



College Crossings

Rochester Community and Technical College

October 1, 2007
Volume 13, Issue 6

FALL SEMESTER EDITION

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Attachments

(CLICK on links below to read)

- ❖ Staff Development Day Agenda
- ❖ Global Connection Days Agenda
- ❖ Combined Charities Campaign
- ❖ Rent An Athlete Event
- ❖ Public Library Events

Blood Drives

October 24
December 5

Meeting Minutes

Click below:

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

Campus Security Act - Notification

Rochester Community & Technical College recognizes providing the safest environment possible is an integral element of the college's educational mission and annually publishes a Campus Security Report that is available to everyone. This report provides statements of policy for a broad range of safety and security programs including crime prevention programs, reporting procedures, personal safety, community relations, environmental safety, enforcement authority and response and a 3-year statistical review of designated crimes on campus. A printed copy of this report may be obtained, at no charge from Campus Security at 851 30th Avenue, SE, EA101 Rochester, MN 55904, phone: 507-529-2789.

The Campus Security Report for RCTC can be accessed at:

<http://www.roch.edu/dept/security/2007act.pdf>

CRIME STATISTICS can be accessed at:

<http://www.roch.edu/dept/security/html/overview.html>

Additional information can be found at:

<http://www.roch.edu/dept/security/html/crime.html>

Staff Development Day

Tuesday, October 2, 2007 ~ 8:00am – Hill Theatre

(A complete agenda is attached to this week's Crossings.)

Combined Charities Campaign

Today in your mailboxes you will see your 2007 Minnesota State Employees' Combined Charities Campaign brochure. Please copy the attached letter and post by your desk for a reminder...



Our RCTC Family Cares About People, and we can show it in many ways. This is our yearly time to show our community "RCTC Family Cares About People" and many have done that already with all the flood victims we have helped with many donations to help get their lives back to normal in some way.

Our State Campaign will help people in Olmsted County-when you write your check for the campaign or do your Payroll deduction, you can look on page 29 and decide which charity you want your money to be credited.

Let's all be "Shining Stars" at RCTC and pledge now.

~ Rose M Conway

Weekly funny!

Snapshots at jasonlove.com



"You didn't tip the paper boy."

Service Learning – Flood Clean-Up

The flood clean up and rebuilding continues. There are still plenty of opportunities for you to help out! With winter coming on there is a real push to "get er done". To help with cleanup and rebuilding, register through: <http://www.uwolmsted.org>

They are also coordinating a computer refurbishing event here in Rochester. Refurbished computers will be donated to flood victims here, if there are excess they will be sent to New Orleans.

Our students are organizing a special RCTC flood clean up on Thursday, October 18th in Rushford. The bus will leave campus at 8 AM (sharp!) and return by 4:00 PM. We have room for 50 on the bus, sign up through United Way at: <http://www.uwolmsted.org>

RCTC service learning students are also organizing a MAJOR fundraiser on December 1st at the Mayo Civic Center Auditorium. We need items for a silent auction, entertainment and help with organization, as well as manpower on that night (it's a Saturday, mark your calendars now). Thank you to all who have helped so far, there is a long road ahead. But every journey begins with one step.

~Lynn Guenette

Club Meetings

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

Diversity Awareness Month

In the United States, October is Diversity Awareness Month. It's also Disability Employment Awareness Month, Gay and Lesbian History Month, German American Heritage Month and Polish American Heritage Month. Around the world, there are other commemorative days and months, all of which have been established to celebrate our rich diversity, but what does diversity really mean? Often, people define diversity as color, race, or ethnicity, and would describe a group made up wholly of African Americans or Latinos as being very diverse. However, diversity means more than that.

A University of Maryland Database described diversity as "otherness," or those human qualities that are different from our own and outside the groups to which we belong, yet are present in other individuals and groups. Those differences can include things we usually think of when talking about diversity; things like race, ability/disability, religion, gender, sexual orientation, and age, but it can also include marital status, educational background, whether we are parents or not, whether we play viola or cello or football or chess. It can include things like being raised in Minnesota or Louisiana. Being rich or poor or somewhere in the middle. Being blonde or brunette. Being fat or thin. Being a hot head or a peace maker. Though we often struggle with wanting people to think or speak or behave like we do, it is our diversity, our differences, that makes the world the interesting place that it is.

~Ricki Walters
Regional Diversity Trainer

Condolences

Dan Chick (BUM Instructor) passed away on September 26, 2007. Dan was 56 years old and had been at RCTC since 2003, and with the state system since 1997. Our deepest condolences go out to Dan's family during this difficult time.

Orval Lund on Campus

Orval Lund will be on campus on Tuesday, October 9th at 7:00pm in AT209 to present: The Poetry of a Minnesota Writer. Because he was raised on the northwestern Minnesota prairie, Lund's poems reflect the landscape, the character of small Minnesota towns, his wild youth and pensive age. Lund's poetry also courts language in a ticklish dance that accentuates the human quality of his work. He taught English at Winona State for 33 years, was the co-founder of the Great River Writers' Conferences, and former editor of the Great River Review. Lund has read his works from Vermont to Japan and right here at home with Garrison Keillor.

Free to the public. Peace coffee will be served.

Supalla Scribblings



Even though the 2008 legislative session doesn't officially convene until February, legislators and state officials are out and about visiting potential capital bonding project sites. Commissioner of Finance Tom Hanson and Finance Department staff members visited Rochester on Tuesday. Originally scheduled to visit the site of the proposed co-located facility at Heintz Center (Workforce Center, ISD535, Boys and Girls Club, Head Start and Migrant Head Start), new found time on their schedule allowed them tours of the new Health Science Center and the Heintz Center renovation. All seemed to be very impressed with the projects. Next Thursday, the Senate Higher Education Committee will hold an informal meeting at UCR to hear updates on a number of higher education initiatives, several of which received significant funding in the last legislative session. The draft agenda includes updates on K-12 collaboration, Health Center of Excellence, service learning, minority teacher preparation, faculty awards for excellence, technology, capital bonding projects and other topics of interest to Senators. The Committee will be on campus from 10 a.m. – 1 p.m. and then will head to University Square for an update on the UMR. Also scheduled to visit RCTC in October to learn more about the co-located bonding request

are both the House and Senate Capital Investment Committees. Please welcome and accommodate the needs of the legislators and other guests who make their way to the campus.

Happenings...

- RCTC conducted the initial test of Connect-ED, recently implemented emergency notification system. Although a few glitches were identified during the test, considering that more than 11,000 contacts were made, the test must be considered a success. More than 93 percent of the contacts were successful. Staff will continue to refine the process to make it more efficient and effective.
- Olmsted County Staff Naturalist Celeste Lewis sent me a letter thanking Robin Fruth-Dugstad's horticulture class for their flood clean up efforts. She wrote, "With the help of volunteers [like the RCTC students and staff] the park is looking beautiful again." Thanks to all who have reached out to help those in need.
- Jay Lee joined representatives from the Rochester Public Schools and Mayo to share several local and state presentations on the Health Careers partnership. The Collaboration Among Rochester Educators (CARE) initiative continues to garner rave reviews and is being touted as a model for other eK-14 partnerships.
- Work continues to progress on schedule for the regional stadium project. If the nice fall weather continues, you'll soon be able to see artificial turf being installed on the field north of the Sports Center. If you prefer to follow the work from your desk top rather than the sidelines, click on <http://oxblue.com/pro/open/?webPath=knutson/ucr> for a web cam view of activity from the top of the Sports Center.
- If you'd like a change of scenery while you dine on campus, why not check out the new Café Express in the Health Science Center. The hours of the Café Express, 7:30 a.m. – 7:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday and 8 a.m. – 2 p.m. on Friday provide the expanded food service opportunity desired by students and staff.
- Bob Erickson, MnSCU Trustee Emeritus, raised more than \$30,000 for non-traditional student scholarships during his recently completed bike tour of all of MnSCU's 53 campuses. While at RCTC last week, Bob announced that this would be his sixth and final bike ride. In total, Bob has raised more than \$335,000 for scholarships. If you didn't contribute to his effort, you can still do so by sending your contribution to Jean Jech at the RCTC Foundation Office. All money raised in Rochester stays here to support RCTC students. And, your gift is tax deductible.

Thought for the week...As Aristotle said, "Quality is not an act. It's a habit. If a product [or service] is almost right, it's wrong."

~Harvey Mackay, Minnesota Businessman and Author



For the past five years, Carl Phillips has been evaluating customer service at online universities. His company, Customer 1st, hires mystery shoppers to call up enrollment specialists at online universities to determine how effectively they're handling applicants' concerns. All phone calls are recorded, so schools not only review feedback written on the mystery-shopping report, but can actually listen to the conversations. A favorite question of his is, "Can you hear the admissions adviser smiling?" Paul Geil is a retired high school guidance counselor with 34 years of advising experience. But he still got an education when he posed as a prospective parent and attended about a dozen college open houses accompanied by a high school senior. "It's the little subtleties that matter," Geil says. "We looked to see whether admissions officers were courteous to the student, if they were on time. A 'Welcome to Our Campus' sign adds a nice, personal touch." Those institutions that use mystery shoppers are confident that the improvements made as a result of shoppers' feedback will result in higher retention rates, which will ultimately yield additional revenue and an improved student experience. That's the hope shared by the small, but growing number of universities who are hiring mystery shoppers.

I'll be attending a required MnSCU Leadership Council meeting on Tuesday. Enjoy the fall staff development day!

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