Honors Program student of the semester
Please congratulate Carrie Mulholland, our newest Honors Program Member of the Semester. Carrie has been an active participant in numerous Honors Program activities, and she has been invaluable in helping Sharon Nichols organize and publicize information about Honors Program events. She enjoys working with children and hopes to become an English teacher. Way to go, Carrie!

Please join us.....
You are cordially invited to a reception for Rochester Community and Technical College’s 1999-2000 retirees on Wednesday, May 10 from 2:00-4:00 p.m . in CF206/208. A brief program will begin at 2:15 p.m. This year’s retirees are:

Loren L. Dohse — Julie A. Goodman — A. Steve Kereakos
Dallas G. Nelson — Dale H. Schwartz
Lorna C. Schmidt — Evelyn R. Schmitt — Donald E. Strelow

Please join us as we recognize our retirees’ many years of dedication to RCTC and our students.

Fourth Annual RCTC Student Awards Ceremony
The fourth Annual RCTC Student Awards Ceremony (formerly known as Recognition Night) will be held on Tuesday, May 2nd at 7:00 p.m. at the Heintz Center Commons. David Parisi, RCTC student will provide musical entertainment before the ceremony begins and RCTC’s Brass Ensemble will provide musical entertainment at the reception, immediately following the ceremony. Students will be nominated by various organizations to receive either an outstanding achievement award or an outstanding contribution award. Students who receive invitations in the mail are encouraged to attend and bring their family members along.

You’re invited
All faculty and staff are invited to the nursing graduates’ pinning ceremony on May 11, 2000 at 2:00pm in the Hill Theatre. Come and help celebrate these students achievements!

Happy May Day!!!

Evening Administration
The evening administrator for April 29-May 4 is Susanne Sheehan who can be reached at x7262.

UCR events
Attached to this week's College Crossings is the UCR schedule of events for May 1-5.

Spring Pottery Sale
The sale is on Wednesday, May 3 from 10 am - 6 pm in the Ceramics Studio (Art Hall 200) and will include bowls, cups, goblets and more made by students and faculty of RCTC!

RCTC Chiropractic Clinic
We will be having a massage clinic on Tuesday May 9th from 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. The charges are $7.00 per area for soft tissue massage and $9.00 per area for trigger point therapy. Call 529-2736 to set up an appointment.

WHAT'S INSIDE?

- Vacation donation — Page 2
- Vision Statement — Page 5

ATTACHED

- UCR event schedule
- Scholarship Night program
COME AND GET IT!
Taher, Inc.

REGULAR HOURS
DINING ROOM - UCR Commons
HEINTZ CENTER SNACK BAR - Heintz Ctr.
Mondays - Fridays: 7:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.

SPECIALS THIS WEEK!!
Panini - Ham and three cheese
Wrap - Sliced turkey/cranberry cream cheese
Grill - Chicken cordon blue

UCR Dining Room
Monday
Santa Fe spinach salad
Vegetable soup

Tuesday
Quiche Lorraine, fruit, mini croissant
Beef noodle soup

Wednesday
Cobb salad, fruit muffin
Cream of cauliflower soup

Thursday
Teriyaki chicken kabobs, fried rice, veggies
Chicken noodle soup

Friday
Tuna salad stuffed tomato, pasta salad, roll
Chefs choice soup

Weekly funny...
"I can tell you're over worked and exhausted, Bryan... because when you got me coffee, it had sugar in it. You know very well that I take my coffee black."

Recipients for vacation donation program
Listed below are the new individuals who have been approved as recipients for the vacation donation to the sick leave account program. These individuals may have already or will be exhausting all paid leave time and will be losing health insurance coverages. State employees may donate up to 12 hours (per recipient) per fiscal year to these individuals or any other recipients on the sick leave account. More details regarding these individuals and forms to donate leave are available from the human resources office.

Jack Merino - Department of Human Services
Bodell Anderson - Dept. of Health - Licensing and Certification
Howard Warrington - DNR

Condolences
Vida Jech’s husband, Raymond W. Jech, 61, of Rochester, died Wednesday, April 26th, at the Elks Lodge in Rochester, Minnesota. Macken Funeral Home, Rochester is taking care of the arrangements.

Visitation will be held on Sunday (April 30th) from 5:00-8:00pm at Macken Funeral Home with a family gathering immediately following at the Elks Lodge. The funeral is scheduled for Monday (May 1st) at 11:00am at St. John’s Lutheran Church, Elkton, MN.

The entire College Community extends our deepest sympathy to the Jech family during this time of sorrow.

I can tell you're over worked and exhausted, Bryan... because when you got me coffee, it had sugar in it. You know very well that I take my coffee black.

Remind your students of Food-4-Thought
Monday, May 8, 6:00 pm - 8:00 pm CF206
AND Tuesday, May 9, 9:30 am - 11:30 am, Heintz Center Commons. We’ll serve up some great “brain” food to help our students during Finals!

Thought for the week...
If you tell the truth you don’t have to remember anything.
—Mark Twain
Supalla’s Scribblings

Congratulations to Jean Marconett who was recently inducted into the Minnesota Community College Conference Hall of Fame! Jean served as volleyball, basketball and softball coach for many years…compiling an excellent won-loss record. In addition to coaching, Jean served as RCC’s athletic director from 1976-1997, four terms as MCCC President and Vice President and the Conference Volleyball Chair from 1989-1997. You deserve the honor, Jean!

On Thursday, May 4, the Federated Garden Clubs of Minnesota will award scholarships to Horticulture Technology students Kathryn Gillen and Thomas Edstrom. The awards will be presented during the Garden Clubs annual meeting at the Holiday Inn in Bloomington. What a great honor for the students and the program!

The Rochester Amateur Sports Commission has approved the appointment of Chuck Siefert to a three-year term on the Commission. Chuck, long-time activist in a variety of sporting related community service initiatives, assumes his Commission responsibilities on January 1. Chuck’s recap of the National Junior College Athletic Association National Wrestling Championships, held in Rochester on February 18 and 19, was a feature article in the April issue of JUCO (the official NJCAA magazine). RCTC and the Rochester Amateur Sports Commission will be hosting this national tournament for three more years. Congratulations, Chuck!

Don’t miss your last opportunity to hear RCTC music-makers at the Spring Dinner Concert on May 4 and 5. The concert will feature the Concert Choir, Concert Band, Jazz Band and Aires. Come and satisfy your musical cravings and your appetite. Tickets for the concert and dinner are available for $8…concert only, $4. Call Rhonda today at 285-7200 and purchase your tickets. Let’s all say “THANKS!” to Chuck Blattner and our talented performers.

Did you know that the number of Minnesota students advancing to college the fall after they graduate from high school has declined by an alarming 20 percent during the past ten years? According to data compiled by the Minnesota Higher Education Services Office, between fall 1988 and fall 1997 the number of state high school graduates who enroll in Minnesota colleges the following fall declined from 25,395 to 20,408. Viewed another way, 47 percent of Minnesota students who graduated from high school in 1988 were enrolled in Minnesota colleges the following fall. In fall 1997, only 39 percent of the state’s high school graduates were enrolled in Minnesota colleges. The startling decline in college participation rates affects all student groups, including white and minority students. “These declining participation rates are a very troubling trend that should really jolt leaders in our state who are concerned about Minnesota’s future,” said David Laird Jr. “If this trend is not reversed, it will have significant economic and social implications for our state.”

Rochester Public Schools have embraced the Minnesota Council for Quality’s Baldrige initiative. As part of the District’s staff development opportunities, they have developed a “Baldrige Boot Camp”…an introduction to Continuous Improvement Training. These “Boot Camps,” held at UCR, are intended to provide educators with basic Baldrige understanding, how Baldrige improves teaching and learning in the classroom, the role of leadership in an institution that’s adopted Baldrige and incorporating Baldrige in strategic planning. Superintendent Noennig has invited up to five RCTC staff to participate in each of the District’s summer Boot Camps. These two-day sessions are scheduled for June 13 and 14, August 16 and 17 and August 22 and 23. If you’re interested in participating, please contact Judy Kingsbury with your preferred participation dates.

MnSCU “Fast Facts” • MnSCU is the fifth-largest higher education system in the United States. Minnesota State Colleges and Universities is a network of 36 two- and four-year colleges and universities, 53 individual campuses, that serve more than 140,000 students each semester and produce about 27,000 graduates a year. Currently, MnSCU data shows that the number of on-line courses has more than doubled since March 1999. Along with the current 335 web-based courses, there are an additional 613 ITV courses being offered by MnSCU institutions.

Quotes…Then – “Twenty years from now you will be more disappointed by the things you didn’t do than by the ones you did do. So throw off the bowlines. Sail away from the safe harbor. Catch the trade winds in your sails. Explore. Dream. Discover.” (Mark Twain)

Now – “The illiterate of the 21st century will not be those who cannot read and write, but those who cannot learn, unlearn and relearn.” (Alvin Toffler)

Always – “A teacher creates eternity; she can never tell, where her influence stops.” (Henry Brooks Adam)
MnSCU establishes enrollment initiative fund

The Student and Stakeholder Relations Committee invites you to come share your marketing and enrollment management thoughts at an “idea session” on Tuesday, May 2 in SH 204 from 2:15 to 4:00 PM. This is a drop-in session with no structured agenda so take 10 to 15 minutes out of your day to share your ideas.

MnSCU has earmarked $3.2M in funds to be returned to the campuses supporting a one-time enrollment initiative. RCTC based on the system formula will receive $63,102.00. The RCTC Administrative Council has asked the Student and Stakeholder Relations Committee to develop a plan.

MnSCU has established criteria and requirements for RCTC to submit a brief plan this summer outlining our goals and strategies for the monies, and measures to evaluate.

The criteria for use of this money is as follows:

- It must be used for marketing or enrollment management efforts to increase or enhance student enrollment for the two years beginning fall semester 2000.

- The efforts must be based on market research either the Noel-Levitz project completed on a system-wide basis this past year, or on your own market research.

- These funds are intended for new or expanded initiatives. It is not acceptable to use this fenced money to supplant money you were spending previously on marketing or enrollment management.

- You must measure your results and report them back at the end of the year.

Before you spend the money, MnSCU would like to see a plan from RCTC. It need not be lengthy or detailed; one to three pages is fine. It should include the following:

1. A clear statement of your goals for increasing or enhancing your enrollment. Please be specific.
2. An explanation of your strategy and how you intend to spend the money.
3. An explanation of how your strategy is related to market research.
4. Describe how you will measure the results of the additional spending.

Here are some examples of strategies recommended by the Noel-Levitz study; not all may apply to your institution, and you may have others not on this list that are more suitable to your situation.

1. Set clear student enrollment goals, both for new students and for total enrollment.
2. Accelerate the marketing time line. The research found that by the junior year in high school, many prospective students already have a first-choice college in mind. According to their audit, none of our schools marketed to students younger than juniors.
3. Use marketing messages that appeal to students, not internal campus audiences.
4. Students across the board view quality of an institution as very important, and they define quality as the quality of the teaching and that graduates get good jobs and speak highly of their schools.
5. Establish specific goals for campus visitation programs and upgrade the campus visit.
6. Improve marketing to transfer students.
7. Improve frequency and quality of communications and the helpfulness of campus personnel over the telephone.
8. Make it easier for adults to take classes.
9. Develop a monthly payment plan.
10. Improve campus web sites and offer on-line registration.
Futures Task Force proposes draft for RCTC Vision Statement
An ad hoc work group of the Futures Task Force presented a draft of a vision statement for RCTC on April 12. The proposed statement was shared with all staff at the NCA/Baldrige update during Staff Development Day. The proposed statement reads:

Rochester Community and Technical College will be the world class provider for liberal arts, technical and lifelong learning.

The ad hoc group also proposed a friendly amendment to the current RCTC mission. The current mission statement reads

To provide accessible, affordable educational opportunities to meet the needs of a diverse community.

The amendment only personalizes the statement by placing Rochester Community and Technical College at the front to read:

Rochester Community and Technical College provides accessible, affordable educational opportunities to meet the needs of a diverse community.

The Futures Task Force has been working to define terms in the vision and mission statements in order to have context for words or phrases such as “world class”. We would like your input on the vision and thoughts about how words or statements including world class, diverse, accessible, affordable, and community are defined. Once defined, the Futures Task Force will begin to brainstorm indicators that will help us to determine our progress towards achieving our vision and mission.

We invite any staff member to provide feedback on the draft vision statement or thoughts on the definitions of any of the terms identified.

You can participate in any one of the following ways:

1. Attend an idea session on Tuesday, May 2 in SH204 from 2:15 to 4:00 PM. This will be a drop in session with no structured agenda where you can share your input in 10 to 15 minutes.

2. Send any thoughts or comments you have via e-mail me.

3. Route any comments or thoughts you have via intercampus mail to Dave Weber at Box 25.

If you have any questions please contact Dave Weber or any member of the Futures Task Force.

Student life news
The Third Annual Classic Cars on Campus will be on Wednesday, May 3, Heintz Center, North Side, 10:00 am - 12:00 pm. Free Car Care Seminar presented by Automotive Students in HB127, 10:30 am. Find out the answer to why your car makes that “squeaky” sound! There will also be a free picnic from 11:00 am - 12:00 pm, North side of the Heintz Center. In case of rain, cars will not be shown; however, the Car Care Seminar and free picnic will be held. If you have a car or truck you want to show, call 285-7204.

Thank you
Thank you for your thoughts and prayers during my pregnancy and upon arrival of our son. Thank you also for the many gifts. Your kindness is appreciated.
—Jonathan, Renea and Bryce Mohler
The RCTC Administration

Invites you and your family to a...

Picnic Outing!

Friday, May 12, 2000 — 4:30 p.m.
Atrium Grounds

Good Food...Fun Games...
Come Join Us!!

The Administrators are cooking and will provide brats, burgers, buns, lemonade, cups, plates, napkins, and forks. Please bring a dish to pass.

RSVP to Judy Kingsbury by e-mail or phone (x7216) by May 9th with number attending.