College Crossings
Rochester Community and Technical College

April 7, 2008
Volume 13, Issue 27
SPRING SEMESTER EDITION

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Attachments
(CLICK on links below to read)
- Judith Lindman Memorial Book Drive
- Ragamala
- Administrative Professional’s Workshop
- UCR Learning Center Usage Stats
- Golf Registration Form
- Swami Vidyadhishananda Giri
- Guatemala Trip Poster
- Guatemala Trip Calendar

Regional Staff Development Day
April 9, 2008! Click HERE for agenda.

College For Kids
Looking for an exciting program for your children this summer? Check out College For Kids catalog and registration information at:
http://www.rctc.edu/community/youth/cfk.html

Great All-Day and Half-Day Programs, July 28-Aug 1 AND Aug 4-8 for students currently in grades 3-8. Any questions, contact Colleen Landherr Maddox at colleen.landherr@roch.edu or 280-3113.

Online Accelerated Option at RCTC!
RCTC will be conducting an information session for the public on April 10th at 5:30 in CF 208 about the new Online Accelerated Option. This will be the first of several sessions intended to introduce the new online option to the public, and identify interested learners. The OAO is targeted to working professionals who would like to take one class at a time for shorter terms than the standard 16 week semesters. The classes in this program will be 4 weeks long (only 18 class days!), and students will be allowed to take only a single class at a time after being accepted into the program. Students will be able to step in and step out as desired, begin coursework at any of the block start dates, and choose from one of four classes each block. If interested, individuals will be also able to complete an entire AA degree online in this format in a two year period. This is a one-of-a-kind option in the state for online learners, and was born through the efforts of innovative faculty and staff some 16 months ago. Please visit the OAO website at http://www.rctc.edu/getonline or call 529-2786 to get more information.

Jazz Concert on Campus!
You are cordially invited to attend the Jazz Quintet concert held in Hill Theatre on Tuesday, April 8th at 7:00. Admission is free and open to the public.

“The best remedy for a short temper is a long walk.”
~Jacqueline Schiff
Weekly Funny

Snapshots at jasonlove.com

Crossings Classifieds

COMMUNITY EVENT: Ten on the Trail - Meet in Elgin at the gazibo at 10:00 or later on Saturday, April 26th, to receive a map of hidden objects. Five miles of paved trail suitable for wheel chairs, bikes, hikers, etc. More miles of rocky trails. You do not need to do both parts of the trail to enjoy the outdoors and be a trail supporter. The horse trail will be complete by fall and we will do another event at that time to include horses. Dogs must be on leashes. More information...click HERE. Audrey Lidke x7496.

FOR SALE: 8' Pool Table for Sale. Excellent Condition, from the craftsman of Peters in St. Paul, Many accessories included. $1500 OBO. Please contact 507-251-9396 if interested.

Blood Drive

UCR Blood Drive - Thursday, April 17 - AT 302
Due to staffing considerations and changes in software, Mayo Clinic Blood Donor Center strongly encourages donors to pre-register prior to the day of the blood drive. To participate in a UCR Blood Drive, please call Mayo Blood Bank at 507-284-4475 at least one week in advance to pre-register. If you would like a specific appointment time, it will be set for you. If you want to donate that day, but are not yet sure what specific time will work for you, please set an appointment time for that day anyway. Since you will be registered, you can then "walk-in" at the time that day that does work for you. Please call Katie Swegarden at x2887 if you have any questions.

Marketing Corner

Student Models Needed for RCTC Advertising
Please notify your students that Vendi Advertising (an ad agency from LaCrosse, WI) in cooperation with the RCTC College Relations and Effectiveness Department will be holding an open audition for all students who are interested in modeling for RCTC. The audition is being held in the Atrium from 9 am to 2 pm on Monday, April 14. Students can stop by, give us their name and contact information and we'll snap a quick photo of them to keep in our model library. Then, depending on our needs, we will contact them to appear in ads, television commercials and online videos promoting RCTC. It's fun, it's easy and it helps promote RCTC! They must be a currently-enrolled student at RCTC and will be asked to sign a model release form (will need parent’s permission if under the age of 18). Questions? 285-7270 or stop in CF205 or click HERE.

Deadline Dates Fiscal Year 8
Here are the deadline dates for using Fiscal Year 8 funds.
1 - REQUISITIONS AND/OR REQUESTS ENTERED INTO PCS for the purchasing of supplies, equipment, speakers, repairs etc. must be in the Purchasing Dept. (June Meitzner) no later than Friday, May 9, 2008.

2 - USE OF A LOCAL PURCHASE ORDER (over the counter) can be used up to and including Friday, June 6th, 2008.

3 - ALL TRAVEL EXPENSE REPORTS for travel done from July 1 2007 thru June 30, 2008 must be in the Cashiers Office on or before Monday, July 7, 2008.

Questions concerning Purchasing can be directed to June Meitzner X-7213. Questions concerning your budget can be directed to June Meitzner x-7213, Mary Long X-3132, or Ruth Siefert X-7472. Questions concerning travel can be directed to Mike O'Dea X-7212 or Ruth Siefert X-7472.

Office of the President - Online Survey
In order to continually measure the effectiveness of the Office of the President, RCTC annually conducts satisfaction surveys for our students, faculty, and staff. Remember, the survey is not a performance review of individuals, but rather the Office as a whole. The survey is anonymous and confidential, and will only be used to assist us in improving the performance and role of the Office in better serving our stakeholders. Please take a few minutes to complete this year's on-line survey at: http://www.zoomerang.com/Survey?p=WEB227LYXAZHN, or copy/paste the URL address in your Web browser. The survey will remain open through Tuesday, April 8, 2008.

Club Meeting
Martial arts club meets Wednesdays from 8-10pm in SC108.
A report released this week reveals that thirty-eight percent of Minnesota’s recent public high school graduates who enrolled in public higher education in the state have taken at least one developmental or remedial course within two years after graduation. The 38 percent is up slightly from a report three years ago, when 36 percent of recent graduates took at least one developmental course. The report, “Getting Prepared: A 2008 Report on Recent High School Graduates Who Took Developmental Remedial Courses,” was released by the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities and the University of Minnesota. The legislatively mandated report provides data on public high school students in Minnesota who graduated between 2003 and 2006 and enrolled within two years in a public college or university in the state. The class of 2005 is the most recent class for which data is available for the full two years. “Our colleges and universities are working hard to make sure high school students and teachers clearly understand the level of readiness necessary for success in college,” MnSCU Chancellor McCormick stated. Currently, 16 of the 32 Minnesota State Colleges and Universities give trial placement tests to 10th- and 11th-grade students, giving them time to improve their college preparation. Linda Baer, the system’s senior vice chancellor for academic and student affairs, said, “Teachers, parents and students should understand that developmental courses do not count toward a certificate, diploma or degree.” Of all the public high school graduates from the class of 2005 who have taken developmental courses in a public college or university, most needed only one course. Further, 57 percent of the credits taken by these students were in mathematics courses, 21 percent were in writing and the rest were in other subjects, mostly reading, English as a Second Language and study skills. Ninety-seven percent of the 10,834 graduates who took developmental courses attended one of the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities. As part of their mission, Minnesota’s two-year community and technical colleges are “open access” institutions. Because anyone with a high school diploma or GED may be admitted regardless of high school preparation and achievement, these colleges tend to enroll the greatest numbers of students who need developmental education. The report showed 48 percent of the 2005 graduates who enrolled in a public two-year college took one or more development courses, up from 46 percent of the 2002 graduates.

RCTC received Happy Anniversary congratulatory wishes from IBM! At the end of this month, RCTC will celebrate its second anniversary as a World Community Grid partner. The college has served as a role model for higher education participation in the grid. In the past two years, the RCTC team has contributed over 595,450 days of run time toward research projects. This equates to 1,613 years of support! Look forward to seeing a World Community Grid “widget,” displaying the most current RCTC contribution statistics, on the College’s Web site at http://www.rctc.edu/wcg.

Making us proud…

- Please join me during the next few weeks in congratulating Jay Lee on his appointment as Vice President for Instruction at North Idaho College in Coeur d’Alene and thanking him for his extra-ordinary contribution to RCTC. It was obvious, after visiting with the President and other reps visiting from Coeur d’Alene, that Jay’s personal and professional skill set will serve North Idaho College very well. Watch for an internal posting and search for an Interim Dean of Career and Technical Studies that will serve until a permanent replacement can be employed. Best wishes for a long and satisfying tenure at North Idaho College, Jay!
- Thanks to David Atwood, ViAnn Olson, John Buchl and Terry Krieger for participating in the K-12/RCTC Math Forums sponsored by the Rochester Area Math Science Partnership. Math teachers from area schools had the opportunity to network with other math colleagues. These forums are important opportunities for math faculty to discuss the scope and sequence of math classes, curricular alignment across grades, Minnesota math standards implementation at the high school level, and student preparation for college level courses. Teachers affirmed that networking opportunities are essential to these initiatives. Thanks for serving as RCTC’s Math Department Ambassadors.
- Last Thursday, at the Rochester Rotary Holiday Basketball Classic Awards banquet, Dale Amy and Colleen Landherr picked up grant awards. Dale accepted a first-time gift for the Summer Youth Basketball Camp and Colleen continued to garner Rotary support for the “Get Up, Get Moving, Get Healthy, Get THERE” summer camp.

Thought for the week…

For every failure, there’s an alternative course of action. You just have to find it. When you come to a roadblock, take a detour.

-- Mary Kay Ash (Founder of Mary Kay Cosmetics)

Don’t sweat the roadblocks!

Don
Hot Rod Power Tour
Spread the word…the Hot Rod Power Tour 2008 will be stopping June 12 at Rochester Community and Technical College! For more information on the Power Tour, check out Hot Rod magazine’s website at: http://www.hotrod.com/upcomingevents/hrpt_2008_tour_dates/index.html

RCTC is Proud to Welcome Ragamala!
"From Temple to Theatre" A performed by the Ragamala Music and Dance Theatre Co. on Tuesday, April 22, 2008 at 7:00pm in the Hill Theatre.

You won't want to miss this special event. For one night only, the dancers of the Ragamala Music and Dance Theatre will grace the stage of Hill Theatre along with the Taiko drummers of the Waidaiko Ensemble Tokara of Nagano, Japan. For more information/tickets, see the attachment to this week’s Crossings.

Administartive Professional's Workshop
RCTC's Business and Workforce Education department recognizes the crucial role that administrative professional's play in our success. We are holding a workshop on April 17 to help people within this role become even more effective and efficient. The keynote speaker will focus on energizing yourself and your workplace. Participants can choose from the following break-out sessions: building a professional image, assertive communication, business writing, organizing desk and office clutter.

If you are interested, please talk with your supervisor. Staff development funds through HR may be available to pay the $99 fee (lunch included). To register, please contact Norma Perez (280-3157 or norma.perez@roch.edu)

Taher Specials
This week at the UCR Grand Cafe and Heintz Cafe: Thai Noodle Bowl, $4.99 and Chicken Cordon Bleu Wrap, $4.89.

Container Planting Class
Are you still trying to decide if portulaca goes with petunias or if calibrachoa blends with bracteantha? If so, you are not alone. Creating mixed containers that are pleasing to the eye and that will grow and perform well is as much art as it is science. In this workshop we will take the mystery out of creating containers.

When: Thurs. April 17
Time: 5:30 - 7:30pm
Where: Heintz Center HH114

Cost: $20 plus the cost of supplies used (plants, soil, plastic container) Please feel free to bring your own container. Horticulture club members will care for your creation in the greenhouse. All containers will need to be picked up by Friday May 9. Contact Robin to register for the class. robin.fruth-dugstad@roch.edu

2nd Annual Judith Lindman Memorial Book Drive
See the flier attached to this week’s Crossings for all the details.

Upcoming Events - Regional Sport Center
April 11, 12, 13 Table Tennis Collegiate Nationals
Apr 19 Radar Adaptive Floor Hockey (noon-7pm)
Apr 26 Pacesetters Basketball Tournament (8am-8pm)
May 2, 3 & 4 MN/USA Greco-Roman State Championships
ROCHESTER COMMUNITY AND TECHNICAL COLLEGE

STUDENT LIFE GOLF TOURNAMENT

4 Person Scramble – Featuring the Vern Bushlack Scholarship Endowment Fund

Monday, May 5, 2008

Noon Sign-In ~ 12:30pm Shotgun start ~ 6:30pm Dinner ~ Program Following

RTC Student Life:
• $5.00 per RCTC/WSU student golf and chicken/ribs dinner (student ID required)
• Free! RCTC/WSU student dinner only (student ID required)
• $95.00 per non-student golf and dinner
• $25.00 per non-student dinner only

Remember to register by April 28th
There are several ways to register for this event. Contact: Scott Krook (285-7206); Jean Jech (285-7771) or download and print a form via the RCTC web site at www.rctc.edu

Vern Bushlack Horticulture Scholarship Fund:
• $200 Golf Hole Sponsorship (Golf Hole Signage)
• Contribute to our auction
• Contribute to the Vern Bushlack Horticulture Scholarship Endowment fund

Remember to notify us of your support by April 14th
Contact the RCTC Foundation for additional information about contributions to benefit the scholarship fund. Phone: 281-7771 or jean.jech@rctc.edu

~ HOSTED BY THE SOMERBY GOLF CLUB ~

Dress Attire: Golf shoes, collared shirts, no jeans. In case of rain – golf rainchecks will be available. Dinner and program will be held as scheduled and begins at 6:30PM.