



College Crossings

Rochester Community and Technical College

September 17, 2007
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FALL SEMESTER EDITION

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- ❖ Campus Incident Report (August 21-September 7)
- ❖ Family Fund Application
- ❖ Costa Rica Trip
- ❖ Goddard Library Newsletter
- ❖ Understanding America The Constitution and Beyond
- ❖ An Evening of Nonfiction with Emilio DeGrazia
- ❖ Stone Soup (Meets September 17)

Blood Drives

September 17
October 24
December 5

Meeting Minutes

Click below:

http://www.rctc.edu/intra/html/meeting_minutes.html

You are cordially invited to attend the...

RCTC Service Learning Info Fair

Come and learn more about Service Learning at RCTC and meet some of our Community Partners.



Where: RCTC Atrium

When: September 18, 2007

Time: 10:00am - 1:00pm

Complete a Passport and Win a Travel Bag!

Meet Fellow Faculty!

Visit with Students!

Bob's Bike is on its Way to RCTC!

Tune up your bikes and consider riding along with former Trustee Bob Erickson as he pedals his way across the state, visiting every MnSCU campus. His purpose besides keeping in great shape and biking around beautiful Minnesota in the fall, is to raise money for scholarships. Bob Erickson Scholarships support students who are part-time students and do not qualify for financial aid or other government programs.

We want RCTC to meet the challenge presented by Bob and encourage EVERYONE to make a donation to this worthy cause. All funds raised come immediately back to RCTC and are awarded each year to RCTC students. All gifts are completely tax-deductible.

Bob will roll into the UCR campus on September 18 around 11:00am after an early morning departure from Austin. If you wish to bike along the way with him, we can arrange a rendezvous point. Or, you may wish to accompany him for a while as he heads to Winona after his mid-day stop here.

Whatever your preference, consider getting involved in welcoming Bob to campus, supporting Bob in his fundraising endeavor and cheering Bob as he heads to his next destination. For more information on riding with or meeting Bob during his visit OR to obtain a pledge form, please contact Jean Jech, Executive Director of the RCTC Foundation, at 281-7770 or jean.jech@roch.edu.



Weekly funny!

Snapshots at jasonlove.com**Can I Kiss You Presentation****WHO:** Mike Domitrz**WHAT:** Can I Kiss You presentation**WHEN:** September 20**WHY:** Dating, communication, respect and sexual assault awareness. Plus FREE FOOD**WHERE:** 11:00 Hill Theater (with pizza following) and again at 12:30 Heinz Center Commons area (with pizza before!)

For questions or more information, contact Annie Clement at 280-3183.

Thank You

We would like to thank the RCTC Family Fund Committee and the RCTC Family for your generous gift, we also want to thank everyone who expressed caring, concern and were there for us with your support and prayers through the past months.

~ Dwight and Pat Wolfgram

Homecoming Decoration Contest!

The 2007-08 Yellowjacket Homecoming Office Decoration Contest will begin the week of September 17. Judging will take place on Friday, September 21, beginning at Noon. We will announce the top three winners by 2:00 pm. Please send Scott Krook an email to let him know your office will enter this great contest. This year's first place prize will be lunch and RCTC Yellowjacket blankets for each member of your office. We encourage everyone to take part in this year's Homecoming Festivities!

You're Invited! President's Climate Commitment

What: The Sustainable Campus RCTC Task Force Planning

When: Tuesday, September 18th at 3:15 PM

Where: CC 409



In the spring of this year, President Supalla signed the President's Campus Climate Commitment. A portion of the commitment reads:

"We believe colleges and universities must exercise leadership in their communities and throughout society by modeling ways to minimize global warming emissions, and by providing the knowledge and educated graduates to achieve climate neutrality. Campuses that address the climate challenge by reducing global warming emissions and by integrating sustainability into their curriculum will better serve their students and meet their social mandate to help create a thriving, ethical and civil society."

Join a group of your colleagues to create a plan to integrate sustainability into the fabric of the college.

Flood Assistance

Any student or staff member of Rochester Community and Technical College who sustained any losses or damage as a result of the recent floods, please register with FEMA to see if you are eligible for assistance. FEMA flyers and brochures with additional information are available in Human Resources and the Office of the Vice President in SS202. You can call 1-800-621-FEMA (3362) or visit their website at: <http://www.fema.gov>

Assistance may also be available for faculty or staff from the RCTC Fund for the Family. A copy of the Family Fund Application is attached to this week's *Crossings*. Feel free to contact me if you need assistance.

~ Beth Arntson

Teaching Tip from the FAE Faculty Learning Circle: Student Engagement - "You Ought to Be in Pictures"

This technique involves using a photo to connect to new concepts and tackle learning new material. For content area classes, a photo is used to exemplify a situation from an historical event or situation (such as the Depression); students are required to respond to the photo by hypothesizing why this action happened and by answering questions concerning how the photo relates to their current situation, feelings, etc., so that they can connect to the event. Photos can be used to expand vocabulary by asking students to describe what is happening in the picture. Also, ask students to tell what they think happened before the photo was taken and what may happen next. Students draw on the concepts covered in class to support their predictions. For more information contact: Ruth Casper, Rae Gravenish, Bonnie Mercer, Abby Pinsky, Liz Vikse, Darlene Voeltz

Supalla Scribblings

Working through the Office of the Chancellor, RCTC contracted with Paul Anton, Wilder Research, to conduct a local economic impact study. The estimates are based on data from the 2005-06 fiscal year...

- **RCTC adds an estimated \$100,935,158 per year in activity to the local economy**
- **RCTC adds an estimated 1,413 jobs to the local economy**

A college has economic impact on the community in which it is located in several ways:

- 1) There is the direct spending of the college itself, including funds spent for wages and salaries, contracted services, supplies, repairs, and the like.
- 2) There is spending by students, many of whom are residents of the local area.
- 3) The college has multi-faceted impact on the local labor market. RCTC employs local residents; college and student spending creates jobs; many students work full- or part-time while going to school; and some students stay in the local area after completing their studies.

Spending, either by the college or by its students, is not a one-time event. A portion of initial spending by one party becomes income to someone else in the local economy, who then also spends a portion of that income, so that total spending impact is a multiple of the initial spending. Multipliers vary by location and by the initial source of the spending. The appropriate multiplier for spending by colleges, universities, and professional schools in Rochester is 1.825. Thus, the economic impact of RCTC on Rochester is the sum of the college's direct spending and spending by students in Rochester times the multiplier. Please contact Dave Weber if you want a detailed summary of the impact study.

Did you know?

- RCTC is interested in your opinion (staff and students). If you have a comment (compliment or concern) please go to <http://www.rctc.edu/commentcard> to share your thoughts. Faculty and staff are encouraged to make students aware of the comment card opportunity.
- Congratulations to the Yellowjacket soccer, volleyball and football teams who are all off to very successful seasons!
- MnSCU's project "Lead the Way" was named a finalist for the Eighth Annual Tekne Awards. The Tekne Award finalists represent a distinguished collection of technology companies and individuals that have positively impacted Minnesota's quality of life and helped secure Minnesota's place as one of the most technologically advanced states.



Three years ago, the National Council on Teacher Quality (NCTQ) began the process of analyzing states' teacher policies. NCTQ analysts sifted through tens of thousands of pages of state codes, regulations and rules; and regularly corresponded with state officials. The *State Teacher Policy Yearbook* is the first project of its kind to provide a 360-degree detailed analysis of any and every policy that states have that impact the quality of K-12 teachers, specifically their recruitment, preparation, licensing, evaluation and compensation. The *Yearbook* offers a blueprint for reform. While states have more authority and impact over the teaching profession than any other entity, other factors still contribute to teacher quality, such as overall quality of PK-12 schooling in the state, a state's poverty rate, the quality of school leadership, and the salaries districts can afford to pay. The Executive

Summary notes these key findings:

- State policies are remarkably inflexible and outdated.
- States are not paying enough attention to who goes into teaching.
- States do not appropriately oversee teacher preparation programs.
- States rely on inappropriate indicators that do not provide meaningful information about teacher qualifications.
- States do not appreciate the dual nature of licensing tests that serve as a gatekeeper on minimum qualifications.
- States continue to neglect content preparation for teachers.
- States do not ensure that special education teachers are well-prepared to teach students with disabilities.
- State policies are not geared toward increasing the quality and quantity of math and science teachers.
- States' alternate routes to teacher certification lack "truth in advertising."
- The interests of adults frequently come before the needs of children.

The *Yearbook* also includes a state-by-state analysis which rates Minnesota's overall performance as "Last in Class." You can check out the entire report at <http://www.nctq.org/stpy/>.

Thought for the Week ...

from Ron Day, Financial Aid Director, Coastal Carolina University...

Communicating effectively means being as courteous to the janitor as you are to your boss.

RCTC Values... learner-centered, teamwork, respect, innovation, excellence and fun. Don't forget to have fun!

Don

Egypt Information Session

An Egypt information session will be held on Saturday, September 29th from 11:00am – 1:00pm in CF 202.

This is the trip you have (always) dreamed about! Come join us on a 10-day trip to the Egyptian Kingdom during Spring Break 2008. Visits to Cairo, Memphis, Giza, Luxor, the 3,800 meter long Aswan High Dam, 4 days on a Nile Cruise and much more. Per October 1st the program fee will go up with \$55

~ *ViAnn Olson & Ivonne TjoeFat (group leaders)*



Study Trip to Cambodia

Once again, RCTC will be sponsoring a Travel Study Trip to Cambodia this winter break. We hope you will consider promoting this program by telling your students - as well as consider joining us!

I can not tell you how amazing the experience is, but a student can - this link will bring you our website <http://www.cambodiartc.project.mnscu.edu> - on the homepage is a video Kim Sin created based upon a student's essay about her experience during the trip. Three students created another website about their projects and won first place in an international diplomacy competition sponsored by the US State Department (see <http://www.roch.edu/course/doors2diplomacy>).

The trip is from Dec. 27, 2007 - Jan. 13, 2008. The cost of the trip \$3000.00 plus tuition and some meals (*appx - final price depends upon airline costs*). If we fill our seats sooner than later, we will be eligible for a potential discount.

SO - if you are even slightly interested, would like us to come to your classroom to promote the trip, talk about our experiences in service learning, or explain issues of culture, Cambodian socio-political issues, etc., let us know as soon as possible.

~ *Lori Halverson-Wente*

PS - Kim Sin will be serve as our tour guide and translator for the trip.

Club Meeting

Martial Arts Club meets Tuesday and Thursday in SC108 from 6-8pm.

Global Learning Campus Leaders

I just wanted to let everyone know that I, along with Lori Halverson-Wente, will be the Education for Global Learning (EGL) Campus Leaders for this school year. One task we have is to tell you about EGL and the wonderful opportunities this MnSCU Collaborative Consortium offers to our students as well as faculty and staff. Two main projects of EGL offers to all MnSCU Institutions include the Fall Semester Oxford Program and the Spring Semester Costa Rica Program . All MnSCU students can participate in these semester abroad programs. Also, all MnSCU Faculty are eligible to apply for to teach in these programs (generally faculty on sabbatical teach the courses as their sabbatical project). Each campus, ideally, sends about 5 students to participate in the programs. Therefore, we are hoping you will let your students know about these trips. A flyer for the **Costa Rica Program** is attached - students are still able to apply for this Spring 08 Trip. Another wonderful opportunity for all faculty (and interested students) is the **EGL Global Education Conference: Building Bridges of Understanding and Peace** with the Muslim World United State Institute for Peace and University of Minnesota Institute for Global Studies Conference October 12, 2007, 8:30 am - 4:30 pm. It will be at Century College. The keynote speaker is John Voll. To learn more about the conference, see:

<http://www.centurygloaled.project.mnscu.edu/>

Finally, this year there are so many other travel options we would like you to know about...

Lori will be taking a group of students (and faculty/staff) to Cambodia this winter break. Kim Sin will be hired as the group's translator and tour guide and Lori will teach a 3 credit class (Intercultural Communication). The students will continue to build wells and bathrooms, as well as serve in educational settings and tour the country (see <http://www.cambodiartc.project.mnscu.edu>).

The Guatemala Service Learning Trip just returned from their travels. The program was very rewarding and the students and RCTC faculty/staff who attended will be sharing their experience about the trip in the near future. The tentative dates for next year's trip will be Aug. 14-24 with the approximate cost of \$1,500.00

We will update you as other trips as we have more information about them. Steve Bein is planning a China Trip. Ivonne TjoeFat and ViAnn Olson are organizing a trip to Egypt. They can tell you more about these great programs.

Still other trips are being planned on campus - we will let you more as we know more. If you have questions or ideas, please let us know! Look for a display table showcasing these programs during Global Connections Week.

~ *Lillyam Arroyave and Lori Halverson-Wente*