A Look Back...

90 years ago this month...A special meeting was called at the high school to find out the number of students who would be interested in regular college work at a new university department. Eleven perspective students were identified for coursework that would begin in September.

All-College Committees:
The RCTC All-College Committees are recruiting memberships for the 2005-2006 academic year. Memberships are determined annually and include faculty, staff, and student representatives. A complete listing of the 2005-06 committees will be shared in a future edition of Crossings and through e-mail. Watch for more information in the next few weeks.

Academic Calendar
Attached to this week’s Crossings is a complete 2005-06 academic calendar. The calendar may also be accessed via the intranet site at:
http://www.rctc.edu/intra/academic_calendar.html

Acknowledgement of Significant Events
RCTC is a family, and throughout the year significant events occur in the lives of our family members. This may include the birth or adoption of a child, hospitalization of an employee, or the passing away of a loved one. The Office of the President, in accordance with MnSCU Expense Allowance Policies, wants to acknowledge these events and respectfully requests your assistance. Understanding the receiving of news or acknowledgments of significant events is a college-wide process, the Office of the President requests employee's receiving information of such events notify Judy Kingsbury either via telephone (x7216) or e-mail (judy.kingsbury@roch.edu), with logistical details (i.e. occasion, hospital, funeral home, etc.). Upon confirmation of the information, appropriate arrangements will be made to acknowledge the event. Thank you for your cooperation.
Welcome Week Activities!
Tuesday, August 23 from 11:00am-12:00pm
Nick Mezacapa is going to speak in the Atrium. For those not familiar with Nick Mezacapa, he delivers wonderfully positive, uplifting, and often humorous lectures and is much sought after. He has lectured here on several occasions and I always enjoy hearing him. He is a clergyman, actor, lecturer and much more. I hope you'll take a few minutes to stop by and see him.

Wednesday, August 24 from 11:00am-1:00pm
Monroe Crossing is an instrumental blue grass/gospel group who will be performing in the 3rd Floor Cafeteria in the College Center Building. They have been here a few times in the past and are always well received by their listeners. The student ambassadors will be giving out ice cream treats to the first 50 people. Enjoy some good music while you eat lunch!

Friday, August 25 from 11:45am-12:00pm
There will be a small pep rally in the atrium to introduce our fall athletic teams and hear from the coaches as they prepare for another season of YellowJacket sports. Come show your support. Admission to home games is free to staff and students with your ID's.

RCTC Policies
It is every RCTC employee's responsibility to familiarize themselves with, and adhere to, state, system, and college policies. All MnSCU and RCTC policies are available through the RCTC website.

Policies include information on, but not limited to:
- Acceptable Use of Computers and Information Technology Resources
- Fraudulent or Other Dishonest Acts
- Fundraising and Resource Development
- Gifts and Grants Acceptance
- Possession or Carry of Firearms
- Reports/Complaint of Discrimination/Harassment Investigation and Resolution
- Sexual Violence
- State Employee Ethical Obligations
- Student Data Practices
- Student Excused Absences
- Weather/Emergency Closings
- Zero Tolerance of Workplace Violence

To find a policy, go to http://www.rctc.edu/policies/, type a keyword to search or choose from the list of categories provides. The website is intended to function as a convenient reference. Although the site is updated regularly, it is impossible to guarantee complete accuracy at all times. In the event of any discrepancy between the policy documents formally approved and the policies listed on the website, the former shall be the governing version.

Crossings Classifieds
For Rent: Are you considering a Fall Colors Tour/Vacation? Need a place to stay? North Shore vacation home for rent. Located 30 minutes north of Split Rock Lighthouse. For more information, contact Colleen Landherr Maddox, 280-3113.

Parking Permits
Annual or Fall semester parking permits are available in the Cashier's office. Payroll deduction is available for annual permits only, forms are in cashier's office. Yes, a new authorization form needs to be completed each year.
Supalla’s Scribblings

The Rochester Higher Education Development Committee was established to research and make recommendations to the governor and legislature on the creation of mission-driven postsecondary educational programs or institutions in the Rochester area that meet the education needs of the region and the state that capitalize on the unique opportunities for educational partnerships presented in the Rochester area. Governor Pawlenty has appointed an 11-member committee comprised of a MnSCU trustee; U of M Regent; six persons from the Rochester area representing business, health and medical sciences, and technology; Commissioner of Finance; one person who by training or experience has special expertise in postsecondary finance and planning; and one person who has special expertise in postsecondary academic planning and programming. Marilyn Stewart, branch manager of Edina Realty, was named chair of the committee. The committee is charged with developing a proposal for establishment and implementation of expanded higher education programs or institutions in Rochester and the committee’s report must include recommendations on:

- The mission and focus of the programs or institutions
- The nature of undergraduate and graduate programs to be offered
- Site and facility needs
- Funding sources and opportunities
- Operational needs
- Alliances or other types of cooperative arrangements with public and private institutions
- Governance structures
- Mechanisms to ensure that the expanded programs are aligned with the unique needs and opportunities of the Rochester area and that programs take advantage of opportunities presented by regional business and industry.

If the committee recommends any programmatic changes that result in institutional realignments, the committee must consult with the representatives of affected employees and address the continuation of collective bargaining and contractual rights and benefits. The committee must consider specifically whether expansion of the University of Minnesota in Rochester is the most appropriate method of meeting the region’s needs. The committee may also research and provide recommendations on sites for the facilities and programs. The committee must issue a report with recommendations to the governor and legislature by January 15, 2006. The legislature appropriated $200,000 for the committee to carry out its planning activities and $3 million for a one-time appropriation to implement recommendations. The committee has met three times and has scheduled morning meetings (normally 7-10 or 11 a.m.) at Edina Realty in Rochester on September 2, 8, 22, 30; October 14 and 28; November 10 and 21; December 8 and 16; and January 6, 2006. All meetings are open to the public and “public comment” is a standing agenda item. I encourage you to attend, follow the committee’s activities in the press, or review regular meeting updates on the Minnesota Higher Education web site.

RCTC Happenings…

- Following the final STAR session, RCTC has registered 6,034 students who have purchased 66,582 credits. The number of students enrolled sets an all-time high and breaks the 6,000 student threshold. Last year RCTC started the first day of classes with 5,926 students taking 65,340 credits. Thanks to all who helped grow enrollments to record numbers. The objective now changes from recruitment and registration to retention!
- Please begin immediately to promote Student Success Day, Wednesday, September 28. If possible, faculty should consider building participation incentives into your syllabi. This year’s “Welcome Aboard” Success Day is intended to provide students with a variety of sessions that will enhance their chances for academic success.
- There will be a “Media Open House” on Tuesday, August 23 at 9:30 a.m. in the Government Center Boardroom. At the open house the sales tax referendum publicity video, produced by RCTC, will be unveiled followed by a question and answer session. Passage of the October 4 referendum is critical to RCTC as it provides an additional $8 million for co-developed higher education infrastructure. Please feel free to join the event if your schedule allows. Be sure to vote “YES” on October 4!
Mark your calendar and plan to attend the first of this year’s Visiting Scholar Lectures. John Dominic Crossan, professor emeritus of Biblical Studies at De Paul University and generally acknowledged to be the premier historical Jesus scholar in the world, will present “Jesus and Paul: First Justice, Then Peace.” The UCR lecture will be held in Hill Theatre on Friday, October 7 at 10 a.m. Professor Crossan will also be featured in a series of talks Friday evening October 7 and Saturday, October 8 at Christ United Methodist Church.

Marilyn Hansmann was recently appointed to MnSCU’s Technical Advisory Committee to work on the framework continuous improvement project. Congratulations, Marilyn!

You will soon be receiving information soliciting contributions to the RCTC Family Fund. The fund was established several years ago to assist those members of the RCTC family who might be in need of assistance during a time of crisis. Please be generous when you respond.

RCTC will begin offering “Learning is ForEver” (LIFE) classes at Charter House. Chriasanne Pieper, LIFE Coordinator, will be the RCTC liaison working with the Charter House’s recreation director to plan the series. The classes will be held at Charter House and will be for Charter House residents only. Charter House residents and staff liked the idea of the “college coming to them.” Congratulations on this new twist to an always impressive program.

Thought for the Week…
We can learn a lot from crayons. Some are sharp, some are pretty and some are dull. Some have weird names, and all are different colors, but they all have to live in the same box. Have a great year!

Don

WELCOME!
The RCTC Counseling Center announces counselor, Wayne Borgen, to our staff. Wayne will be in Jim Kehoe's office SS142 as Jim will be on sabbatical for Fall and Spring semester. Wayne has counseling background from Riverland in Owatonna. Welcome Wayne! Have a good year Jim!

Thank You
I would like to thank my RCTC friends and family for the beautiful plant that was sent to my mom's funeral. Her death was unexpected. Your cards and kind words of sympathy were greatly appreciated. I am proud that I have the opportunity to work with such a great group of caring people.

- Carol Haug

Visiting Scholar Lectures Resumes with Professor Crossan
John Dominic Crossan is Professor Emeritus of Biblical Studies at De Paul University. Professor Crossan is generally acknowledged to be the premier historical Jesus scholar in the world. Professor Crossan has written over twenty books including Jesus: A Revolutionary Biography, The Birth of Christianity and In Search of Paul. The title of Crossan’s talk at UCR is “Jesus and Paul: First Justice, Then Peace”. The lecture will be featured in Hill Theater on Friday October 7th at 10:00 a.m. This lecture is free and open to the public. This lecture is generously underwritten by the Carol Ann Wallace Distinguished Lectureship in Human Values. The lectureship was established in 1986 to enhance the education of students at University Center Rochester and the surrounding community. The lectureship is administered by Winona State University and Rochester Community and Technical College Foundation as part of the Visiting Scholar Series. Professor Crossan will also be featured in a series of talks Friday evening October 7th and Saturday, October 8th at Christ United Methodist Church. For information on how you can participate, please contact Carol Ann Wallace at 288-1351 or via email at CAW4805@aol.com