

Fall Semester COLLEGE Crossings



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

Thought for the month...

“Wherever you go, no matter what the weather, always bring your own sunshine.”

~Anthony J D’Angelo

Best Bees for October – Anna and Julie

Congratulations to Anna Hanson and Julie Hager for being chosen as Best Bee’s for the month of October. As a Best Bee, they will each receive the employee of the month parking spaces for the month of October at UCR and Heintz. (See page two for Julie’s write-up.)

Anna started at RCTC in 2006 and serves student as the Special Needs Advisor. Her nominator shared the following about her: Anna Hanson is the epitome of the kind of employee that should be representing RCTC.. She is always willing to find the answer to a student’s problem and make sure that the “RCTC experience” is always a positive one for each individual that walks into her office. She is a kind and considerate person who is always 110% approachable by students, faculty and staff. Anna always has that “I’m here to help” attitude.

Innovation – Anna strives to make RCTC a positive experience by finding new ways for the students to be accommodated in the Student Disabilities Support area. Student success and satisfaction are her top priorities.

Excellence – Anna shows excellence by always being there for RCTC’s student to come to. She is a dedicated Disabilities Advisor and thoroughly enjoys helping others work towards their academic achievements.

Fun – Anna has a way about her that is always upbeat and shining. It is difficult to catch her having a “bad” day! She is definitely a STAR.

Learner-Centered – Anna has always had an open mind about new processes and is willing to try new things to make the “RCTC experience” a positive one.

Respect – Anna is all about respect. She is respectful to anyone and everyone she meets and is a complete delight to know.

Teamwork – Anna works in a team setting each day with her colleagues and enjoys having them there to collaborate with . She is so very open-minded, which is the best quality to have when working within a team.



ATTACHMENTS

CLICK BELOW TO BRING UP ATTACHMENT ON SCREEN

No Attachments

RESCHEDULED - Program Updates

Please join Dean Nirmala Kotagal and Mayo School of Health Sciences Program Leaders as they provide program updates and changes for the following Joint MSHS/RCTC programs on Monday, October 26th at 10:00am in CF206/208. *(Please note the date change from October 15th):*

- **Cardiovascular Invasive Specialist**
Lee Meyer, RN, Program Director
- **Clinical Neurophysiology Technology**
Jan Buss, Program Director
- **Clinical Research Study**
Lori A. Carlson, M.B.A., R.N., Program Director
- **Histology Technician**
Amy Wendel, Program Director
- **Radiography Technician**
Beverly Tupper, Program Director

This update is open to all RCTC Employees. Employees in Student Support Services roles are strongly encouraged to attend. The format for this update is not designed for students.



Best Bee – Congratulations Julie

Julie Hager has worked at RCTC since 1992 and holds the position of Teaching and Learning Support at the Heintz Center. Julie is a positive representative of RCTC and the Heintz Center. She has a can do attitude and always handles herself in a friendly and professional manner. Julie is an important resource for the employees housed at the Heintz Center and any students or visitors stepping through the doors.

Innovation – Julie offers herself up as a resource to other employees and asks the right questions to get things changed in a positive manner.

Excellence – Julie is dedicated to the area she supports and the RCTC organization. Julie is the go to person at the Heintz Center for getting answers or pointed in the right direction. She is a positive role model for others.

Fun – Julie always has a quick smile or encouraging word for everyone.

Learner-Centered – Julie takes a look at processes, asks the right questions and offers solutions to get things changed in a positive manner.

Respect – Julie is respectful of her co-workers, students and guests of the Heintz Center.

Teamwork – Julie treats everyone as a team member. She is a great role model and mentor to new employees.



RCTC/WSU Learning Alliance Moves Forward With Welcome Center Design Planning

The RCTC/WSU Learning Alliance authorized funding to support final design of a Welcome Center on campus. Earlier this year a pre-design was completed. This process engaged various students, faculty and staff in identifying space options, service consideration, and design aspects of the project. The Welcome Center includes AT-107, adjacent rooms and other space in the Atrium area. It is anticipated that the Design Phase will be completed in November. The design process will include activities engaging key stakeholders providing for input into the final design. Once design is completed, recommendations regarding possible construction in FY10, FY11 or other options will be considered. The vision of the Welcome Center is to create a welcoming front door environment for campus visitors, prospective students, current students and community members to help the campus build relationships and create engaging life-cycle experiences that better serve stakeholders in a high touch experience in a warm, relaxed, and friendly environment fostering purposeful and guided interactions. Project leadership includes: Holly Bigelow, Stan Cram and Dave Weber from RCTC and Craig Johnson and Jan Stephenson from WSU. Please share any ideas or comments you wish to with any of the individuals above. A planning meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, October 7. HGA Architects and Engineers have been selected as the design firm. Pre-design concepts from this past winter are available in PDF form at: <http://www.rctc.edu/ci/>.



BBQ Fundraiser and Craft Sale

To raise money for the Minnesota State Combined Charity Campaign, there will be a BBQ fundraiser and craft sale on Thursday, October 8 from 11:00am to 1:00pm in the Atrium and at Heintz Center. For more information [CLICK HERE](#).

Chat with the President

Last year President Supalla implemented a series entitled Chat with the President. The purpose of these sessions was to provide an avenue for faculty and staff to visit with President Supalla on campus issues and ideas important to you! No agenda, no presentations, just chat! The feedback from the sessions was overwhelming positive. Please mark your calendars for the Fall Semester Chat with the President forums.

Tuesday - September 29
2-3 pm - UCR - 3rd Floor Atrium

Thursday - October 29
2-3 pm - Heintz Center - HA 104

Monday - November 16
2-3 pm - UCR - 3rd Floor Atrium

SUPALLA'S SCRIBBLINGS



On May 25, 2009, Wright Lassiter, Chancellor of the Dallas County Community College District (DCCCD – Texas) delivered remarks at the NISOD Conference on Teaching and Leadership Excellence. He spoke about the changing times being experienced by community colleges during an address entitled “Innovation in Times of Limited Resources, Increased Demands, and Heightened Accountability.” During his presentation, he noted that as leaders and teachers, it is our responsibility to position our colleges to be successful and relevant in the future. Here are some of the principles he indicated DCCCD is following to adapt to the challenges of the future:

- *We are focused on a vision. Each day we ask ourselves, “What does an institution that holds itself accountable for student learning look like?” If we can envision it, we can make it happen.*
- *We have learned to take action without having the full picture, before the extraordinary opportunities coming our way pass us by.*
- *We are calling on the communities we serve for help. They need to understand clearly how to help us prepare our students for a knowledge-driven future. Then, out of enlightened self-interest, they need to help us!*
- *We are acknowledging the importance of building a more complete student experience that includes social and civic activities. We want them to develop leadership skills and the love of the college.*
- *We are relying on technology to help assess our students’ prior knowledge, determine their academic strengths and weaknesses, and develop personalized learning plans.*
- *We are acting on the belief that the design of physical space has a positive effect on the learning environment and that some of this adapted space needs to be intimate and quiet.*
- *We are learning from our competitors, especially for-profit providers, carefully observing how they educate and operate.*
- *We are focused on preparing career lattices, rather than ladders, building processes that will equip students to branch out according to their interests and aptitudes, rather than limiting their choices to a specific job.*
- *We are collaborating with other colleges, industry, and the community, participating in critical and sometimes difficult conversations with a wide range of stakeholders, convinced we have only scratched the surface in our capacity for new types of relationships.*
- *We are constantly looking for new sources of revenue!*
- *We are engaged in our own learning and leadership development as the only way to remain credible, active advocates for learning.*

Many folks have said, “the times, they are changing.” And so they are...for DCCCD and for RCTC!

Chancellor Lassiter spoke of the need for community colleges to **innovate**. This summer an RCTC team attended the CQIN Summer Institute in Dearborn, Michigan, that was focused on innovation. The team continues to meet regularly and discuss ways to incorporate innovation into the curriculum and to imbed innovation into RCTC operations. If you’re interested in learning more about innovative thinking, here are two Web sites that I’d recommend:

<http://www.oninnovation.com>

<http://www.nerinnovation.com/Skills/Me.aspx>

Did you know...

- RCTC is about to launch a public accountability dashboard modeled after the MnSCU dashboard that went public last year. Before the public launch in October, we want internal stakeholders to have a chance to review it and provide feedback. I encourage you to check it out at <http://www.rtc.edu/scorecard>. Please direct any comments to RCTC’s institutional researcher at ChristineM.Miller@roch.edu. Thanks!
- Congratulations to **Michelle Willihnganz** on her contribution to the 6th edition of the “Introduction to Clinical Pharmacology.” This Practical Nurse study guide was recently published by Mosby/Elsevier. Michelle prepared the study guide and Marilyn Edmunds is the editor. Please see Michelle or Merry Beth Gay if you’d like to see a copy of the text.
- Thanks to our very talented **Art Department faculty and staff** who contributed to the wonderful exhibit on display in the Art Gallery through October 23. Wednesday evening the artists shared their thoughts about their art. If you haven’t dropped in to marvel at their creations, make a point to do so before the exhibit ends.
- Tim Penny, President of the Southern Minnesota Initiative Fund said in a recent presentation that a workforce shortage in Southeast Minnesota is imminent, and it will mean older workers who are willing to work longer will be in higher demand. Penny quoted a Pew Research study that found that 77% of people surveyed said they expect to work after retirement. Penny also said he sees an asset that he thinks will be “enormously helpful to addressing the workforce challenge” – two-year college programs.
- Community college default rates are up, according to the Department of Education. The report shows that public two-year institutions had a borrower default rate of 9.9% (FY07 cohort). The rate was 8.4% the previous year.

Thought for homecoming week...

The best kind of friend is the one you could sit on a porch with (or at a football game), never saying a word, and walk away feeling it was the best conversation you ever had. – Anonymous

Don

FREE Women's Self-Defense Class

FREE Women's Self Defense Class! Sponsored by RCTC's Martial Arts Club, this five-week class will make you feel safe, confident, and in control. Sorry guys, this is for women only. We meet Tuesday afternoons from 2:00-3:40 in SC202. Come early or stay late; we don't mind. Can't make every class? No problem; we do lots of review in every session. We ask a \$5 donation, 100% of which will go to a local women's shelter. The dates are 9/22, 9/29, 10/13, 10/20, and 10/27. Questions? E-mail Dr. Steve Bein at steve.bein@roch.edu.



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.)

Flu Shots

Mark your calendar! Seasonal flu vaccinations will be available in the UCR Cafeteria South Room on Wednesday, October 28th 11:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m. Seasonal flu shots and nasal spray seasonal flu vaccine will be available with no out-of-pocket cost to all state employees at workplace clinics when they present their Minnesota Advantage Health Plan member ID card. A limited supply of the nasal spray seasonal flu vaccine is available at our workplace clinics for employees whose health status meets criteria for prescribed use. Please bring your Minnesota Advantage Health Plan member ID card with you to the clinic. If you do not bring a valid card, the cost is \$24.00 for the seasonal flu shot and \$32.00 for the nasal spray seasonal flu vaccine. If you can't make this date, check for clinics being held at other state agencies throughout Minnesota from September 21 – October 30. Employees may attend any available state agency seasonal influenza vaccination clinic, with the exception of the Attorney General's Office and correctional facility sites. (These clinics will only provide seasonal flu vaccinations to employees of that facility.) Workplace clinics are on a "walk-in" basis, so you do not need an appointment. Please keep in mind, if you attend a clinic at another agency, you may have to check-in at security or an information area. Seasonal flu vaccinations are also available at your primary care clinic and network convenience clinics. Check with your health plan about coverage and present your Minnesota Advantage Health Plan member ID card.

Please Note: The state of Minnesota employee seasonal flu campaign will provide vaccines for only seasonal flu. Go to <http://www.mmb.state.mn.us/flu> for the clinic schedule and more seasonal flu information. At this time there are no definite plans about H1N1 clinics. Information about availability of H1N1 vaccine and how/when/where vaccination clinics will be handled will be posted as it becomes known.

Crossings Classifieds

FOR SALE: Two T-Mobile Blackberry Curves – one red, one black/gray. Includes boxes and accessories. \$100 each. Call Gina Christie at 507-990-5930.

Snapshots at jasonlove.com



"Your wife says she's been watching you, and there are a lot of things you need to work on."

Flu Clinic

We encourage and invite you to attend an informational meeting with Mr. Pete Geisen from Olmsted County Public Health as we explore the possibilities that a "Flu Clinic" might be brought to our campus in conjunction with the widespread outbreak of the H1N1 virus. It will be held on Monday, September 28th, 2009 at 1:00 in Hill Theater.

Attend Nobel Conference HERE

The Nobel Conference held at Gustavus Adolphus College October 6-7 will be on live feed at UCR in room CF206-208. There is no need to register, just show up to the lectures of interest to you, your students, or class. The theme of the Nobel Conference held at Gustavus Adolphus College this year-- "H2O Uncertain Resource"-- is closely related to this year's common book, *The Future of Nature*. The conference will be held October 6-7, 2009. Among the distinguished speakers will be Derek Walcott, 1992 Nobel laureate in literature; David Sedlak, "global expert on the chemical contamination of water supplies"; Larry L. Rasmussen, "[o]ne of the world's foremost Christian environmental ethicists"; and Asit K. Biswas, founder and president of Third World Centre for Water Management. Go to <http://gustavus.edu/events/nobelconference/2009/biswas-profile.php> to find out more. (Quoted material is from this website.)

Accountability Dashboards to Launch

A new publicly accessible Accountability Dashboard tracking core measures of performance for Rochester Community and Technical College and its major divisions (Teaching and Learning, Student Development and Services, Finance and Facilities, Strategic Operations, Information Technology and Human Resources) will launch in early October. The Accountability Dashboard mirrors the one launched by the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities Board of Trustees online at <http://www.mnscu.edu/board/accountability/index.html>

The strategic scorecard and division dashboards are available online at <http://www.rctc.edu/scorecard>. The dashboards display forty core measures that are aligned to the College's thirteen strategic goals. Division dashboards also display core measures aligned to college goals and measures unique and reflective of their work. We invite your review and comment. Please direct any comments to ChristineM.Miller@roch.edu by Monday, October 5.

Performance tracking is based on three perspectives: trends in performance, comparative data, and performance against an identified target. Overall performance is displayed in graphic and table forms. Then, the dashboard system assigns one of three colors to each core measure – gold for “exceeds expectations,” blue for “meets expectations” and red for “needs attention.” The Accountability Dashboard System supports the College values including learner-centeredness, excellence and innovation as it strives to continuously improve, better serve students and stakeholders and strive for world-class performance.

Three 45 minute overview sessions are being offered the week of September 28:

1. Tuesday, September 29 from 10:15 to 11:00 am at UCR in Coffman (CF) 202
2. Tuesday, September 29 from 1:15 to 2:00 at UCR in Atrium (AT) 103
3. Wednesday, September 30 from 2:00 to 2:45 at Heintz Center in HB 117

We look forward to your comments.

~ Don Supalla, President

Mark Your Calendar!

Get ready for the TRiO Student Support Services Program 5th ANNUAL SSSP IRIS FRIED SCHOLARSHIP BASKET CHALLENGE to be held on Thursday, December 3 from 11:30 – 1:30 p.m. in CF206/208

- Create a basket; needed in all sizes and values (Student Support Services Program has a limited supply of baskets; stop by SS159 to pick one up)
- Place a value on your basket, a minimum bid will be placed on baskets
- Prize awarded to the individual / department whose basket brings the highest bid
- Deadline, Monday, November 30th
- Join us December 3 for treats and bid on the basket(s) of your choice
- Contact Deb at 285-7230 for more information

All proceeds benefit the SSSP Iris Fried Scholarship Fund



RECYCLE!
RECYCLE!
RECYCLE!

Strategic Operations Committee Minutes

Thursday, September 10, 2009

Meeting Summary – Action Log

Meeting Attendee's:

Paula Carlsen, Deb Ellsworth, Steve Higgins, Ginny Boyum, Renee Engelmeyer, Sara Kling-Punt, Julie Christie, Paula Theisen and Dave Weber

Meeting Outcomes (decisions, major discussion points, etc.):

- Introduce the new values-driven and outcomes-based meeting structure.
- Celebrate three minutes of good news
- Discuss the college value of innovation
- To determine a new co-chair
- Shared information on the gesture of goodwill, reaffirmation of accreditation, Welcome Center Design, and the Minnesota Quality Award application process.
- Prioritize next steps on the “Better Serving Stakeholders” Strategy Map

Action Log (decisions, next steps, etc.)

Persons Responsible/Timelines, etc.

The committee members participating in a 10/4 voting process to prioritize next steps for the “Better Serving Stakeholders” strategy map.

Entire Committee

The following four items received the most dots:

1. Create a system for receiving, processing, and acting on ideas. (13)
2. Clue scan college space. (8)
3. Identify service delivery best practices. (8)
4. Establish space design principles. (6)

Selected Strategic Operation Committee Co-Chair

Paula Carlsen (thank you Paula!)

Agenda Items for Next Meeting:

**Determine focus area for the committee for “The Collaborative” process launching October 30.
Identify steps to operationalize four project noted above.**

Next Meeting Date: Thursday, October 8 at 3:00 pm