Student Life Golf Tournament
Please join us Monday, April 30, at the Rochester Golf and Country Club for this year's golf tournament hosted by Student Senate and the Student GCSAA (Golf Course Superintendent Association of America) Club. A flier and registration form are attached to this week’s Crossings. Dinner only tickets at $25.00 are also available for those who do not wish to golf.

~ Carol Nurmi
Director of Student Life

Tornado Awareness Drill This Week
A statewide tornado awareness drill will be held on Thursday, April 12th. The National Weather Service will simulate a tornado watch beginning at 9 a.m. Two tornado awareness drills will occur during the afternoon and evening; Olmsted County and the City of Rochester will activate their warning systems during these drill activities. RCTC will be participating in the Tornado Awareness Drill activities CAMPUS WIDE. RCTC Maintenance staff will initiate the available building signal systems in conjunction with the statewide tornado drill. The first drill will take place at 1:45 p.m. and a second drill will be conducted at 6:55 p.m. A flier with more details and shelter details is attached to this week's Crossings.

Film Screening
We will be screening An Inconvenient Truth: A Global Warning, on Thursday, April 19th at 2:00 p.m. in the Hill Theater. This Academy Award winning film will be followed by a panel discussion. The screening is open to all UCR faculty, staff and students. What can you do to fight global warming? One simple thing you can do is to raise the ecological consciousness on our campus - please encourage our students to attend.

~ Tim O'Neil
Philosophy

Academic Accolades
An outstanding article highlighting Darlene Voeltz and Jean Marconett, appeared in the April 4 issue of the Post-Bulletin. The article discussed the work the women will be doing in Africa including the importance of the mosquito netting and the solar ovens they will be taking. What incredible public relations for RCTC. Thank you ladies for the good work you are doing here and around the world.
Marketing Corner
Anna Pingree will be visiting seven high schools this week: Owatonna, Waseca and Kenyon-Wanamingo on Tues., and Southland, Grand Meadow, LeRoy-Ostrander and Kingsland on Friday.

Also, two new "generic" brochure templates (click here to view) are now available in duplicating for your individual department needs.

Marketing Fact
Do you know how much it costs to be a student at RCTC? In the 2006 (November) RCTC Survey of Stakeholders, approximately 45% of respondents that work at or attend RCTC substantially overestimated the cost of tuition for a full-time, in-state RCTC student. This is up from last year when only 25% substantially overestimated the cost.

Condolences
It is with sorrow that we share the news of the passing away of Irene Felker (mother-in-law of Rose Pappas, Nursing Instructor) last Sunday (March 25, 2007). Mrs. Felker was 87 years old. The funeral service was held last Thursday (March 29th) at Dibble Funeral Home in Kasson. Our thoughts are with Rose and her family.

It is also with deep sorrow that we announce the passing away of retired Psychology/Political Science Instructor, Dr. Mary Goette, on Wednesday (April 4, 2007). She was 82 years old.

Dr. Goette graduated from the University of Minnesota in 1945, and worked for one year in Duluth at the Veterans Administration Center. She then came to the Veterans Guidance Center at Rochester Junior College and continued to give psychometric testing to veterans, but before long, teaching assignments in Psychology and Political Science were added to her job. She was quoted as saying "I'd only planned to stay for one or two years, just to see if I'd like it . . . I loved it!" Dr. Goette retired from Rochester Community College in 1985 and is recognized as being the first faculty member to obtain a PhD.

For those of you that had her as an instructor, colleague and/or friend, you know she was one of the most beloved faculty members we've ever had. She touched the lives of so many people, and will truly be missed.

Final Faculty Lecture Series
Our final faculty lecture for the year will be presented by Chad Israelson (RCTC -- history) and will be entitled "Times They Are A Changin': The Cultural and Social History of Rock and Roll." Chad indicates that he will be discussing ways in which rock and roll music broke down barriers, amongst other things. The lecture will be held Tuesday, April 24 at 1:00, Hill Theater with a reception following at 2:00, Quiet Lounge. A flier with more details is attached.
Supalla Scribblings

The Minnesota Legislature is on Easter/Passover recess this week so there’s little to report from St. Paul. One of the unexpected legislative topics that surfaced early in the session and continues to churn is that of reducing student’s textbook costs. The Minnesota Legislature proposed legislation directing the Minnesota Office of Higher Education to convene a task force to study and report on the cost of required textbooks at postsecondary institutions. Although the proposal was not included in the higher education omnibus bill, the Office of Higher Education assembled a group to advise the agency in preparation of a report that was recently released. The task force acknowledged that Minnesota students have voiced their dissatisfaction with the increasing prices of textbooks, largely because college textbook prices have risen at twice the annual inflation rate over the last two decades. At two-year public institutions, the average estimated cost of books and supplies per first-time, full-time student was $886 in academic year 2003-04, representing almost three quarters of the cost of tuition and fees. The task force as developed a list of student, faculty, book store, publisher, book wholesalers, institution and state strategies to reduce the cost of textbooks. As faculty plan required textbook purchases for the upcoming year, the task force offers the following faculty strategies...

- Consider cost when selecting textbooks for each course and review alternative texts.
- Communicate early and regularly with the campus bookstore. Place orders before the bookstore’s book buyback. Placing orders before the bookstore’s scheduled shipment date often lowers the cost.
- Communicate with students. Explain to students why specific textbooks are chosen. When registration is complete, email students the ISBN of the textbooks required, thereby giving students the option to purchase texts online. Obtain anonymous feedback from students on how the required material aided their learning.
- When possible, allow multiple editions to be used for a course.
- Consider putting copies of textbooks on reserve in the campus library.
- When possible, faculty at one institution – or in collaboration with other institutions – can create their own learning supplements or make them available online to their students, thus eliminating textbooks for that class.
- Departments could consider using a standard book for all sections of introductory level courses so that used books will have more resale value and the students can receive a higher price for their used books.


In late February the Minnesota Office of Higher Education released its first report on the performance of Minnesota’s higher education sector. *Minnesota Measures* shows a variety of results on 18 preliminary measures identified as important to the state. Key findings in the report include:

- Among all states, Minnesota ranks quite favorably on several measures including the percentage of the state’s adult population with college degrees (2nd) and the college-going rates of the state’s high school graduates (3rd).
- Most often, Minnesota’s performance ranked among the top half of states, but clearly not among the leading states. The state’s four- and six-year graduation rates, the number and proportion of degrees earned in STEM and health fields and the proportion of adults enrolled in higher education stand out as areas with significant room for improvement.
- The achievement gap between students of color and white students persists in Minnesota’s colleges and universities.
- The University of Minnesota has not yet achieved its goal to be considered among the top three public research institutions in the world.
- Among states Minnesota currently ranks 18th in its share of academic research expenditures, leaving considerable room for improvement.

A copy of the report is available at [http://www.ohe.state.mn.us/pdf/MinnesotaMeasures.pdf](http://www.ohe.state.mn.us/pdf/MinnesotaMeasures.pdf).

*Thought for the Week…*

*Education is simply the soul of a society as it passes from one generation to another.*

– G. K. Chesterton

Stay warm, eat well, enjoy family and friends and have a relaxing Easter/Passover weekend.

Don
Egyptian Kingdom Tour
Have you ever wanted to see the Pyramids or cruise down the Nile River? ViAnn Olson (Mathematics) and Ivonne TjoeFat (Psychology) are organizing an educational tour to Egypt over Spring Break 2008 (3/14-3/23). Our second information session will be on Friday, May 4th at 11:00am in AT109.

Video/Panel Discussion
In recognition of Sexual Assault Awareness Month, Victim Services and RCTC Health Services Present:
CHANGING A CULTURE: ADDRESSING SEXUAL VIOLENCE ON COLLEGE CAMPUSES
Please join us for a video/panel discussion addressing the culture of sexual violence specific to college campuses.

April 23, 2007
11:00-12:00: Video/discussion
12:00-1:00: Panel Presentation
CF 206/208
This event is structured such that each hour essentially stands alone. Therefore, students and/or employees may attend one or both of the hours.

Administrative Professional Week
The RCTC Horticulture Department is offering three choices of flowers for Administrative Professional Week: The Daisy: $8 Single Gerbera daisy in a pot, very cute design; Biedermeier: $15 actual design will be smaller than attached picture; Hand-tied bowl: $20 very elegant design, we used this at Beat-the-Odds. We will be using mixed colors. Free delivery on campus. Delivery Date: Wed. April 25th between 2-4pm. Orders and payment are due: Monday April 16. Information needed: name of recipient; office number; message and flower arrangement choice.

~ Growing for you,
Robin, Vern, & Hort Students

Concert Tickets Available
Tickets are now available for the final TWO concerts of the RCTC Music concert season.

Jazz Band/Aires Concert "Music and Motion" will be held on Wednesday and Thursday April 18 and 19 at 7:30pm in the Hill Theatre. Tickets are 5.00 each. Refreshments served in lobby at intermission.

Spring Dinner Concert "Anything Goes". The concert will begin in Hill Theatre at 6:30pm—note the earlier start time due to dinner/dessert that will be served. Concert dates are Wednesday and Thursday April 25 and 26 at 6:30pm in the Hill Theatre. Tickets Prices: $13.00 (dinner, dessert, concert) and $8.00 (dessert only, concert). (Sorry, no discounts or freebies on this concert....we're charging the lowest price we possibly can as it is.) Also advanced reservations are REQUIRED for this concert. We need to get a firm headcount to catering so please make your reservations by 4:00pm on Friday, April 20. Tickets for this concert will not be available after that date. The menu for the dinner concert will include summer picnic fare—the first cookout of the season! You will have your choice of a grilled chicken breast, bratwurst, or hamburger with all of the trimmings. Also includes fresh fruit salad, creamy coleslaw, potato chips and cold drinks; iced tea, lemonade, and iced water. Dessert will consist of your choice of a slice of creamy cheesecake with fruit topping or a rich chocolate brownie with a scoop of vanilla ice cream. Beverages will include coffee and lemonade. The Aires and Jazz Band will provide the entertainment while you dine.

You can get your tickets by calling 507-285-7200.
RCTC Gallery News
Wednesday, April 18, 1:00-2:00 PM
Artist's Talk featuring Ralph Arlyck, film-maker (see Bio, below)
Location: Art Gallery (Quiet Lounge)

Wednesday, April 18, 7:00-9:30 PM
Film Showing, Followed by Discussion and Refreshments
Location: Coffman 206/208

Both events are free and open to the public.
Sponsored by RCTC Art Department, Art Club and Digi Arts Club

Ralph Arlyck
A veteran of documentary film-making, producer and director Ralph Arlyck heads Timed Exposures, an independent film production company that has produced more than a dozen critically-acclaimed documentaries, spanning a broad spectrum of subjects. These films have been broadcast widely in the United States and Europe, and have won top prizes at American and international film festivals. The company has a long-standing distribution partnership with New Day Films.

Arlyck's film career began in 1969 when, as a film student in San Francisco, Arlyck made the celebrated short film, Sean, about a 4-year-old living in Haight-Ashbury, at the heart of 60s counter-culture. Sean quickly went on to win numerous festival prizes, and screened as part of a White House conference on children. The film debuted in New York with François Truffaut's L'Enfant Sauvage (The Wild Child).

Since these auspicious beginnings, Arlyck has continued to make evocative films which blend journalistic inquiry with subjective narrative. Among these are Current Events, an examination of how people do (or do not) respond to the stream of horrific events on the nightly news, Godzilla Meets Mona Lisa, an exploration of the controversy surrounding Paris' Pompidou Center art museum, and An Acquired Taste, a wry look at American culture's obsession with success - considered a classic of independent cinema and personal film-making.

Throughout his career, Arlyck has also played a key advocacy role for American independent producers, testifying twice in Congress and once before the Carnegie Commission on the role of independents in public television. He was centrally involved in legislation which first recognized independents as an important force within that system.

He is a recipient of a Guggenheim Fellowship and a Rockefeller Foundation Fellowship.

Following Sean
Arlyck, along with Producer Malcolm Pullinger, has just completed Following Sean, a feature-length revisit with the subject of his first film, Sean. In this new work, Arlyck travels back to San Francisco to find out what happened to Sean and his family, and in turn, what has become of 1960s idealism in today’s world. Along the way, Arlyck considers his own family’s connections to that turbulent time. Following Sean is shot on 16mm, and runs 87 minutes.