Dean's List – Spring 2007
Excellence in scholastic achievement is recognized each semester by compiling a Dean's List. Students successfully completing at least 12 college-level credits with grade points, as well as a minimum term grade point average of 3.0 or better qualify for the Dean's List. Credits for P and grades of I, AU, CR and W are excluded from the count. Letters of congratulations are sent to students receiving a GPA of 3.5 and above.

The Dean's List is posted in the Admissions and Records area and at the Heintz Center, as well as distributed to local media. The listing can also be downloaded by going to:

http://www.rctc.edu/about/html/Deans-list.html

Congratulations to all who made the list! There are 1,287 students who made the Dean's List for Spring, 2007.

* 4.0: 242 students
* 3.5 - 4.99: 393 students
* 3.0-3.49: 499 students

Academic Accolades
The Department of State selected two winning websites for its 2007 Doors to Diplomacy Award, which is co-sponsored by Global SchoolNet. The awards recognize the websites that best teach young people about the importance of international affairs and diplomacy. Participants, ranging in age from 13 to 18, included more than 190 student teams from 38 countries. RCTC students constructed one of the winning sites!

Doors 2 Cambodia, http://www.roch.edu/course/doors2cambodia/: This site was built by a team of three students in Rochester, Minnesota. The team built upon a service class trip to Cambodia promoting citizen diplomacy. Their website shows what they learned about the country and the specific projects they undertook to support education and advocate for human rights.

Each student member of the two winning Doors to Diplomacy Award teams will receive a $2,000 scholarship. In addition, the winning coaches will each receive a $500 cash award.

On a related topic of the Cambodian Service Learning Project, Kim Sin and RCTC student, Justin Richardson, won a competition for their video of a true story they heard from a person they met at the garbage dump. To see the video, click on the link below.

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UZ5Sg5VF2Tk

Marketing Corner
Anna Pingree will be attending three Mayo Education Fairs, on the mayo campuses. Over the summer months she will be hosting several summer visits. They are supplements to Preview Days and are hosted on a much smaller scale. On July 12th, she will be visiting with the STRIVE Students and the Rochester Area YMCA.

Marketing Fact
Of all students who enrolled in credit classes in Fall 2006 (beyond the drop/add period), 80.1% finished with an A, B, C, or P. 11.1% withdrew (W), and 8.8% finished with a D or F. [RCTC Institutional Research - National Community College Benchmark Project (pending) - research excludes Incompletes and Audits]

Crossings Classifieds
For Rent: NW 3 Bedroom home with 2-car detached garage..family room with fireplace. NS/NP $950.00 Call Rose Conway at 285-7260 or Joe at 272-8864.

Thank You Notes
Thank You to the RCTC family for all the cards, flowers, memorials, kind words and various expressions of sympathy during the recent passing away of our mom. We appreciate the support and many prayers that have been extended our way during this difficult time.

Pat Pacyna Health Unit coordinator Program Leader
Eunice Mahlum, Adjunct NA Instructor

Administration and Staff of RCTC:
Thank you all so very much for the beautiful flowers you sent for Mary Goette's funeral, and for all your help.

Kit Muellner Vreeman

Gay and Lesbian Pride Month
June is Gay and Lesbian Pride Month—a time to commemorate the contributions that gays and lesbians are making. Cities all over the world celebrate with community events. You can find a celebration at one of the following:

2007 GLBT Pride Festivals in Minnesota

June 2 and 3rd – Fargo/Moorhead
http://www.pridecollective.com
June 3rd – Pine City
http://www.menscircle.org
June 7th – Youth Pride
http://www.youthlinkmn.org
June 21st- Itasca Pride
Itasca GLBTA Alliance@yahoo.com
June 23rd and 24th – Twin Cities
http://www.tcpride.org
July 13th-15th – Rochester
http://www.chewycub.com/Pridefest
August 10-13 – Soul Essence
http://www.soulessenceminnesota.org
September 1st – Duluth
http://www.dspride.com
September 8th – South Central Minnesota Pride
http://www.scmnpride.com

Ricki Walters
Regional Diversity Trainer/Investigator
Supalla’s Scribblings

For the first time in several years, the Legislature finished its work without a special session. Several days later, Governor Pawlenty signed the higher education omnibus biennial budget bill. The bill provides $3.16 billion in state funding to higher education institutions, students and related programs for two years beginning July 1, 2007. The funds provide a 14.9 percent increase for the University of Minnesota and 12.7 percent increase for MnSCU. The Minnesota State Colleges and Universities system will receive $1.36 billion, a $153 million increase over the current two year budget cycle. In addition to holding tuition increases at four percent or less (3.5% at RCTC), the system will invest in STEM programs, create a bioscience center of excellence and reach more students from under-represented populations. The bill includes $10.8 million for a new initiative proposed by the Governor to award scholarships to low- and middle-income high school students who complete a set of college-prep courses. MnSCU will receive approximately $12 million after demonstrating they have achieved three of five goals. The MnSCU goals include increasing enrollment in science and technology courses, increasing enrollments in Centers of Excellence programs, increasing the number of students trained in the use of electronic medical record technology and increasing the number of students enrolled in online courses. The legislature provided $12 million for a G.I. Bill for Minnesota veterans who have recently served on active duty. And, out-of-state tuition was eliminated at seven two-year colleges, including RCTC. The bonding bill did not get resurrected and with the likelihood of a special session remote, it doesn’t appear there will be any state.

Congratulations to the Upward Bound Graduating Class. Twelve impressive students were recognized at the UB Year-End Celebration & Senior Recognition on May 18. Three of the graduates have enrolled in RCTC, four in University of Wisconsin campuses, two at the University of Minnesota and one each at St. Cloud State University, Macalester and Concordia College – St. Paul. Congratulations are in order for Suzanne Nordvig and the Upward Bound Team who learned that their federal TRIO grant has been funded for another four years. Way to go!

Bequette, Fuller and Hansmann joined me at the Rochester Chinese School’s Year-end Celebration on Saturday, May 19. The afternoon program highlighted this year’s graduates and included award presentations, thank yous, class performances, recognitions and the announcement of the new principal and Board chair. Dr. Bequette serves as the RCTC liaison with this growing educational entity that calls our campus home on Saturdays during the academic year.

Kudos to Colleen Landherr who has worked hard to garner grants from the RCTC Foundation, Olmsted County, Kiwanis, Rotary, Mayo Clinic, Wal-Mart Foundation and numerous other sources to fund this year’s “Get Up, Get Moving, Get Healthy, GET THERE” camp. The RCTC camp is scheduled from June 18-22.

Struggling children experience achievement gaps that expand as they progress through school. These gaps generate public costs due to the increased need for remedial education, increases in justice system expenses and reduced future earnings and tax revenue. Did you know?

- 60% of children in Olmsted County are not fully prepared for kindergarten.
- Children make up a disproportionate share of the poor.
- The number of children receiving free and reduced-price lunch in Rochester has jumped 33% in the past six years.
- It costs over $90,000 per year to house a juvenile offender at the Olmsted County Youth Detention Center. It costs only $400 per year to provide services to one Boys & Girls Club member.

- 150+ children ages 3-4 are currently on a waiting list for Head Start.
- Due to space constraints, 25% of the children in Migrant Head Start lose access to child care services every year.

Please consider attending “Teenage WasteLand” at Century High School on Friday, June 22 at 7:30 p.m.; Saturday, June 23 at 2 and 7:30 p.m. This collaborative dance production was produced last fall and is being brought back during RochesterFest by popular demand. Teenage WasteLand illustrates the challenges facing teens in America through the common language of music and dance. This is a performance you shouldn’t miss!

Thanks to all who contributed to the Leadership RCTC Judy Lindman Book drive. Dear Leadership RCTC, please accept our sincere sympathy on the loss of Judy Lindman. We thank you for the four boxes of children’s books collected and donated in Judy’s memory to the Child Care Resource and Referral Crisis Nursery of Olmsted County. Judy loved working for children and would love that your gift impacts our services to children by supplying some of their needs! We treasure, appreciate, value, and thank you for your support of, generosity to, and partnership with Crisis Nursery! Dear Friends, your gift means so much to me personally as Judy was one of my dearest friends and because it is such a fitting memorial – Judy loved to read and was such an advocate for literacy!! Thank you so very much. Our children and families will be given so much joy through these wonderful books. With sincere gratitude, Carma Bjornson

Until next time...

Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much.
~ Helen Keller

Be safe! Don