

▶ VISITING SCHOLAR, WALTER DENNY WILL BE ON CAMPUS FOR A LECTURE ON TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30TH..... 2

○ ISSUE 5 | ○ VOLUME 13 | ○ FALL SEMSTER 2008-09

September 22, 2008

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CHECK UCR EVENTS
CHECK MEETING MINUTES

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COLLEGE *Crossings*

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

Thought for the week...

Time is what we want most...what we use worse.

~William Penn

Leadership RCTC

RCTC is proud to again offer Leadership RCTC. This leadership development program will be offered during fall and spring terms in a cohort-based model. The program resulted from ideas generated by RCTC's 2004 Continuous Quality Improvement Network (CQIN) Team. The program is patterned after leadership programs offered by other community organizations locally and nationally, but topically focused on RCTC.

An application form is attached to this week's *Crossings*. Interested persons for the upcoming cohort should complete and return their completed application to the RCTC Leadership Team.

Session dates (Wednesday afternoons): October 22, November 5, November 19, December 3, January 28, February 11, February 18, February 25, March 4.

For more information, contact a member of the Leadership RCTC Team: Jennifer Nisbit, Shelli Arneson, Heidi Feldman, Mary Juenemann, Gina Christie, Roxy Roadway

Complete and return your application to Jennifer Nisbit, Box 2, or one of the RCTC Leadership Team members by October 1, 2008.



ATTACHMENTS

CLICK BELOW TO BRING UP
ATTACHMENT ON SCREEN

[Leadership RCTC Application](#)

[Campus Incident Report](#)

[Baseball Fundraiser](#)

[Teaching/Learning Support Staff](#)

[Vista Volunteer Opportunity](#)



SPORTS CENTER

Up Coming Events at the Regional Sport Center

9/26: RCTC Volleyball Game 6:30pm

9/30: Crossroads College Volleyball Game 6pm

Up Coming Events at Rochester Regional Stadium

9/27: Lourdes Soccer Game 11am



Baseball Fundraiser

Attached to this week's Crossings is a flier about the RCTC Baseball Annual Salt Drive. We will be selling and delivering to your doorstep water softener salt from Sun Soft. You will have 3 options to choose from. You can go to rctcsalt@hotmail.com to place your order with us. Thanks for your support!

~ Steve Hucke, Head Baseball & Women's Basketball Coach

DEAH KINION ON CAMPUS

Deah Kinion will present: Mind and Body/Yin and Yang on Tuesday, September 22 at 7:00pm in CF202. For more information, [CLICK HERE](#).

Establish a Scholarship

A reminder that payroll deduction is a great way to establish a scholarship in your name or that of a loved one, department, or favorite cause. Just \$2.00 a day/\$10.00 a week could establish a \$500.00 scholarship to help a student pay for tuition, fees, or books. Last year, the RCTC Foundation provided 190 scholarships for \$198,000 but many applicants were turned away. Payroll deduction forms are available by contacting the RCTC Foundation Office at HC 109, Box 56, or 281-7771. Your support is needed and appreciated!

~ Jean Jech

PUBLIC WORKS ROAD CLOSING NOTICE

Beginning Monday, September 22, 2008, the northbound lanes of County Road 22 (East Circle Drive) will be closed between County Road 2 (Viola Road) and County Road 9 (College View Road) for work on the railroad crossing. The northbound traffic will be diverted to the southbound lanes of County Road 22 with traffic restricted to one lane in each direction. The work will take approximately 5 days and then traffic will be switched to the northbound lanes of County Road 22. Please drive safely. If you have any questions, please contact Olmsted County Public Works Department at 507-328-7070.

Crossings Classifieds

FOR SALE: Canon Pixma MP 470 Photo Printer, all-in-one (copies/scans). High photo quality, never used, still in box. Mary Olson, x 3107 or home phone 533-4552.

VISITING SCHOLAR

Walter Denny, Professor of Islamic Art and Architecture and Senior Consultant to the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York City, will lead a lecture and discussion on Tuesday September 30, 1-3 PM in MH223. This event is free and open to the public and is sponsored by the Art Department.

We welcome you to join us for this exciting event. Please contact me if you plan to bring a class!

For more information, [CLICK HERE](#).

~ Catherine Egenberger



SUPALLA'S SCRIBBLINGS

Homecoming has come and gone and many I've talked to believe this year's activities were the best ever. If you didn't take in one or more of the events, you missed a fun time (and getting wet). This year's homecoming came with a pep rally, window decorating contest, concert, four sporting contests, Stadium kick-off, fireworks, free food, and more. Speaking of athletic competition, congratulations to the Yellowjacket volleyball team, currently ranked #1 in the nation; soccer team ranked #2; and football team ranked #20. Many thanks to the numerous faculty and staff who worked hard to make this year's homecoming a great success and to the staff, students, and community who joined in the fun!

Holly Bigelow has shared some preliminary tenth day enrollment numbers that indicated fall semester credits sold represent a .4% increase. This is very positive considering enrollment projections shared a couple of months ago anticipated a significant decline. The MnSCU data warehouse indicates that summer semester enrollment at RCTC was up 8% over 2007. Both the summer and preliminary fall enrollments are a positive sign and a tribute to the efforts of many. The Office of the Chancellor will be releasing official enrollment numbers later this semester, but the Chancellor told trustees at this week's Board meeting that he anticipates fall enrollment will be up about 2.5 percent for the system.

Student Right-to-Know is a federal law that requires all colleges and universities to disclose graduation and transfer-out information to students. Federal regulations specify how to calculate these rates and the data is compiled and rates calculated by the Office of the Chancellor. This week, MnSCU released the report for RCTC students who started at the college in the fall of 2004. The study includes all first-time students who enrolled full-time that fall and were seeking to earn a degree, diploma, or certificate. The graduation rate is the percentage of students who graduated from RCTC within three years. The transfer-out rate is the percentage of students who did not graduate from RCTC, but instead transferred to another college or university within three years. These rates do not report on all RCTC students. The 1009 first-time, full-time students in the study were 17 percent of all students enrolled at RCTC in fall of 2004.

- **The graduation rate for RCTC was 23 percent.**
- **The transfer-out rate for RCTC was 26 percent.**
- **The combination of the graduation rate and the transfer-out rate for RCTC was 49 percent. The national average combined rate for similar colleges was 41 percent.**

Should interested persons ask why more RCTC students didn't graduate or transfer in three years, an appropriate response would be that RCTC has an "open door" mission and many students need to take developmental courses before taking college-level coursework, students who switch from full-time to part-time or who stop-out are more likely to take more than three years to graduate, some students take jobs before they graduate, and students delay their education for personal, family, or financial reasons. Please don't hesitate to contact Dave Weber if you want more information.

Last week a number of RCTC reps joined me at the Chamber's breakfast with Governor Pawlenty. The Governor previewed his 2009 agenda which he titled, "E-3...Economy, Education and Energy". The Governor forecast that Minnesota is rebounding slowly from the economic skid and the state could be facing a deficit in early 2009 somewhere in the neighborhood of \$2 billion. This will make for a difficult legislative session as they grapple with the biennial budget. The Governor spent significant time expressing his concerns about education and mentioned such things as the need to:

- **Reduce the misalignment of people with available jobs**
- **Strengthen the minimum requirements for university entrance**
- **Improve schools of education**
- **Increase continuing education requirement for teachers**
- **Implement pay for performance**
- **Find alternative pathways to bring new teachers to the classroom**
- **Improve intervention strategies for high school students at risk of dropping out**
- **Increase online learning opportunities.**



Governor Pawlenty also shared his thoughts about energy conservation and the need to increase research in alternative energy forms like geothermal, wind, solar, and hydrogen. The Governor reminded Mayor Brede that \$20 million in revenue bonds to help address energy conservation has gone untapped. I reminded the Mayor of our desire and need to improve energy consumption at UCR by converting our current heating and cooling plant via a connection to the Olmsted County Waste to Energy Facility. I'll keep you posted on developments and encourage you to have conversations about any of the Governor's E-3 topics as you visit with legislators and other policy makers.

Did you know? *In the U.S. 2100 students drop out of high school every day. Yet in 2009 we'll have the largest U.S. high school graduation ever. The high school population will begin to decline immediately afterward.* -- Robert Seveir, Stamats, Inc.

Thought for the Day! *You're never standing still.*

You're either moving forward or going back. If you're satisfied where you're at, you're declining. -- George Seay, Annandale Capital

~ Keep moving forward...Don



Martial Arts Club

RCTC Martial Arts Club meets Tuesdays and Thursdays from 7:00 to 9:00 PM in SC108 (the Wrestling Room). Learn kickboxing, jiu-jitsu, and more. No experience needed. Come train with us for a month and get a FREE t-shirt!

RCTC Preview Dates

- Mon. Sept. 22, @ 2:00 in CF206-208
- Thur. Oct. 16 @ 2:00 in CF206-208
- Mon. Nov. 17 @ 1:30 in CF206-208
- Fri. Dec. 12 @ 1:00 in HS 131
- Thur. Jan 15 @ 2:00 in CF206-208
- Fri. Jan. 23 @ 1:00 in CF206-208
- Fri. Feb. 6 @ 1:00 in CF206-208
- Fri. Feb. 27 @ 1:00 in CF206-208
- Thur. Mar. 5 @ 2:00 in HS 131
- Thur. Mar. 12 @ 2:00 in CF206-208
- Fri. April 3 @ 1:00 in CF206-208
- Thur. April 23 @ 1:00 in CF206-208
- Mon. May 4 @ 11:00 in CF206-208
- Fri. May 22 @ 1:00 in CF206-208

Register at:

www.rctc.edu/admissions/pre/visit_rctc.html

Snapshots at jasonlove.com

