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

Thought for the month...
The most wasted of all days is one without laughter.
~E. E. Cummings

Sign-Up for an All-College Committee
Memberships are still being accepted for the 2009-2010 All-College Committees. Remember, memberships are determined annually, so if you served on a committee last year, you do need to re-sign up for the current year. Non-faculty members interested in serving on one or more of these committees should contact Judy Kingsbury. Faculty members interested in serving should submit their names through Gregg Wright. Please visit the RCTC Intranet Website at: http://www.rctc.edu/intra/all-college_committees.html to review the available committees.

Input on Proposed New Policies Sought
RCTC Policies/Procedures are rules and processes that have been sanctioned by the RCTC President and generally have college-wide applicability. Before the President makes a final approval, policies are reviewed and discussed through appropriate meet and confer processes. In order to improve communication, the Office of the President will be distributing college-wide e-mails sharing information on proposed new or revised policies and soliciting input on behalf of the President. Comments are being accepted through Friday, September 18 on two new proposed policies below. Click on the Policy below to view .pdf file.

Tobacco Use and Sales (Policy 5.18.2)
Video Surveillance (Policy 6.4.3.1)

Scholarship Fundraiser
In September 1999 Jason Meyer, an alumni of our Law Enforcement Skills Program, was killed in a car accident responding to an officer needs assistance call. His family started the scholarship fund in his name and have given out two (02) scholarships each year to RCTC Law Enforcement Skills students. T-Shirts are available for sale at $15.00 with the funds going to this scholarship. If you are interested, please send me a note (box 49) with size and $15.00 or check made out to Jason Meyer Scholarship Fund.

~Harry Kerr
(H)Our Music Series
This series is a FREE Tuesday evening music series open to all. The series presents music of various genres and styles and will include verbal commentary by the artists about their works/performances. The concerts will last only ONE HOUR.

JEDI Jazz Quintet
Benjamin Gateno: Classical Guitar.
Circuits and Skins. Featuring the RCTC World Drum Ensemble and Original Music/Video compositions by RCTC Music Students

Click HERE for more information including dates and times. We hope you can attend any/all of these free concerts this semester. The Spring semester series will be announced in November.

~ Kevin Dobbe

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, jiujitsu, and more. No experience needed. Come train with us for a month and get a FREE club T-shirt! (While supplies last.)
Federal officials are encouraging traditional college-age students – many of whom traditionally don’t bother with flu shots – to get vaccinated as the nation prepares for the return of the H1N1 flu virus (previously called the swine flu). “College students are one of the highest risk groups,” Education Secretary Arne Duncan said in a conference call with higher education officials last week, noting that the virus appears to spread fastest among children and young adults up to age 24. The U.S. Education Department and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services have crafted new guidance for higher education institutions in preparation for H1N1, which experts say could be more wide-spread this flu season than last spring. Much of the guide’s focus is on prevention, such as washing hands and cleaning public surfaces, but it also promotes vaccination. Federal officials added that the H1N1 vaccine should be available by mid-October. Terry Knight will be providing periodic information updates and continues to work with faculty and staff to implement prevention practices throughout the campus. Please review his updates, those of local and national media, and check out http://www.flu.gov for more information.

STAR ALERT, a free RCTC/UCR emergency notification system, makes it possible for employees and students to receive notice – by cell phone and/or e-mail – of campus-related emergencies that threaten life safety or severely impact campus operations. If you are enrolled, in an emergency STAR ALERT will send a text message to the cell number and/or e-mail address you provide. Notifications identified as “Star Alert” messages will note the nature of the emergency, what action, if any, you are to take, and where to find additional information. STAR ALERT also will let you know if campus is closed or if classes are delayed or cancelled. To register for the service, click on the STAR ALERT link near the bottom of RCTC’s Web site home page and follow the prompts. After registering, you will receive a confirmation message. If you ever want to cancel the service, simply follow the same process and unsubscribe. If you’re not registered, do it now!

Although MnSCU doesn’t officially report fall semester enrollment numbers until the thirtieth day of the term, unofficial numbers are usually quite reliable after the add/drop period. A quick snapshot of RCTC’s tenth day numbers show that headcount is 6,192 (up 300 or 5.09% from last year) and students have enrolled in 67,299 credits (up 7.49%). Thanks to all who had a role to play in meeting the needs of our inquiries, applicants and enrollees. The task now turns to retention, aided by making certain that students are aware of the many support services available on campus.

I enjoyed viewing the President’s national address to students with a room full of RCTC students. They listened intently to his message urging students to take personal responsibility for their education. I concur with a staff member who said as we left, “Every student and educator in America should have heard that speech.” If you were unable to take it in live, I encourage you to read the text or view the recorded version.

Campus Kudos…

- The American Cancer Society’s annual Relay for Life event on campus raised more than $170,000 this year. The event organizers praised the help they received from Mona (scheduler), Donny (electrician), Roman (facilities) and the maintenance team. They are already making plans to return to UCR July 16 and 17, 2010 for a repeat performance. Thanks to all who played a part in accommodating the needs of the event organizers, hundreds of cancer survivors and their supporters, medical staff, and volunteers who join together to fight cancer.

- Colleen Landherr Maddox organized another successful Camp Invention this summer. This year, 114 campers participated the first week and 110 the second. The comments from parent evaluations were very complimentary. In Minnesota, over 2800 children participated in 44 camps. On evaluations, 89 percent of the families indicated they planned to send their children to Camp Invention again next summer…3% said maybe, 7% said their children would be too old for the program, and only 1% said no thanks. Thanks and congratulations on another successful Camp Invention!

- RCTC was featured, in text and photos, in the September edition of Rochester magazine and the September/October edition of Rochester Women magazine. If you haven’t picked up your complimentary copy from one of many locations around town, why not do so before they’re gone. Guys…you can read them too.

I received a special invitation to join the Century High School faculty and staff for a first day of school presentation by Coach of the Year Don Meyer from Northern State University (Aberdeen, SD). He shared a Thought for the Week entitled “On This Day.”


Especially, laugh a little more.

~ Don