



# College Crossings

Rochester Community and Technical College

April 10, 2006  
Volume 11, Issue 30

SPRING SEMESTER EDITION

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Event Schedule – see web  
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## Attachments

- ❖ Campus Incident Report
- ❖ Staff Development Day
- ❖ Drop for Non-Payment
- ❖ Faculty Lecture Series  
Patrick Costello
- ❖ Guatemala Flyer
- ❖ Guatemala Calendar

**UCR Mayo Blood Drive  
Dates for Spring '06  
Tuesday, April 25**

**Meeting Minutes**  
Click below:

[http://www.rctc.edu/intra/html/  
meeting\\_minutes.html](http://www.rctc.edu/intra/html/meeting_minutes.html)

## A Look Back...

Ten years ago Rochester Community and Technical College was selected the name of the merged RCC and Minnesota Riverland Technical College (MRTC). The two institutions would consolidate later that year to become RCTC on July 1, 1996 under the interim leadership of Dr. Karen Nagle. An interim logo was adopted.

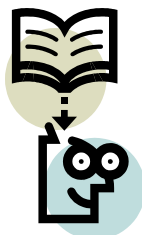


## Congratulations Katie Swegarden – April Best Bee!

Here's what her nominator had to say: Katie has done a wonderful job with "the Buzz" health promotion flyers posted around campus throughout the year. The flyers catch the eye with their color and layout, but are also full of useful information. She has a nice way of presenting health tips without sounding preachy or corny. "The Buzz" may seem like a small thing, but I think it's an important contribution to the campus and we have Katie to thank for that. It is obvious that Katie cares about our students and employees also benefit from her efforts on behalf of good health. Thanks Katie for all you do! Katie will receive an "up-front" parking spot at UCR for the month of April.



## Academic Accolades



Jeff Taylor (library science) is pleased to announce the publication of his book - *Where did the Party Go?: William Jennings Bryan, Hubert Humphrey, and the Jeffersonian Legacy* - by the U of Missouri Press, June 2006.

Steve Bein (philosophy) is pleased to announce his newest short story, "Datacide," has just hit the shelves. It appears in the April/May 2006 issue of Asimov's *Science Fiction*. (Both Barnes & Nobles in town subscribe to Asimov's, if you're interested.)

Eric Mein (English) is pleased to announce that his article "A Princess of Where? Burroughs's Imaginary Lack of Place" will be published in the *West Virginia University Philological Papers*, vol. 53.

Weekly funny...

**Snapshots** at jasonlove.com



"What do you mean, I don't match? Everything I'm wearing is wrinkled."

**RCTC Bedding Plant Sale Hours**

- Thurs. April 27 : 11am - 2pm
- Fri. April 28: 11am - 1pm
- Mon. May 1: 4-6pm
- Tues. May 2: 11am - 2pm
- Wed. May 3: 4-6pm
- Thurs. May 4: 11am - 2pm
- Fri. May 5: 10-12noon
- Mon. May 8: 9-11am
- Tues. May 9: 11am - 1pm

**UCR Learning Center Dedication**

On Monday, April 10 the University Center Rochester partners will dedicate the UCR Learning Center. The Learning Center has been made possible by a partnership with IBM Rochester through its Community Grants program. The event is scheduled for 10:00 to 11:00 am in Atrium (AT) 209 on the UCR campus. Following the dedication, a special announcement regarding a new collaboration between Rochester Community and Technical College and IBM will be announced.

**Marketing Fact**

David Singer, a visiting scholar of Brain and Cognitive Science at MIT notes two ways people often mistakenly claim success when trying innovative teaching methods: (1) Student motivation to try a new educational methodology can decrease the validity of the findings - the so-called "novelty effect" and, (2) An instructor's enthusiasm to prove the benefits of a new approach to teaching can, in itself, improve students' motivation, interest, and therefore performance. [Campus Technology, April 2006, p.64]



**Southeast Regional Staff Development Day  
Wednesday, April 12, 2006 hosted by RCTC  
"Allies in the Adventure!"**

Unless otherwise noted, all activities will take place at the Regional Sports Center - Performance Court. This program will bring together the faculty and staff from RCTC, Riverland College, Mn State College - Southeast Technical, and South Central College. We cordially invite our UCR partners to participate in these activities as well. A continental breakfast will be available between 8:00 - 9:00 a.m. The program will start at 9:00 a.m. with a presentation from MnSCU Chancellor, James McCormick and continue through 3:00 p.m. as outlined in the attached Agenda.

## Supalla Scribblings



Time is flying by for both legislators and students. With only weeks remaining in both the legislative session and spring semester, plenty of work still remains. In St. Paul, the House Higher Education Committee heard testimony (probably the only hearing it will get) on establishment of a University of Minnesota branch campus in downtown Rochester. The mission of the campus is to serve the educational needs of students and to foster the economic goals of the region and state. If passed in its current form, the legislation would have the UoM expand higher education offerings by developing new and strengthening existing partnerships with higher education

institutions in Rochester where the state already has a significant investment. Tuesday afternoon the House moved a \$949 million bonding bill out of committee and onto the floor. The Senate has already acted on the bill (\$989 million) and House Speaker Sviggum has indicated his desire to have the House complete its bonding bill by Easter. Then, the differing bills would move to a joint bi-partisan conference committee to hammer out the differences.

Work is about to commence on asbestos abatement in Rockenbach Gym and the surrounding area. The Express Café has been discontinued and the area will be closed off. The Taher food service operation in the College Center will extend hours for the remainder of this semester and then will open a temporary Express Café across from the Human Resources office next fall. Some work to remove usable items from Rockenbach Gym has already occurred, including the gifting of the basketball standards to the Rochester Boys and Girls Club. Evidence of some exterior surface testing is already visible as you drive by the north side of the old gym. Ben, the owner's rep who has been hired to oversee the Health Sciences Center renovation project, is already on campus periodically. You will begin to see visible signs of major construction as staging areas will be fenced, roads rerouted and the publication of bid documents. Once serious renovation is underway, a Web site will be established so students, staff and the public will be able to track progress.

The response from students to submit work for the annual art exhibit was overwhelming. Art faculty member **Simon Huelsbeck** noted that this year's exhibit overflowed the Quiet Lounge Gallery and spilled onto the second floor walls of East Hall. If you haven't spent a few minutes viewing the great variety of work and marveling at the talents of our students, you can check it out over the next few weeks. Don't miss it!

### Community college students...by the numbers –

- Forty-six percent are 25 or older, and 32 percent are at least 30 years old. The average age is 29.
- Fifty-eight percent are women.
- Twenty-nine percent have annual household incomes less than \$20,000.
- Eighty-five percent balance studies with full-time or part-time work. More than half (54%) have full time jobs.
- Thirty percent of those who work full time also attend classes full time. Among students 30-39 years old, the rate climbs to 41 percent.
- Minority students constitute 30 percent of community college students nationally, with Latino students representing the fastest-growing racial/ethnic population.



Source: The American Association of Community Colleges: Trends & Statistics, Phillippe & Patton.

### Excerpts from “Today’s Associate’s Degree: It’s Not Your Father’s Degree,” by David Hirning

Once upon a time, community colleges and other career schools were way stations for students who couldn't get into or afford a four-year school. These students would typically get their Associate of Arts or Associate of Science degree and then, if they'd proven themselves, would have the option of transferring to a university to pursue a bachelor's degree. Today, many students are bypassing the four-year degree to enter the workforce straight out of career schools. Jobs in some of the most vibrant and growing fields today, such as many healthcare disciplines, are available to those possessing a two-year AAS degree. Two occupations requiring only an associate's degree—physical therapist assistant and dental hygienist—are projected to be among the top ten fastest-growing jobs in the next decade. Other rewarding careers include fashion and interior design, digital media arts, nursing and allied health, law and justice and culinary arts.

### Thought for the week...

*It's inevitable that the classroom/lecture methodology of teaching must go away. Inevitable.*  
**John Tarnoff, Senior Executive, DreamWorks Animation**

What's inevitable in your life?

Don

**April Tornado Drill**

There will be a tornado safety drill at University Center Rochester following the state guidelines on Thursday, April 20, 2006. The drill will take place at 1:45PM. Faculty, please be aware of this time and be prepared to announce to your class the designated shelter. More information will be given closer to the date of the drill that will include the designated shelters for each building. <http://www.severeweather.state.mn.us/>

**World Wide Pinhole Day**

Join the RCTC Art Club in celebrating World Wide Pinhole Day on April 30, 2006. WWPD is an annual international event created to promote and celebrate the art of pinhole photography. People throughout the world take some time off from the increasingly technological world we live in to participate in the simple act of making a pinhole photograph. The Worldwide Pinhole Photography Day is held each year on the last Sunday in April.

Pinhole photographs are made with a light tight box (camera) minus a lens. Often the cameras are handmade, using materials normally found in the kitchen and garage. Participants are invited to attend one of two workshop sessions to learn the basics of pinhole photography and build a simple camera. On April 30, World Wide Pinhole Day, the RCTC darkroom will be open for participants from 10AM-4PM, to shoot and develop pinhole photographs. There will be lots help! You do not need experience in photography.

Pinhole basics and camera construction workshops (pre-registration is required):  
 1-4 PM, Friday, April 7  
 1-4 PM, Saturday, April 8  
 Both sessions will be held in AH201.

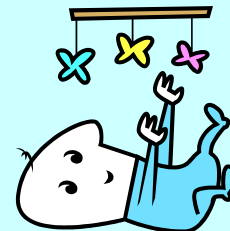
Pinhole shooting and printing  
 10AM-4PM, Sunday, April 30

Pre-register with [almae.larson@roch.edu](mailto:almae.larson@roch.edu). Be sure to use pinhole as your subject when sending the e-mail. Indicate which camera construction workshop you will be attending. First come first served. Space is limited. The workshop is free. You need to bring an oatmeal box or Pringles can...or something that's cylinder. It needs a cover and should not be plastic. Other materials will be provided at the camera construction workshop

Check out <http://www.pinholeday.org> for more information on this World Wide event. Galleries with pinholes from previous years, as well as resources are provided on this website.

**It's a BOY!**

We are delighted to announce the arrival of a new member to the RCTC Family! Sebastian Joseph Meier, son of Jason (English Instructor) and Daniela Meier, arrived April 3, 2006. Sebastian weighed 8 lbs, 4 oz, and was 21 inches long.



**Poetry Reading**

IMAA, WSU-Rochester, and the RCTC Asian Student Organization invite you to join us for a poetry reading by U Sam Oeur, author of Crossing Three Wildernesses, a 2006 Minnesota Book Award Finalist. This event will begin at 6pm on Tuesday, April 18 in the Art Gallery/Quiet Room on the University Center Rochester campus. The Art Gallery is on the second floor of the College Center Building, just across the hall from the entrance to the Hill Theatre.

**Crossings Classifieds**

For Sale By Owner: 2001 Split level 2400 sq. ft. with 4 bed rooms 2 baths. The house has large sunroom, deck and finished basement and nicely landscaped. Corner lot in White Oaks subdivision: 4703 Savannah Dr NW Rochester. Asking low 180's. Call Alex Kromminga for a viewing: 507-202-9929.