You’re Invited!
All UCR students, faculty, staff and alumni are invited to the Salvation Army Thrift Store on Wednesday, April 25th. You will receive 25% off of all purchases. The retail merchandising students will be doing live mannequin modeling throughout the day. Please note the window display area that has been created by the retail students. One retail student has changed the display weekly since October. The RCTC retail merchandising students have contributed over 400 hours fall semester and over 600 hours spring semester designing and merchandising the new Salvation Army Thrift store. In addition, the students are authoring a training manual by departments that will be used for training of Salvation Army Thrift Store employees and volunteers. A CD/video will be created interviewing the students discussing what they have gained from the experience coupled with the Salvation Army programs that profit from the Thrift Store such as the medical and dental clinics. The CD will be taken into the community for awareness of donating, volunteering and purchasing at the Salvation Army Thrift Store as well as providing information about other Salvation Army programs. Please read and share the attached flyer.

~ Suzanne Dinusson
Retail Merchandising Program Coordinator

Commencement – May 10, 2007
Mark your calendar to attend RCTC’s Commencement Ceremony on Thursday, May 10 at 7:00 p.m. in the UCR Regional Sports Center. This is an exciting milestone in the lives of our students and a realization of completed goals! This will also be RCTC’s 90th graduating class. We encourage you to give your support at the ceremony which is extremely appreciated by your students.

Please consider joining your colleagues (faculty, staff, and administration) in the celebration by walking in the processional. A gown is not necessary, but if you’d like to borrow one “gowns-to-loan” are available in the Office of the Vice President in SS202. Simply come by and pick one out.

If you have a family member graduating from RCTC and would you like to present the diploma, please contact Stan Cram at 280-3133. This is a great way to expand the meaning of RCTC “family” by demonstrating pride in academic accomplishments and bring a nice personal touch to the ceremony.
Weekly funny!

Snapshots at jasonlove.com

"I think he would come back to earth if women would just stop kissing him."

Marketing Corner

If you’ve been listening to the radio or watching TV lately - you should be hearing or seeing RCTC’s ads. You’ll hear us on KROC FM, KRCH Laser 101, and KMFX Fox Country radio stations. In addition - watch for us on KAAL (ABC), KTTC (NBC), KXLT Fox 47, and various Charter cable stations including MTV, USA, TBS and more.

Anna Pingree will be visiting 7 high schools, helping to host an Occupational Skills Open House and Hosting a Preview Day this week.

Marketing Fact

Results from the November, 2006 Survey of Stakeholders showed a slight decline since 2005 in the score given to the question "How responsive is RCTC to meeting community and business educational needs?" However, when scores were divided amongst respondents who are either employees or students at RCTC ("Internal") versus everyone else ("External"), it was found that the score given by External respondents actually rose slightly since 2005 while Internal perceptions dropped significantly.

Automobile Sale

Here it is! The official times, dates, and a list of the cars, our auto students have been working on all year (see attachments). But wait! there's more! This year our Auto club has a 1987 Toyota Celica GT convertible they are raffling off. The car will be on display during our sale. Tickets can be purchased there, or from any of our auto club members for $10 each or DOUBLE your chances for a mere $5 more. That's right 2 for $15 Drawing will be held May 7th and you don't even have to be there to win!

~Dave MacLeod
Automotive Instructor/Program leader

Mark Your Calendars – Upcoming Receptions on Campus!!

A reception will be held on April 25 for Teresa Brown and Julie Rodakowski from 10:00-12:00 in CF 206/208 honoring them for being chosen as Faculty of the Year at RCTC. Congratulations Teresa and Julie…please come and help them celebrate!

The Business Department is hosting a retirement reception to pay tribute to our colleague, Suzanne Dinusson, on May 2 from 12-2 in the Atrium Faculty Lounge AT302. Hope to see you there!

Judy Lindman Memorial Book Drive

Each RCTC Leadership Cohort does a community service project. The Leadership Cohort V is proud and excited to announce the Judy Lindman Memorial Book Drive which will be held on campus on April 19th and 20th in the Atrium. Please see the attachment for more information.

Club Meeting

Martial Arts Club meets M & W from 8-10pm in SC108

News from the Equine Science Program

Julie Christie spoke on the radio show "Horse Sense" again last week. The topic was abnormal behaviors in horses. You can listen to the interview on-line at http://www.rrfn.com/horsesense/HTML/archives.cfm

Chancellor McCormick and his wife will be attending the End-of-Semester Horse show on May 4th at The Stables Equestrian Center. This is the third horse show for the equine science program and has the most advanced level of riders yet. Everyone is invited. If you have questions, contact Julie Christie (julie.christie@roch.edu).
Supalla Scribblings

Legislative activity related to higher education has slowed this week as legislators grapple with the funding of other state department budgets. Last week Chuck Siefert, Steve Monson and Marilyn Hansmann…along with the UCR Stadium design and contracting team…joined me in St. Paul as we presented our schematic design proposal to MnSCU facilities staff. With few questions, the project was approved and work on getting the required permits, bidding, and then construction has commenced. Field construction work will begin late spring/early summer with completion scheduled for late November.

Campus Kudos…

➢ The Minnesota Licensed Family Child Care Association has awarded Judy Lindman the 2007 Child Care Advocacy Award. This award is given to honor someone who has been influential in the lives of children and child care providers. Judy was nominated for the award shortly after she became sick. The award will be presented at the MCFCCA provider awards banquet on May 5 when her family will accept and cherish it.

➢ Most of you missed a jam-packed UCR Art Gallery exhibition opening on Tuesday night. Simon Huelsbeck coordinated the exhibition and Kris Douglas, Chief Curator at the Rochester Art Center, judged the show. The show features some excellent work of our very talented students. If you haven’t stopped at the Gallery yet, do plan to stop in before the exhibit comes down on May 3.

➢ Congratulations to Allan O’Bryan and Vern Bushlack who were recognized as the 2007 Faculty of the Year by the Student Senate. RCTC continues to attract and retain some of the best community and technical college faculty in the country…our students tell us so.

➢ Many RCTC international students are involved in Rochester International Association activities. Glen Saponari is the international student advisor and a member of the RIA Board. The College is once again co-sponsoring the upcoming World Festival. I encourage you to take in all or part of the weekend activities. The events begin at 7 p.m., Friday evening, April 20 at Mayo High School. The show begins with RCTC’s World Drummers. Tickets for the ethnic talent show are $8. Then, on Saturday, April 21 you can take in a full day of activities (10 a.m. – 3 p.m.) for free. Scheduled activities include cultural displays, music, forums and discussions, demonstrations, family activity center and ethnic food tasting.

➢ The National Junior College Athletic Association announced today that the Rochester Amateur Athletic Association (partnering with RCTC) has been awarded the Division III National Women’s Basketball Championship from 2009-2011. This is another example of a partnership that reaps significant economic benefit for the city, while nationally showcasing RCTC and the UCR Sports Center.

RCTC activities were once again featured in the MnSCU Third Quarter Report the Chancellor delivered to the Board of Trustees. Dave Weber coordinated a long list of third quarter activities that support the MnSCU strategic directions. A partial listing of this quarter’s aligning activities included the UCR Learning Center expansion, receipt of two Health Center of Excellence grants, Rochester School Board’s approval to help fund a pre-design for a career and technical center addition to Heintz Center, Common Book author Paul Loeb’s return to campus, Bellwether Award finalist announcement, receipt of a $249,226 Minnesota Job Skills Partnership grant, the Foundation’s undertaking a feasibility study to raise funds for the UCR Stadium Phase II project, Continuous Quality Improvement Network innovation pilot project involvement, Leadership RCTC, and deployment of our balanced scorecard and dashboard.

RCTC joins 23 other two-year colleges who will collaborate to develop an innovation curriculum that will be available for delivery to both our for-credit enrollees and business and industry. The planning group recently identified the following 14 innovation core competencies: curiosity, visionary, ideation (the ability to generate ideas), courage, flexibility, discovery (creative problem solving), synthesis, leadership, introspection, ethics, integration, collaboration, communication and persistence. Sounds like many of things David Spong shared with us on staff development day, doesn’t it.

This week I had the opportunity to connect with several RCC retirees who took time to pay their respects to colleague Mary Goette. Based on the many stories they shared, what a pleasure it would have been to learn from her or teach with her. Several of the photos and exhibits shared at her funeral linked directly to her days at RCC and her numerous involvements in the community. The college and the community is a better place because Mary worked and lived here. I also served on a committee that interviewed the four finalists for Rochester Public Schools Superintendent. Although the four shared many different perspectives, the one common thread in their thinking was their admiration for the education that’s delivered here and the quality of life. Several of the finalists shared with me the good things they heard about RCTC.

Quote for the week…

*American higher education is hailed as the best in the world, and attacked as falling short. Americans sacrifice and struggle to get their children into college, yet mock those same institutions as self indulgent and badly managed.*

– Harvard President-elect Drew Gilpin Faust

The count-down is on…we’re less than a month from Commencement. Stay calm…the frantic hum in the air will pass.  Don

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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

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'Neill

E-Connect Software – Update Your Info

MnSCU has purchased E-Connect software that will enable all colleges and universities to receive personal notification when the college is closed for an emergency. RCTC has agreed to be a pilot for this software that will enable each employee to receive notice through a phone call, an e-mail or both in the case of an emergency college closing.

In order to ensure an effective pilot, it is important for all employees to have accurate contact information on file in the Human Resources Information System. Please go to the State Employee Self-service Website, and verify that accurate information is on file.

Go to: http://www.state.mn.us/employee
Click on: Personal Information
Click on View Personal Information

If any of the information listed is not up to date, please note that there are separate links for updating your personal address, phone number and e-mail information. To update the information, you will need to separately go into each link where a correction is needed.

Please contact any member of the HR staff if you have questions. Thank you.

~Beth L. Arntson
Chief Human Resources Officer

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.