



College Crossings

Rochester Community and Technical College

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SPRING SEMESTER EDITION

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Event Schedule – click below
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Attachments

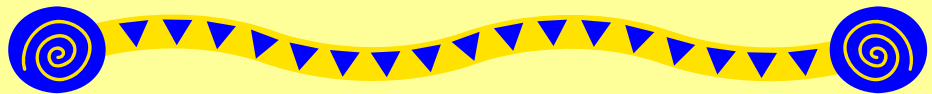
(CLICK on links below to read)

- ❖ Administrative Professional's Workshop
- ❖ Student Life Golf Event
- ❖ Golf Registration Form
- ❖ Campus Incident Report
- ❖ Pie/Pie Alamode/Ice Cream Sundae Fundraiser
- ❖ Guatemala Trip Poster
- ❖ Guatemala Trip Calendar

Meeting Minutes

Click below:

http://www.rctc.edu/intra/html/meeting_minutes.html



Regional Staff Development Day

Mark your calendar for April 9, 2008! RCTC is excited to be hosting the second biennial Regional Staff Development Day on April 9, 2008. The planning committee including Staff and CTL Representatives from RCTC, Riverland, South Central and Southeast Technical College has coordinated an array of developmental opportunities for both faculty and staff. The theme for this year's event is "Civility." In addition to the Keynote speakers, we are pleased to offer a variety of breakout sessions with many being presented by our colleagues. Opportunities will be available for you to network with your peers from the neighboring campuses. Please watch for the event program which will be distributed soon.

April 9th – This Day In History

- April 9, 1833 – 1st tax-supported public library in Peterborough, New Hampshire
- April 9, 1866 – Civil Rights Bill passes over President Andrew Jackson's veto
- April 9, 1914 – 1st full color film show "World, Flesh and Devil" in London
- April 9, 1950 – Bob Hope's 1st TV appearance
- April 9, 1957 – Suez Canal cleared for all shipping
- April 9, 1963 – Winston Churchill becomes 1st honorary US citizen, posthumously
- April 9, 1970 – Paul McCartney announces official split of Beatles



Two years ago, we had the pleasure of enjoying a 73 degree high temperature on the day of this event. Keep your fingers crossed for another warm Spring day!

Remember – April 9th !!!



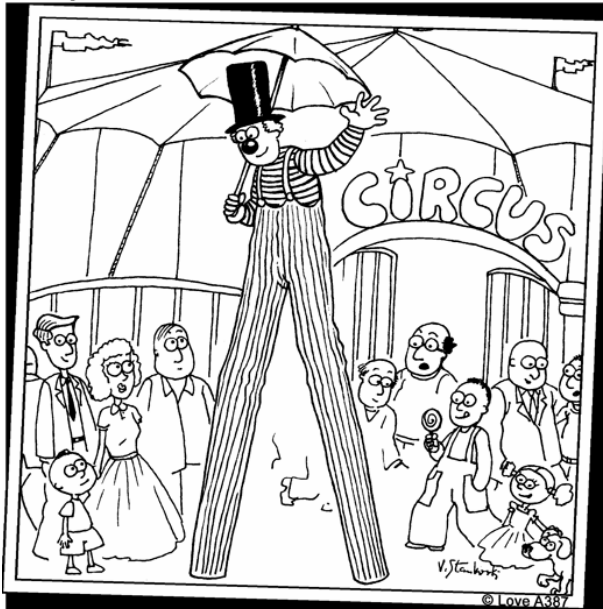
RCTC/UMR's Learning Is ForEver Program is Awarded Minnesota Sesquicentennial Grant

Learning Is ForEver (LIFE) is a Learning In Retirement Program serving community members 55 and older. The \$1,000 grant will fund "Minnesota at its Sesquicentennial: Exceptional People in an Exceptional Place," a series of educational travel and study programs exploring Minnesota history and culture. For more information, contact chrisanne.pieper@roch.edu.

**"Never say, "oops." Always say, "Ah, interesting."
~Author Unknown**

Weekly Funny

Snapshots at jasonlove.com



Later the stilts would go to Bobo's head, and he would begin demanding obedience from the "little people."

Crossings Classifieds

HELP NEEDED: Elder Network is offering a new program - Long Term Respite Companionship to Seniors. If you know of someone who would be interested in helping a family in need, like a college intern, student over 18, single or retired person, we DO NOT do any personal cares. This is a paid service to the companion and we could really use some help. The times in need vary per family situation, so someone who is flexible, responsible and caring is a must. A driver's license is required and some light house keeping/meal prep may be needed. Application and Background check will need to be completed. For more information, contact Holly Brown - Elder Network at 507-285-5272.

Free Jazz Music Concert!

The "JEDI" Jazz Quintet (Jazz, Education, and Improvisation) will be offering a free concert in Hill Theatre on Tuesday, April 8th, from 7-8PM. The quintet is made up of RCTC (Kevin Dobbe, drums, Denny McGuire Bass; John Sievers, Trombone), WSU (Larry Price, Piano), and St. Mary's (John Paulson, woodwinds) faculty. The concert will be an informal music presentation and discussion of America's original art form of Jazz.

Hope to see you there!



Staffing Update

Admissions and Records is pleased to welcome Ciara Carter, our new CSS in Registration, who is replacing Clarcye Bany. Ciara has been a work study in counseling and served as a temporary employee in the business office. She brings with her a wealth of knowledge and enthusiasm. Please join us in officially welcoming her to our team.

Also, Admissions and Records is pleased to have Paula Carlsen, RCTC Women's athletic director, assisting in the enrollment services area in a limited capacity for the remainder of the semester. She brings a strong passion for helping students -- especially ones new to the process to enroll at RCTC. We're pleased to have her join our team.

Flower Power-Don't Miss this Opportunity!

Janette Dragvold is back by popular demand. Lonna Vanderploeg will be joining her this semester to teach another flower design class. This is a fundraiser for Horticulture Club.

Date: Wed. March 26
Start Time: 5:30pm
Place: Heintz Center HH113
Cost: \$40.00



We prefer everyone to pre-register so that we have an idea about how many flowers to order.

*~ Growing for you...
 Robin, Doug, & Hort students*

Hybrid Pedagogy!

Do you teach a hybrid class? If so, you won't want to miss this upcoming free workshop. Kevin Dobbe (Learning Technology Liaison) and Bonnie Robinson (CTL Coordinator) will be hosting the workshop with guest presenters Zala Fashant and Martin Springborg – staff members of MnSCU's Center for Teaching and Learning. In this workshop, Zala and Martin will discuss teaching within the hybrid model. The workshop will be organized toward participant interaction and engagement, and will provide many opportunities for faculty participants to exchange best practices. The presenters will bring to the discussion useful tips and examples for engaging students in the online environment, and advice on how to best approach the division of on-ground and online content. This workshop is open to novice and experienced online instructors, as well as those who are thinking about adding an online component to their on-ground classrooms. Come early for free lunch...spring rolls, BBQ meatballs, crackers and cheese, veggies, lemon bars and beverages – Plus, prizes and giveaways!!!

Wednesday, March 26th in EH 103
Lunch at – 11:30am ~ Workshop from 12 – 1pm

Supalla Scribblings



It's been a couple of frantic weeks at the Legislature. A couple of weeks ago, Mark Milliron presented, "Catalytic Conversations: Making the Most of Education on the Road Ahead," to a joint session of the Senate and House Higher Education Committees. (You might remember Mark from his keynote address at the last Southeast Minnesota Regional Staff Development Day held in the UCR Sports Center in April of 2006.) Mark spoke about learning swirls (rather than the educational pipeline), globalization impact, partnership programs, institutional advancement, technology, rising insight initiatives, and the democracy imperative. If you're interested in what all that means to education, a longer version of his presentation, which was down linked to MnSCU campuses, can be checked out from Goddard Library.

A number of RCTC representatives joined more than 500 other Rochester citizens for "Rochester on the Verge," a full day of activities aimed at connecting with Minnesota's legislators, sharing Rochester's important contribution to the Minnesota economy, and lobbying our local and area legislative priorities. Individual calls were made on members of the Capital Investment (bonding) Conference Committee and Higher Education Committees to shore up support for MnSCU capital projects, including RCTC's roof replacement, nursing lab renovation, and co-located Workforce/CTECH Center projects. On the same day, Minnesota State Colleges and Universities and the University of Minnesota spoke to the House Higher Education and Work Force committee about what Gov. Tim Pawlenty's suggested cuts, of approximately \$26 million for each system, would mean. University of Minnesota President Bob Bruininks talked about three strategies; cutting costs, deferring investments, or raising tuition. If the University solved the budget cuts by cutting costs, Bruininks told committee members that would mean laying off nearly 400 people. While raising tuition will be his last resort, Bruininks did say that if the Governor's recommendation held, it would be difficult to avoid tuition increases completely. MnSCU Vice Chancellor Laura King testified on behalf of the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities system. King reminded committee members that the system is barely ahead of where they were in 2003 with prior budget cuts of nearly \$240 million. This cut of \$26 million proposed by the governor would put the system back in the hole. King told committee members that the system could also solve the budget cuts with similar solutions; roll back new investments, make budget cuts across the system, or increase tuition. She told members that the system worked hard to keep tuition increases low at 2% for colleges and 3% for universities, as well as provide higher salaries to recruit and retain high-quality faculty and expand programs and services for underrepresented students. She also pointed out the need for the system to renovate an aging system-wide technology network long past its useful life. King said that the proposed budget cuts would put all of this progress at risk. Both the bonding and higher education budget reduction initiatives have significant impact for RCTC. If you haven't contacted your legislator asking them to support the entire MnSCU bonding list and reduce the negative budget ramifications of the Governor's reduction recommendation, do so now. Things, with the exception of the stalled bonding bill, are moving very quickly in St. Paul and if you wait, it might be too late.

Congratulations to Colleen Landherr who has garnered another \$500 grant for youth programming. This time the generous gift was made possible from the proceeds generated from the Rotary Holiday Basketball Tournament host at the UCR Sports Center.



Speaking of grants, this week the U.S. Department of Labor awarded \$125 million to 69 community colleges and community-based institutions that competed successfully under the President's Community-Based Job Training Grants Initiative. The institutions chosen will use the funds to prepare students for careers in high-growth industries. Awardees were chosen from among 341 applications received. Our Riverland Community College collaborators received a healthcare grant totaling \$1,010,429. Other MnSCU recipients included St. Paul College, \$1,998,854, also for healthcare training, and Minneapolis Community and Technical College, a construction training grant for \$2 million. Congrats to all!

In November, the Minnesota Governor's Workforce Development Council released the report, "Funding Low-Income Workers' Education." Some of the report's most interesting data compared Minnesota earnings with those of the rest of the U.S. and found that Minnesota students without a high school diploma annually earned \$19,797 (U.S. - \$18,435); with a high school diploma, \$27,330 versus \$25,829; with an Associate Degree, \$32,463 versus \$31,566; Bachelor's Degree, \$44,010 compared to \$43,954; and Graduate Degree, \$57,196 to \$57,585. The report also noted that 70% of Minnesotans 25 and older do not possess a postsecondary degree or diploma, just 3.8% of Minnesotans 25-49 years old were enrolled part-time in college-level education and training in 2006 - 10% less than a decade ago; and community and technical college tuition/fee costs grew 93% from 1995-2005. At public two-year colleges, the study found that 57% of students are self-supporting, 32% are thirty years or older, 34% had children, 38% worked full-time and 57% were enrolled part-time.

A sincere thank you to all who sent e-mails, singing telephone wishes, cards and gifts in honor of my BIG 6-0 birthday. After spending 3 wonderful days with 5 grandkids, I have no doubt I'm not as young as I used to be. Thanks!

Don

