John and co-authored with Marion Woodman, The Maiden King: The Reunion of Masculine and Feminine. Mr. Bly’s most recent publication is entitled, Eating the Honey of Words: New and Selected Poems.

Bly’s lasting fame may be as the most influential voice of the men’s movement, currently a hot topic in bookstores and the media. He was perhaps the most highly visible writer among anti-Vietnam War protesters, yet will be remembered first and foremost as a poet. He has probably inspired more young poets than any other American poet in the second half of the last century. Bly’s work is bold and vivid, refreshingly open and readable.

Come and hear Robert Bly teach and inspire as he discusses his work with Marion Woodman, The Maiden King: The Reunion of Masculine and Feminine, as well as share with us his other works both past and current.

Wednesday, February 23, 2000
9:00 a.m. – Hill Theater, UCR Campus
7:00 p.m. – Rochester Public Library

The Visiting Scholar series is co-sponsored by:
Grauc
RtCt
RtCt Fndtn
University of Minnesota Rochester
Winona State University – Rochester Center
RtCt Student Senate & SPICE

Up to speed

Although it’s not as long a word as “stewardship,” I feel the same squirmy discomfort when I hear the word “budget.” And it’s budget time again. Gary Swenson has been working on a more inclusive, clearer, budget process.

Budget preparation is part of my job as well. Seeing that all the pieces fit together is my goal. Let me share some examples. Each faculty member has an individual development plan. That plan, carefully done, can be a kind of blueprint for the direction the faculty member heads over a few years’ time. The plan may indicate the personal desire to complete an additional degree program. That degree program will probably identify an area of interest for the faculty member both personally and professionally. That in turn may relate to a program or departmental initiative. For instance, I may decide to take courses toward a certificate in educational technology. Not only would I increase my own skills, but I might also be supporting my discipline’s desire to add more technology to its offerings.

The college also has increasing the use of technology in course offerings as a goal. I would also be adding support to the college’s initiatives. Sabbaticals ought to reflect goals of the college. For instance, several of this year’s sabbaticals reflected the college’s initiative of increasing awareness and involvement in global education.

Budget requests, too, ought to focus on the initiatives, goals and vision of the college. Requests for equipment, remodeling, will reflect the college’s initiatives. Here is one example: Last year, rather than continue random on-line course offerings, the academic administrators agreed to focus on putting a group of courses on-line that would lead to a certificate. After some searching and reflection, it became clear that Graphic Arts was more ready than most areas and with a lot of work from faculty, we could offer a graphic arts certificate of 24 credits, 8 courses on-line fall of 1999. To make that goal become a reality, putting money in the budget to pay faculty for their work, to pay for technical support, to pay for software license, and to pay for whatever other expenses arose, became essential.

To make the budget ball roll, the pieces have to fit into a circle—interrelated to each other. Initiatives and goals drive the budget. See the attached work plan to note RtCt’s goals and initiatives for 1999-2000. When you request funding, equipment, etc., the requests will need to be tied to these or some other clearly defined and articulated plans. So be ready, the “b” word is out there.

—Judy Harris

Coming in March and April

March 22, 2000 – Squeeze Play: The Campaign for a New Twins Stadium Dr. Edward Schiappa, Professor and Director of the Department of Communication at the University of Minnesota will discuss the political maneuvering and economic arguments made to gain public subsidies for sports stadiums.

April: TBA – Dr. William Pulleyblank, from the IBM T.J. Watson Research Lab and director of the Deep Computing Project will lecture on “The Future of Computing”. Come and hear how deep computing applications will impact everything from medical imaging, biology, material science, engineering, business intelligence and everyday life.
TeachNet Events

TeachNet has been offering a series of technology workshops for the faculty and staff, but we also have two major events coming up that I want to draw your attention to. The first is a Technology Showcase coming March 2nd here at RCTC. All the RCTC TeachNet staff as well as those from our other college sites will participate. The TeachNet staff, including our two new hires Tim Hofmeister (web developer) and Guy Hamernik (video developer), will present short presentations on various multimedia applications that TeachNet can assist faculty with to enhance their courses. We will have more information on the application topics soon. The March 2nd date will begin with a TeachNet open house in CF102 from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. The presentations on multimedia applications will run from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m. in room ST 104. Just like at the open house, faculty and staff can come and go to these sessions as their schedules permit. The second TeachNet event to mark on your calendar will take place on April 13th in ITV room ST110. The event is a forum co-sponsored with MnSCU entitled “HOW DO WE MEASURE/ENSURE QUALITY IN DISTANCE EDUCATION THROUGH INSTRUCTIONAL DESIGN.” Any faculty or staff with an interest in the subject is welcome to attend. The forum will run from 1:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m., and we will have ITV links to faculty at Winona State University and Riverland Community College. We will post more information on both events as the dates draw closer. We have another event in the planning stages that you might want to make note of on your calendars. TeachNet is planning a two-day technology summer camp workshop for the faculty with tentative dates of May 18-19th. The topics to be covered are still being worked out, and TeachNet will offer a stipend for those participating. Stayed tuned for further details. If you have any questions about any of these events, give us a call at 285-7499 or send us an e-mail: jim.deacon@roch.edu.

—Jim Deacon, TeachNet Director

Poker walk

The Wellness Committee is sponsoring the 2nd Annual RCTC Poker Walk on February 22. The Poker Walk is open to staff and students and is FREE. Poker Walkers can walk anytime between 10:00 and 2:30 that day. This year there are routes at both UCR and Heintz Center.

A Poker Walk is a fun and easy way to get some extra physical activity and reacquaint yourself with the buildings. Walkers receive a playing card at each of five dealer locations along the route, and turn in their hands to the poker judge at the end. The winning hand at the end of the day wins a Target gift certificate.

To participate, just start at Dealer Station #1 - Heintz Center - CE/Workforce/Econ. Dev. office - HC-118 UCR - Student Life Office - 4th floor College Center Maps of the route and rules of the game will be available at each of these stations.

CTL Agenda — Food for Thought Series

"Harvesting the Money Tree" or Grants — How to Earn Them
Thursday February 24th, 2000 7:00 to 7:50 a.m.
Heintz Center , C105 Continental Breakfast provided

— Agenda —

Let’s eat
1. Breakfast .................................................. 7:00 to 7:10

Who's serving?
2. Welcome and introductions ...................... 7:10 to 7:13

Who's buying?
3. Grants - what $ are available? .............. 7:13 to 7:20

A winning recipe
4. How to make a grant application .......... 7:20 to 7:45

After breakfast
5. Discussion .............................................. 7:45 to 7:48

Clear the table
6. That's all for today ................................. 7:48 to 7:50

New window displays!

Take a moment to observe the second set of window displays created by our Retail Merchandising students in the Visual Merchandising Class:
Tunnel Window-Champs
EH206 Window-Pier I
Library Glass Case-Wilson’s Leather
4th Floor College Center-Things Remembered
Bookstore Window-RCTC Bookstore Merchandise
featuring the new RCTC logo

"TeachNet Events"

"Poker walk"

"CTL Agenda — Food for Thought Series"
RCTC staffing update

Administrative
- **Dean of Health Sciences** (MnSCU Administrator). Position posted/nationally advertised (1/21/00 Chronicle of Higher Education).
- **Director of Nursing** (MnSCU Administrator). Position posted/nationally advertised (1/21/00 Chronicle of Higher Education).

Unclassified Professional/Supervisory
- **MnSCU Program Director 1 – Student Services Option (YFU Coordinator)** (unclassified part-time MAPE). Position being posted internally.
- **MnSCU Program Director 2 – Cont. Educ. Option (Project Coordinator/Health Consortium)**. (full-time grant-funded). Position has been posted/advertised.
- **MnSCU Program Director 1 – College Recruiter Option** (full-time unclassified MAPE). Position being posted/advertised.
- **Customer Training Representative** (full-time unclassified MAPE). Position being posted.
- **MnSCU Program Director 2 – Cont. Educ. Option (Nursing and allied Health Coordinator)**. (part-time .75 FTE unclassified MAPE). Position being posted.

Classified AFSCME
- **General Maintenance Workers** (Intermittents). Applications accepted ongoing.
- **Customer Service Specialist – Academic Affairs (Dental Clinic) Work Area** (unlimited part-time). Position being posted.
- **Office and Administrative Specialist – Student Affairs (Health Service) Work Area** (seasonal part-time). Position being posted.

For information on any of the above openings, contact the human resources office at x3131.

RCTC Open Forums
Mark your calendars now for the next RCTC (Rumor Control Through Communication) Open Forum scheduled for Thursday, March 2. The forums will be held at 11:30am (UCR-CF202) and 3:30pm (Heintz Center - B117). This forum is an opportunity for all interested employees to discuss concerns and share ideas and information with the RCTC Cabinet in an informal setting.

Congratulations...
Congratulations to the following faculty members who have been awarded sabbaticals for next year:

- Len Cronin, Accounting – Fall Semester
- Carol Haug, Nursing – Fall Semester
- Mike LaValle, Math – Academic Year
- Sharon Nichols, French – Spring Semester
- Kathy Olson, AIS (Medical) – Fall Semester
- Mary Olson, AIS (Medical) – Spring Semester
- Lynette Reini-Grandell, English – Academic Year
- Terry Richardson, Art – Academic Year
- Carol Schultz, Dental Assisting – Academic Year
- Ivonne Tjoe Fat, Psychology – Academic Year
- Sharon Wieners, Library – Academic Year
- Karin Wilking, Speech – Spring Semester

Baldrige Banterings
MnSCU Creates Accountability Task Force
Chancellor Anderson has convened an Accountability Task Force to focus on accountability, outcomes and strategic system goals. In setting the charge of the Task Force the Chancellor identified 14 points favoring the Baldrige Model or Baldrige-like accountability model. His fourteen point are:

- The external recognition of Baldrige
- NCA’s alignment with Baldrige
- The framework provides for consistency of expectations
- Continuous process versus episodic in nature
- Will help to avoid legislative mandates
- The frameworks allowing for campus determination of what’s important to them
- Systemic approach versus one based on individuals
- Captures Board of Trustee objectives
- Results neatly feed into annual reports (campus and system)
- Creates parameters for program audits
- Tool for presidential evaluations
- May help us to develop a performance segment in allocation model
- Leads to improved campuses and an improved system
- Leads to an award is campuses desire to pursue