

Fall Semester
COLLEGE
Crossings



ROCHESTER COMMUNITY AND TECHNICAL COLLEGE...EXPECT THE UNEXPECTED.

Thought for the month...

Tough times never last but tough people do.

~Robert H. Schuller

Welcome – New Employees

Please welcome the following employees who are joining RCTC for the first time this Fall semester. We are glad you're here!

Jennifer Bartels; Joshua Bendickson; Malachi Bjorngaard; Donald Blahnik; Nancy Brennan; John Bronk; Benjamin Brower; Daniel Butterfass; John Carlson; Timothy Carter; Michelle Cochran; Darryl Conley; Janette Dragvold; Richard Dwyer; Daniel Froelich; Scott Gunther; Matthew Hainy; Ryan Hanson; Yoshi Hirai; Alison Johnson; Charles Johnson; Marty Johnson; Thomas Kacir; Michael Kirtz; Joseph Kollar; Travis Koster; Micah Lehner; Charles Lennis; Andrew Masterpole; John McDaris; Andrea Meuleners; Diane Moench; Patricia Nicolai; Amanda Peoples; Christopher Person-Rennell; Joshua Peterson; Marcel Popescu; Debra Robertson; David Roe; Adrian Singh; Mike Smith; Sean Valentine; Joseph Vukov; Keith Wain and Jeanne Wilson.



All-College Committees

The RCTC All-College Committees are recruiting memberships for the 2009-2010 academic year. Memberships are determined annually and include faculty, staff, and student representatives. A list of the committees, and the 2008-09 members may be found at: http://www.rctc.edu/intra/all-college_committees.html

Non-faculty members interested in serving on one or more of these committees should contact Judy Kingsbury. Faculty members interested in serving on one or more of these committees should submit their names through Gregg Wright. If your name was listed last year, you need to sign-up again for the 2009-2010 academic year.

Academic Accolades

Rashmi Roy (English) has a new title...since August 4, she has been known as Dr. Roy! Our newest RCTC doctor spent time in India this summer, and successfully passed the oral defense of her dissertation entitled "The Mystic Poetry of Walt Whitman in the Light of Sri Aurobindo's Poetics." Dr. Roy's Ph.D. comes from Mahatma Gandhi K.V. University in Varanasi, India. Congratulations!

ATTACHMENTS

CLICK BELOW TO BRING UP ATTACHMENT ON SCREEN

Academic Calendar

Contact Days Calendar

Learning Center Hours

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.



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
- Reports/Complaint of Discrimination/Harassment Investigation and Resolution
- 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.

Academic Calendar

Attached to this week's *Crossings* is a complete 2009-2010 academic calendar. The calendar may also be accessed via the intranet site: http://www.rctc.edu/intra/academic_calendar.html

Tutors Wanted

RCTC Upward Bound Program is looking for RCTC students who are interested in tutoring Upward Bound high school students in after-school tutoring sessions at John Marshall High School, Mayo High School, and Century High School. The tutoring position can be a paid one or as volunteer time for a service learning opportunity. [CLICK HERE](#) for more information.

Volunteers Needed

Contact Jamie Parkin if you are able to volunteer for the September 23 Student Success Day. Volunteers are needed to help with registration/greeting; session moderation and lunch.



Service Learning Fair ~ MONDAY ~

At the request of students, community partners and faculty, the Service Learning Info Fair is earlier in the semester. Come meet our community partners, send students and share stories next Monday, August 31st in the Atrium from 11:00-1:00. The first 150 student to visit four community partners will win a gift bag. The theme for this semester is "Have a Heart." In conjunction with the fair will be a Mayo Clinic Blood Drive from 8:30 AM to 3:30 PM in AT302. Pre-registration is appreciated. Call 284-4475 to schedule an appointment.



Enjoy a Summer Grill Out for Labor Day Weekend!



SUPALLA'S SCRIBBLINGS

Enrollments continue to hold virtually steady even as we approach the final drop/add day. Currently, MnSCU data warehouse numbers put RCTC's fall enrollment nine percent above last fall. Those numbers are likely to drop a bit before the official tenth and thirtieth day numbers are reported. Even so, it appears that RCTC will likely experience a 2009 enrollment increase of approximately seven percent. This year we are experiencing a significant influx of returning Veterans, increased numbers of dislocated workers, and an ever-increasing number of students who, for tuition and cost of living savings, have elected to complete their lower-division studies at a close-to-home two-year college. Sincere thanks to all who've worked so hard to accommodate this increased student demand!

An article that deserves summation appeared in the July 20 edition of TIME an article, "Can Community Colleges Save the U.S. Economy?" *As laid-off workers add to surging enrollments, the White House looks to two-year schools for an educational bailout. Community colleges are deeply unsexy. This fact tends to make even the biggest advocates of these two-year schools – which educate nearly half of the U.S. undergraduates – sound defensive, almost a tad whiny. Most people don't understand community colleges very well at all. These institutions are our nation's trade schools, training 59% of our new nurses as well as cranking out wind-farm technicians and video-game designers – jobs that, despite ballooning unemployment overall, abound for adequately skilled workers. Community college graduates earn up to 30% more than high school grads, a boon that helps state and local governments reap a 16% return on every dollar they invest in community colleges. But as record numbers of students clamor to enroll, community colleges are struggling with shrinking resources or, at best, trying to maintain the status quo. Chronically cash-starved, two-year schools pull in an average of just 30% of the federal funding per student allocated to state universities – though they educate nearly the same number of undergraduates. Two-year schools have been growing faster than four-year institutions, with the number of students they educate increasing more than sevenfold since 1963, compared with a near tripling at four-year schools. Yet federal funding has held virtually steady over the past 20 years for community colleges, while four-year schools' funding has increased. Community colleges are used to doing more with less. But this recession has led to record enrollment surges at many two-year schools, in part because of the influx of laid-off workers but also because more members of the middle class are looking to save money on the first couple of years of their children's higher education. Skyrocketing enrollment and shrinking budgets could mean that just as record numbers of students seek out a community college, earning a degree from one may be harder than ever. America's future economic success may well depend on how we invest in two-year institutions.*

At the new staff orientation day, Barb Mollberg distributed a "Top Ten Reminders for New RCTC Employees..." It's a top ten list that's a great reminder for all employees, new and returning. Thanks, Barb.

- 10) Arrive early to get the best parking spot.
- 9) Remember where you parked your car.
- 8) Don't get stuck in construction areas.
- 7) Know your administrative support person.
- 6) Email is our official method of communication.
- 5) Know how to report a [faculty] absence (280-3145).
- 4) Payroll questions? Contact your Dean, [supervisor], or Kimberly Leitzen in Human Resources (280-5007).
- 3) Fall semester [except for late start] courses begin on August 24 and end on December 18.
- 2) Graduation is scheduled for Thursday, May 13, 2010. Plan to attend!
- 1) Be enthusiastic, prepared, and accessible.

The second annual Rochester Education Summit is scheduled for Saturday, September 26 at University Center. The day begins with more than 30 educational sessions, food, entertainment, exhibits and concludes with a keynote address by Calvin Terrell. Everything except the keynote will be held in UCR Main, with the keynote scheduled for the Sports Center.

Thought for the week...

Change is the law of life. And those who look only to the past or present are certain to miss the future.
- John F Kennedy

Thanks for a great first week of the new academic year. Enjoy a safe and relaxing Labor Day weekend.

Don



Martial Arts Club

RCTC Martial Arts Club meets on Mondays from 7:00-9:00 PM in SC 108, and Thursdays from 8:00-10:00 PM in SC108. Learn kickboxing, jiu-jitsu, and more. No experience needed. Come train with us for a month and get a FREE club T-shirt! (While supplies last.)

Retirees Breakfast

The semi-annual RCTC/RCC/RTC Retirees' Breakfast will take place on: Thursday, September 3, 2009 beginning at 8:30am at the Real Life Cooperative, 825 Essex Parkway NW (about 1/2 mile north of 37th Street NW, just west of West River Parkway; or east on 55th St. NW, which turns south and becomes West River Parkway). A \$1.00 donation to cover the cost for coffee, donuts, juice and fruit will be appreciated. In addition to re-connecting with colleagues, President Don Supalla will present an update on what's happening on campus. Please RSVP to Arlouene Bothun at 282-1594 or albothun@hotmail.com by September 1 if you plan to attend.

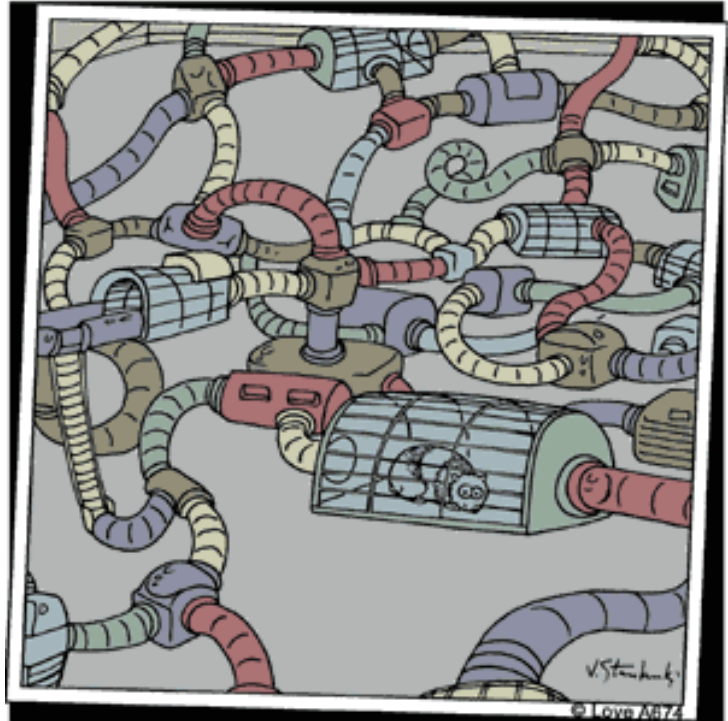
Crossings Classifieds

COMMUNITY EVENT: Pancake breakfast at Applebee's North September 26 benefitting Elder Network from 8:00 - 9:30 a.m. Breakfast includes 3 pancakes, scrambled eggs, 2 sausages and milk, orange juice or coffee for only \$5.00 per person. Tickets must be purchased in advance. All proceeds benefit Elder Network ~ a non-profit organization dedicated to helping seniors in our community. For tickets, call Elder Network at 285-5272 or e-mail Kathy Richie at kathy.richie@roch.edu.

COMMUNITY NOTICE: Adult Strength/ Fat Burning Classes Starting at SWSC. \$49.95 per month. No contract, month to month basis. SWSC located at: 6301 Bandel Road, suite 603, Rochester MN NW 55901. Start when you sign up. [CLICK HERE](#) for more info.

FOR SALE: Baby items: Baby cradle swing, switches from side to side motion to forward and back swing motion. Plush liner with baby lamb mobile, music and nature sounds. New \$150 asking \$75, used four months; excellent condition. Also, under the sea floor gym/activity mat, new \$75 asking \$25. Call Deb Schloegel at 280-0932 or 251-3615.

Snapshots at jasonlove.com



Lifestyles of the hamsters of the rich and famous.