A Look Back...

Fifteen years ago this month, the Minnesota Community College Student Association (MCCSA) and the Technical College Student Association voted down a plan that would have merged the state's community and technical colleges. Chancellor Gerald Christenson was in favor of the merger saying it was an idea whose time has come.

Best Bee Award

Congratulations to Dave MacLeod, Auto Mechanics Instructor, who has been selected as the Best Bee for March 2006.

Here's what nominators said about Dave:

Dave is a wonderful and caring instructor. He is always cheerful and willing to help. He is probably one of the most pleasant people I have ever met. He is 100% devoted to his students to make sure they get the very best education and genuinely cares about their futures. He is a pleasure to work with because he is always so friendly and upbeat.

Dave is exceptionally nice to students. He also has a wonderful attitude and is cheerful and fun to be around. Dave treats everyone with respect and understanding - he's friendly and helpful to both students and staff.

Office of the President – Online Survey

To the external community, the Office of the President represents the institution and its values. Internally, the Office is a role model and leader to over 6,000 students and 500 employees. In order to measure its effectiveness, the RCTC Office of the President is conducting an annual satisfaction survey. The Office of the President does not reference the President, members of the Leadership Cabinet or Council, or any individual. The term refers to the Office (which consists of a President and an Executive Assistant). Please take a few minutes to complete the online survey. You may access it by going to: http://www.zoomerang.com/survey.zgi?p=WEB225ZJKXRH9.

This survey is completely confidential, and the information will only be used to improve the performance and role of the Office to better serve you. Thank you for assisting us in this continuous improvement journey. The survey will remain open until Friday, March 10, 2006.
Marketing Fact
Fact or Perception?: In the November, 2005 Survey of Stakeholders, key stakeholders were asked to rate the importance of twelve institutional attributes and then to report their level of satisfaction with RCTC on those attributes. “Credits transfer easily to other institutions” was listed as the 2nd most important indicator, but it had the lowest satisfaction score. These findings hold true for both external stakeholders (Rochester business leaders, civic leaders, etc.,) and for internal stakeholders (RCTC faculty, staff, students, administrators).

You’re Invited!
Student Support Services and Upward Bound invite you to join us at the . . . . . TRiO Award Ceremony!

Rochester Diversity Council president Kay Hocker will present the Champion of Diversity Award to RCTC’s TRiO programs in a brief ceremony March 7, 2006, at 12:00 noon in room CC 200 across from Hill Theater. City council member and TRiO alumnus Amy Blenker will read the mayor’s TRiO Day Proclamation. Interim TRiO Director Janell Holter will then present the TRiO Achiever award to past participants Lina Salazar and Sambath Ouk. Salazar and Ouk are both immigrants who have overcome obstacles in their academic journeys; they are being recognized for their individual successes as well as their contributions to the Rochester community. As a child, Salazar fled civil conflict in Colombia and immigrated to the US with her family. She is a graduate from the RCTC nursing program and currently works as a nurse for Mayo Clinic while also raising her young daughter. Ouk is a refugee from Cambodia who, after attending RCTC, majored in French at Hamline University. Currently, Ouk is a teacher at Bamber Valley Elementary School and is active in their "After School Tutoring" program. TRiO programs are federally-funded and promote the college retention and graduation of underrepresented students through academic advising and professional tutoring. These programs have a dramatic effect on both the students and communities in which they exist. For many low-income students whose parents did not attend college, attaining a college education is seen as an impossibility, not only by the students, but also by their parents and even the community in which they live. Without education, the cycle of poverty continues. TRiO programs are, for many students, the key to breaking that cycle.

Horticulture Club Seminar
Tuesday March 7, 2006
6-7pm
Heintz Center (HH114)

Landscape Design 101
- basic guidelines & techniques
- benefits of a well designed landscape
- appropriate use of enrichment items (fences, arbors, rocks, etc.)

Suggested donation of $5
Fundraiser for trip to Butchart Gardens

It’s a Girl!
Congratulations to Carrie and Fred Schliep on the birth of their daughter, Jordan Harvest. Jordan arrived on March 2, 2006 at 2:33 p.m. She weighed in at 9 lbs 11 oz and is 20 3/4 inches long!

NO CROSSINGS – MARCH 20th
March Is Women’s History Month
The ways in which women impacted American history went nearly unnoticed prior to the 1970’s. The women’s movement of the 60’s helped change that. Today, most colleges offer women’s history courses or have a women’s studies program.

Women’s History Month began in the U.S. in 1978 when Sonoma County, California declared the week of March 8 as Women’s History Week. They chose this week because International Woman’s Day is on March 8. In 1981, Congress established National Women’s History Week, and then in 1987, they expanded the week long celebration to a month. It was established to help ensure that the impact women have on our history is part of our children’s education.

You can find more information about Women’s History Month at http://english.glendale.cc.ca.us/womhist.html. This site has women’s history links that were put together by students at Glendale College.

Ricki Walters
Regional Diversity Trainer/Investigator

U of M Bachelor of Fine Arts
degrees coming to Rochester!
Bachelor of Fine Arts in Graphic Design
Bachelor of Fine Arts in Art and Technology

Please join us for an information session focusing on two new baccalaureate degrees being offered at the University of Minnesota Rochester (through the U of M Duluth).

When - Monday, March 13, 4:30 p.m.
Where -Room CF 206-208
University Center Rochester

For additional information please contact:
Joe Marchesani, Program Director
University of Minnesota Rochester
507-280-2819
march027@umn.edu or visit http://www.r.umn.edu

International Acclaimed Guitarist to Play at UCR!
Vladislav Blaha achieved international recognition as the result of winning four international guitar competitions in Greece, Hungary, Czech Republic and Germany. For more information on the exceptional and passionate guitarist, visit: http://www.musica.cz/blaha Vladislav Blaha will perform on March 9, 2006 at 7:30 p.m. at UCR Hill Theater. Tickets are $10. Student price is $5.00 Proceeds will benefit scholarships for RCTC Students transferring to Winona State University. For more information, contact Jeff Meyer at 280-5046.

Drama Club Production
Wednesday March 8th at 7PM in Hill Theatre the Drama club will perform Jabberwacky In Love. A short evening of entertainment including some original skits and poetry. In the poem/skit Jabberwacky In Love
I have taken the Lewis Carroll poem and set it in a cafe. The Jabbewaky monster is a waitress with an admirer watching with his father from outside. Hopefully this gives you an example of the creativity and fun that we have planned. The performance will run 40 to 45 minutes. I guarantee you won't be bored! (donation at the door)