College Crossings

RRTC 90th Anniversary Events

RRTC is Minnesota’s and one of the nation’s oldest community colleges. The motion to create the College was introduced by Dr. Charles Mayo in August and less than one month later on September 14, 1915 classes began with 17 students. The College kicked off 90th activities at Commencement. The following is a summary of 90th Anniversary events planned.

Rochesterfest Parade

In honor of RRTC’s 90th Anniversary, RRTC will be participating in Rochesterfest parade on Friday, June 24 which begins at 6:15pm. RRTC has a pickup truck donated for use by Adamson Motors (see picture) and a trailer loaned from Valley Featherlite that will feature a 6’ hive. Parade walkers will handout Bit O Honey to kids along the parade route. The parade route can be downloaded from: http://www.rochesterfest.com/parade/index.html.

RCTC’s Community Extravaganza (Celebrating 90 years of Excellence)

Saturday, September 10 in the Quadrangle on the UCR Campus

RCTC will host a 90th Anniversary Street Dance as the lead event for anniversary week activities.

4:00PM Carnival and concessions open
5:00PM-6:00PM Hot air balloon launch/exhibit
5:00PM-8:00PM Battle of the Bands (Approximately 6 bands)
8:30PM-10:00PM Main stage concert - Jesse Lang
10:00PM-10:30PM Fireworks extravaganza

RCTC’s 90th Anniversary Day Party

Wednesday, September 14 in the Atrium/Atrium Front

11:00AM Coffeehouse Concert in Art Gallery
1:00PM Musical Entertainment and Anniversary Cake in Atrium
4:00PM Outdoor BBQ and Anniversary Cake in Atrium Front

RCTC 90th Anniversary Dinner and Awards

Friday, September 16 in the Old Rockenbach Gym

The last formal activity to be in old Rockenbach Gym prior to its renovation into a Health Sciences building will be a formal celebration of the College’s 90 years of excellence.

6:00PM Reception in the Atrium
7:00PM-7:30PM Awards Dinner
7:30PM-9:00PM Awards/Celebration Program

NOTE: Tickets for the dinner are $20/person. Table sponsorships will be available for local businesses and community organizations and friends of RRTC. If interested in attending this event please indicate your interest and the number of tickets you are interested in by sending an email to Dave Weber or Michelle Messenger by June 30th. This early email reply is to help estimate event needs. A formal invitation will be sent in July with an RSVP card.
Marketing Fact
According to a recent study National Center for Education Statistics (NCES), the most popular fields to earn a bachelor's degree are: Business, Social Science, and Education. While Math and Engineering are on the decline, the fields with the fastest growth include: parks, recreation, and leisure studies; theological studies/religious vocations; visual and performing arts; and communications and communications technologies.

Best Bee for June
Congratulations to Dave Carr for being selected as the Best Bee of the Month for June. Here is some of what Dave’s nominator had to say: Dave is excellent at customer service. He is friendly and helpful to everyone. He is also very knowledgeable about media services and simplifies things so that you can easily understand how to operate the equipment. RCTC is fortunate to have him as an employee. Dave will receive an “up front” parking spot at UCR for the month of June. Thanks, Dave, for helping make RCTC great!

Crossings Classifieds

WANTED: Have you recently moved? Do you have moving boxes you would like to get rid of? I need boxes of all sizes to move in during June and July. We will pick up the boxes from your home. Contact Dera Hanson, 507-287-9705 (home) or 507-272-6055 (cell).

WANTED: Good, used drum set. Reasonable. LeaAnn Pederson 951-4603

COMMUNITY ED TRIP: Lambeau Field - Packers vs. New England Patriots- Friday, August 26. Preseason game starting at 7 pm. Fee includes coach bus transportation and game ticket. Register Early - Limited Number of Seats! No refunds. Fee: $149 Call 285-8646 for more information or to register.

FOR SALE: Moving - MUST SELL! 3 bdrm/1 bath rambler, numerous updates, 5 acres, fenced yrd, 3+ garage, less than 5 minutes from RCTC, $143,500. Call Melanie Callister at 259-7152 (House is located at 5133 Hwy 14 E Rochester). For a more detailed write-up, contact melanie.callister@roch.edu.

FOR SALE: MOVING - MUST SELL - Craftsman Riding Lawn Tractor - 17.0 HP, 42” Mower, Electric Start, Automatic Trans, Under 2 years old with warranty, includes extra leaf catcher, brushwacker, mulcher plate, etc $1,200. Call Sondra Bentz at 288-6819.

FOR SALE: 2002 1100 Yamaha V-Star Classic. 6,000 miles. Excellent condition. Asking $6,800. Call Gary Kingsbury, 867-3970 after 5:00 p.m. E-mail Judy Kingsbury for pictures.

2nd Annual RCTC Football Golf Tournament
Friday, July 22, 2005
4 Person Best Shot
See the attached flier for more information.
Supalla’s Scribblings

Almost a month ago, Governor Pawlenty signed the higher education bill in the UCR Atrium. At the time, we were less than pleased with the $107 million in new MnSCU funding ...less than the $130 million in enrollment owed the System. Now, with several major funding bills still unresolved and a potential shutdown of some state agencies looming just two weeks away, the higher education funding and bonding bills are looking better all the time. Since the higher education and governmental operations bills are both signed, there will not be a shutdown of higher education operations come July 1. Students will continue to attend classes and employees will get paid.

Summer session is underway and enrollments are up over last year. The Health Sciences Center architect has started meeting with faculty and staff impacted by the upcoming renovation of Rockenbach Gym, repair and replacement projects have commenced, and the campus is swarming with prospective students and visitors. The Governor will be making appointments of the 11-member Rochester Higher Education Committee soon and the group will begin meeting to study the future of public post-secondary education in Rochester. A group of individuals representing community organizations interested in enhancing the athletic facilities on the campus will be sharing their request for use of sales tax funds at Monday afternoon’s City Council Committee of the Whole meeting. STAR sessions are drawing large numbers of students interested in attending RCTC next fall. Planning for increased grant monies, new program opportunities, articulation agreements, and our 90th anniversary celebration are keeping staff busy. This week the MnSCU Board of Trustees conducted the first reading on 2005-06 tuition and fees. RCTC’s proposed 7% tuition increase is slightly more that the average for all MnSCU two-year colleges. It’s anticipated that the Board will approve the tuition increase at its mid-July meeting and then we can get about the business of finalizing the FY06 budget. Stay tuned.

Kudos and congrats…

- Barb Mollberg was recognized by the MnSCU Board of Trustees as one of just two Academic and Student Affairs Administrators of the Year. Congratulations, Barb!
- Rosemary Hicks and Beth Diekmann were thanked for their significant contributions to the Minnesota Association of Financial Aid Administrators. Rosemary completed another year as an Association officer and Beth provided quality financial aid training, information and expertise in support of students and colleges across the state.
- Scott Sahs, Missy Hagen, academic leadership and all faculty who are teaching Web-based courses deserve a special pat on the back. RCTC generated the third largest on-line course enrollments in the System recently. Those involved delivered 4,569 on-line credits...behind Lake Superior College (9,877 credits) and St. Cloud State University (5,476). Scott Sahs was recently appointed as Distance Education representative on the Minnesota Online Council.
- The Office of the Chancellor has approved several new program offerings for RCTC...Mass Communications, Sports Facility Management, Clinical Research Technician, and more! Thanks to all who had a role in making this happen.
- Marilyn Hansmann joined me to present the updated UCR Master Site Plan to academic and facilities staff in the Office of the Chancellor on June 2 and we’ve already received written notice that the plan is approved. We’ll rollout a copy of the plan that shows proposed short, mid and long term infrastructure plans on the August staff development day.

Minnesota post-secondary institutions awarded 74,277 diplomas, certificates and degrees last academic year, up slightly in all categories from the previous year, according to data released by the Minnesota Higher Education Services Office. For the first time, women earned more than half of the professional degrees awarded in Minnesota. Women also accounted for more than half of all business major graduates in the state, a significant change from a decade ago. Last year, Minnesota students earned 14,898 diplomas and certificates below the baccalaureate level and 14,320 associate degrees, most of those awards granted by MnSCU colleges.
The MnSCU Board of Trustees got its first look at the draft of the 2005-05 MnSCU Work Plan. The proposed Plan includes five focus areas...enhancing revenue, improving productivity, developing centers of excellence, finalizing strategic planning and serving the underrepresented. RCTC’s strategic plan, work plan and focus areas will dovetail nicely with that of the System Office.

**Thought for the Summer...**

*Most of the important things in the world have been accomplished by people who have kept on trying when there seemed to be no hope at all.*

Keep doing your important work, and enjoy a relaxing and safe Fourth of July!  

**Don**

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**Employee News**

**Condolences:**

Condolences are extended to Wayne Braa whose father, Elroy Wilbur Braa, passed away on Monday, June 6.

Condolences to Catherine Egenberger whose father, Anton "Henry" passed away on Tuesday, June 7, 2005.

Condolences to Gerald Roberts whose brother, Ivan Ernest passed away on Friday, June 10, 2005.

Condolences to Carol Naatz whose mother, Helen Tallman passed away on Saturday, June 18, 2005.

Our thoughts are with all these employees and their families.

**Thank You:** Dear University Center Rochester Friends: Thanks to all of you for your kind words, cards and support during the recent loss of my father, Howard Tallman. Your thoughtful words and actions were much appreciated during what has been a difficult time for my family.  

*Carol Naatz*

**Thank You:** RCTC Family: We have lost someone very special... Thank you for sharing our grief.

*The family of Don Leonard*

**Tickets For Sale:** From Anne Benson: Many of you have expressed an interest in seeing my labyrinth and where my elves live. Here's your chance. We are one of the gardens on the Mayowood Garden Tour "Art in the Garden" June 25th, 9 am to 4 pm. There are three private gardens and Mayowood on the tour. The Horticulture Greenhouse Crop Production class, under the direction of Robin Fruth-Dugstad, grew the plants used at Mayowood this year. Advanced tickets ($18) are available at the History Center, Sargent's Nursery, Mouse and Marketplace, and Hunt drugstores or you can get tickets on the 25th ($20).

**It's a BOY:** It is with great delight that we announce the arrival of Keondre Johnnie Bryant, born today (May 31) at 1:38am. Keondre arrived weighing 6 lbs 5 oz and 18 inches long to the proud parents of Rebecca and Johnnie Bryant. Welcome to the RCTC family.

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**Dean’s List – Spring Semester 2005**

Excellence in scholastic achievement is recognized each semester by compiling a Dean’s List. Student successfully completing at least 12 college-level credits with grade points, with 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. These lists are 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 from our website at: [http://www.rctc.edu/about/html/Deans-list.html](http://www.rctc.edu/about/html/Deans-list.html). Letters of congratulations are sent to students receiving a GPA of 3.5 and above. Congratulations to all who made the list!

There are 1,231 students who made the Dean's List for Spring Semester, 2005.

* 4.0: 251 students
* 3.5 - 4.99: 404 students
* 3.0-3.49: 576 students
Swarms of Golfers Enjoy Yellowjacket Golf Tournament
On Friday, June 10th, 100 golfers swarmed Willow Creek Golf Course for the 11th Annual Yellowjacket Golf Tournament. Proceeds benefit the Champa/Kereakos Scholarship Fund and help support RCTC Foundation.

Participation increased 60% from the previous year. Also new this year were added games and activities that both increased revenue and added to the “fun” value for the golfers. Participants could donate $5.00 and have a chance to win a poker pool. Playing cards were handed out at select golf holes with the fifth card selected on their return to the clubhouse at the end of their rounds. Golfers could also contribute to compete to have their shot be closest to the pin on the 6th hole. A bottle of wine was the prize for sinking the ball in the putting contest. Each hole also had a trivia question to stump the players, with questions referring to Yellowjacket sports, professional golf and RCTC history. Sweet as honey silent auction prizes awaited the higher bidder upon return to the clubhouse.

All week the weather forecast indicated rain for the day, but the rain held off allowing for a warm and sunny day. As the event wound down after a meal and raffle prizes drawn, the participants headed home looking forward to next year’s tournament, scheduled for June 9, 2006. Mark it on your calendars and plan to buzz over to Willow Creek Golf course for a fun day of golf and camaraderie.
Staffing Update
This past “Search Year” was very exciting for RCTC! We initiated 29 faculty searches and were successful at filling 26 of them so far. The Nursing AD and Computer Science searches are still in the process and the Speech/Theater was a failed search. Below you will find a list of our new hires, and some people who have been around, but have moved into other positions!!! Be sure to congratulate these people and offer your assistance in finding their way around our campus to make them feel welcome. Some of them may be wandering around this summer, but you will be sure to see them at the Fall Staff Development Day!

Accounting-UFT Allan O’Bryan
Art-UFT Simon Huelsbeck
Biology-TFT Cory Rubin
BUM 1-UFT Daniel Chick
BUM 3-UFT Thomas Soltau
BUM 4-UFT Warren Beighley
Counseling-TFT Wayne Borgen
English-UFT Patrick Costello
English-UFT Katherine Hanson
English-UFT Pamela Whitfield
English-TFT Eric Mein
English-TFT Jody Orson
English-TFT Greg Dahlstrom
Equine Science-UFT Julie Christie
Human Services-UFT Shelli Arneson
Math-UFT Paul Kinion
Math-UFT Xiaomin Wang
Math-TFT Terry Krieger
Nursing-UFT Audrey Nervig
Physical Education-UFT Jean Mugsjerd
Political Science-UFT Atef Dimian
Psychology-UFT Ruth Casper
Sociology-UFT Matthew Frank
Speech-UFT Annie Clement
Veterinary Technology-UFT Kim Rowley
Wrestling Coach-TPT Randy Rager

Several searches have also been completed for classified staff and several are still pending. The completed searches include:
Customer Services Specialist, Int-Mary Bisbee  (Business/Workforce Education)
Customer Services Specialist- Kathie Mangan  (Business/Workforce Education)
Office and Administrative Specialist, Sr.-Sue Danielson (Admissions and Records)
Office and Administrative Specialist-Ramona Taylor (Science/Child Development)
Office and Administrative Specialist, Intermediate-Julie Hager (Office of the Dean)
Office and Administrative Specialist-Julie Enquist (Health Services)
Office and Administrative Specialist-LeaAnn Pederson (Allied Health)
Information Technology Specialist 2-Bill Brown
Information Technology Specialist 3-Jon Benson
General Maintenance Workers-Susan Hughes, Sam Singphotignal