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

Thought for the month...
“Use your good judgment in all situations. There will be no additional rules!”
~ Nordstrom’s Employee Handbook

Mark Your Calendar
A Staff Development Day will be held on November 3, 2009 from 8:30am to 2:50pm at Heintz Center. A full agenda will be available next week.
~ Staff Development Committee

Fundraiser Money Delivered
The October 8th BBQ luncheon proceeds of $1,018.11 was delivered to United Way of Olmsted County for three equal shares given to: ABC, PossAbilities of Southern Minnesota and Child Care Resource and Referral. We work close with all three entities here on campus and it was decided these three are very appropriate from our RCTC family. Thank you, once again, for your donations and for your support. Next spring for May Basket event, will hopefully be even better!! Start planning now!
~ Rose Conway

Earn College Credits in Cambodia
Spend winter break “in class” while you travel, serve and learn in Cambodia. CLICK HERE for more information.

Fall Theatre Production
There are still tickets available for the 2009 Fall Theatre Production of Wonder of the World. Play dates are October 29, 30, 31 and November 5,6 and 7. All shows begin at 8:00pm in the Hill Theatre. This show is not recommended for children under 14 as it contains adult language and some sexual content. Phone 285-7200 for reservations. All seats are reserved. $8/adults; $6/Sr. Citizens (over 65) , Non-RCTC/WSU students. UCR staffs receive two tickets at $6/each.
**You’re Invited**

Get ready for the 5th Annual Iris Fried Scholarship Basket Challenge and SSS/UB Holiday Party and Silent Auction. We are challenging departments to create basket donations for the event. Baskets are needed in all sizes and values. **This year the prize will be awarded to the individual/department that raises the most money.** Think about donating multiple baskets. Have fun creating; place a value on your basket(s) and bring to SSS (SS159) by Monday, November 30. (Baskets received earlier may be displayed on campus). Please plan to join us on Thursday, December 3rd from 11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. in CF206/208 for treats and bid on the basket(s) of your choice. Contact Deb at 285-7230 for more information. **Proceeds benefit the SSS Iris Fried and UB Scholarship funds - TRiO**

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**Project Manager for RCTC**

In the past two fiscal years RCTC facilities has experience increased workload from all of the construction, remodel and renewal projects. There has been an increased demand for project management expertise in the department. Therefore, I have asked Steve Monson to take on the role of Project Manager for RCTC and concentrate his efforts totally on projects. He brings construction management skills and experience working in the electrical trades to this position. Roman Staloch, Cris Kellas, and Adam Worth will continue to keep our physical plant operating smoothly. Please support Steve in his new role.

> ~ Marilyn Hansmann

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**Employee News**

Condolences to Doreen Johnson (English Department) whose mother, Doris E. Johnson, passed away on October 15.

Condolences also to Barbara Hebel (Speech Instructor) whose long-time partner, Richard “Dick” Wayne passed away on October 21.

Please keep these employees in your thoughts as they go through this difficult time.
In a very rare occurrence, the MnSCU Board of Trustees took their annual planning retreat out of St. Paul and held it on the University Center campus. The two-day session ended Wednesday after the Board heard from three local business representatives, a nationally recognized expert on the future of higher education, viewed a “RCTC Showcase” and engaged in a lively conversation about the System’s 2020 vision, upcoming work plan, and what it might be looking for in the selection of its next Chancellor. The retreat opened with the Board hearing from Diane Tweddell, Mayor; Mike Good, IBM; and Donna Bird, Crenlo regarding their organizations’ expectations for higher education and MnSCU. In addition to the technical skills that employers expect of our graduates, the industry representatives focused on the need of new hires to have had some training in cultural awareness, time management, team work, critical thinking, prioritization and both written and verbal communication skills. When asked about the quality of online education, all three representatives indicated that it’s improved in recent years to the point where they have “no problem with the quality of online education.” The Board then heard from Robert Zemsky, best known for writing, The Lattice and the Ratchet and To Dance with Change. In 1998, he was named one of higher education’s top 40 leaders for his role as an agenda-setter. Robert’s message was focused on the need to radically overhaul the nation’s education system, K-12 through higher education, and that this can’t be done piece meal or incrementally. Wednesday morning the Board was treated to an “RCTC Showcase” that featured highlights of our community partnerships, RCTC’s CAD Program, the accountability dashboard, and a tour of the Health Science Center. The consensus of the Board’s reaction to what they experienced during the showcase and their visit was best summed up by Trustee Dickson who said, “RCTC is doing astounding things!” More details on the outcome of the retreat will be shared once the Board drafts its retreat summary. Thanks to all those on campus who made the trustees feel so welcomed, accommodated their every need, and contributed to their positive feelings about the good work being done here. Based on their Rochester experience, I believe that the Board will likely take more of their meetings and gatherings out of St. Paul and onto college/university campuses. And, that’s always a very good thing. Judy Kingsbury served as the campus liaison to Board staff planning the retreat…THANKS!

RCTC and WSU-R joined together to sponsor a table at the recent Empty Bowls fundraising event. Funds from the event make a significant impact in the fight against local hunger. At the event, benefactor Channel One Food Bank and Food Shelf, paid special tribute to Robert Banker, Kate Bauman, Crist Dahl and the students in the Fine Arts Program at RCTC for creating many of the beautiful bowls that participants got to choose from. A ticket to the event entitled the participant to a bowl of soup, bread, and choice of a handcrafted bowl. It was fun seeing so many RCTC faculty, staff, retirees and students at the event.

With implementation of the Post-9/11 GI Bill, one of the most significant events for active-duty and veteran students since the creation of the original GI Bill, campuses (including RCTC) are experiencing a significant increase in the number of veterans attending classes. A recent report, From Soldier to Student: Easing the Transition of Service Members on Campus, shed some light on how well prepared higher education is to serve these new students. A recent survey found great diversity in how institutions serve veterans, the variety of services and programs offered, and where services/programs are housed within the administrative structure. The presence of a dedicated office for veterans is an indication of institutional commitment (49% of colleges have such an office). RCTC has a well-established Veteran’s Resource Office (fourth floor of the College Center) open to all Veteran students and two on-site resources persons to provide assistance – Josh Howe, Veterans Resource Specialist, 529-6142 and Glen Saponari, Veterans Compliance Officer, 280-5511. To view a full copy of the report, contact Josh Howe, whose office on first floor of the East Building.

At a recent conference of two-year college trustees, California Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger told them that their colleges now represent “the institution of hope” for the country. Recalling the courses he took in English, business, and history in 1969, he said, “I am so appreciative of the extraordinary education I got at Santa Monica City College.” Today, he said, these colleges still offer hope for the laid-off father trying to find a new career to support his family, for the young woman turned away from a four-year college, and for “an immigrant like myself,” looking to make his way the country. With the Obama administration now poised to pump $12 billion into community colleges over the next ten years, as part of the American Graduation Initiative, two-year colleges are in the spotlight. “Ready or not, it’s your time,” he said.

Thought for the Week…

I found that I could find the energy…that I could find the determination to keep going.
I learned that your mind can amaze your body, if you just keep telling yourself, I can do it…I can do it! -- John Erickson

You can do it!

~ Don
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, jujitsu, and more. No experience needed. Come train with us for a month and get a FREE club T-shirt! (While supplies last.) Questions? E-mail Dr. Steve Bein at steve.bein@roch.edu.

FREE Women’s Self-Defense Class

FREE Women’s Self Defense Class! Sponsored by RCTC’s Martial Arts Club, this is the last meeting of our five-week class to make you feel safe, confident, and in control. Sorry guys, this is for women only. Join us on October 27 from 2:00-3:40 in SC202. Come early or stay late; we don’t mind. We ask a $5 donation, 100% of which will go to a local women’s shelter. Questions? E-mail Dr. Steve Bein at steve.bein@roch.edu.

Crossings Classifieds

YOUR’E INVITED: If you’re looking to add a spooky and fun spot to your trick-or-treat trail, drop by McGurren Mortuary located at 2522 Marion Road on Halloween night. Bring a canned food donation for Channel One and get an extra treat! Check out our website at: http://www.webstarts.com/mcguurren-mortuary for more information. Jenee McGurren, x7270.

Open Enrollment

Open Enrollment will begin Wednesday, November 4, 2009 and run through Tuesday November 17, 2009. NEW THIS YEAR - Employee Open Enrollment Meetings will be held prior to the beginning of Open Enrollment! http://www.mnh.state.mn.us/doc/ins/mailman/2010-meetings.pdf (Cut and paste the above address into your browser if clicking on the link does not work).

Lions Club on Campus

The Lions Club, the largest service organization in the world, is attempting to start a new chapter at RCTC. The club is holding two proposal meetings, one at Noon and one at 4 p.m., on October 29, in room AT109 so mark your calendars and come join the fun. The guest speaker will be Lions International director Debra Wasserman. Blind from birth Debra has overcome many obstacles and has an inspirational message about Lionism.

If you are a student, staff member, or instructor, please consider joining the new Campus Lions club. Lions clubs international is looking for individuals who are interested in getting involved, helping people, and making a difference on the campus and around the world.

Some service projects might be a Campus Food Shelf, or collection boxes for items like glasses – hearing aids – baseball hats – sunglasses or…Club members decide.

For over 90 years, whenever there is a need at home or around the world, Lions members are there to help. Lions clubs are a group of men and women who work together for the benefit of their community/campus. Club members identify needs within the community/campus and work together to fulfill those needs. Lions typically conduct local service projects that benefit youth, the disabled, public safety and/or the environment.

While serving our campus and having fun, campus lions will also improve their speaking and presentation skills. Strengthen their business and management skills. Gain valuable leadership skills and build their resume for entering the working world after college.

The UCR Campus Lions Club will be part of Lions Clubs International, the world’s largest service club organization with nearly 46,000 clubs, and 1.3 million men and women as members in 205 countries and geographic areas. Lions campus clubs have more than 5,500 members in approximately 300 clubs in 27 countries. This global network would allow the UCR Campus Lions club to not only help the campus but also help people in need throughout the world.

UNIVERSITY CENTER ROCHESTER

LAYERED: Four Encaustic Painters
Caleb Coppock, Jeffrey Hirst, Barbara Roche & Steven Tamminga

EXHIBITION: UCR Gallery, CC 200 November 1 - December 11, 2009
RECEPTION: Wednesday, November 11, 6:30 - 8:30, Artist talk 7-8
GALLERY HOURS: Monday - Friday, 10 am - 5:30 pm
Minnesota State College Faculty (MSCF) Faculty Shared Governance Council
Minutes for Tuesday, September 22, 2009 – 2:00 p.m. – AT109

Present:        Administration  Bequette, Cram, Hansmann, Supalla
                Faculty           Atwood, Israelson, Marconett, O’Bryan, Wright (Chair)
                Recorder         Kingsbury
                Guests           Engelmeeyer

ITEM 1 (A) Staffing Update – Engelmeeyer reported there are currently six open positions at various stages of their search processes. In addition, there are a couple of more vacancies that are pending classification approvals at the Office of the Chancellor. Wright questioned if there were any pending positions that will depend on the budget. Engelmeeyer responded that the vacancies were reviewed during the FY10 IPP Budget Review. Supalla added there will be some reorganization in the Facilities Department that will result in a flattening of the organizational structure. ACTION: Information Only.

ITEM 1 (F) Faculty Communication and Construction at Heintz Center – Wright announced the faculty had major concerns as it related to the mode of operation and lack of communication from the Facilities Department during the construction at the Heintz Center (i.e. computers were removed from classrooms without consultation with the faculty using the classrooms.) Wright stated, “Education should be first” and when this was communicated to the Facilities Department, faculty felt they were not being heard. Wright added he believed the issues may be resolved through the reorganization in the department. Supalla emphasized the importance of communication no matter who is coordinating facility needs. Hansmann questioned if campus-wide e-mails were sufficient means of communicating. Wright expressed his concern that employees may not be reading campus-wide e-mails because there are too many of them, and questioned if some adjuncts even access their college e-mail accounts, noting e-mail communication is another big issue of concern that should be addressed at some point. Engelmeeyer suggested linking the adjunct faculty’s personal e-mails to the College e-mails. ACTION: E-mail protocol will be added to a future agenda for discussion.

ITEM 2 (A) MnSCU Board’s Early Separation Incentive – Supalla reported conversations are still being held with Office of the Chancellor Staff and other colleges to determine how other institutions are handling the Early Separation Incentive. Supalla added Administration is still committed to making a decision by mid-October on whether or not it will be included in the RCTC Business Plan, adding a lot of the discussions will depend on potential layoffs. ACTION: Information Only.

ITEM 3 (A) House Capital Investment Committee Visit – Supalla reported RCTC will be joining the City of Rochester at the Mayo Civic Center the middle of October to share projects with the members of the House Capital Investment Committee. ACTION: Information Only.

ITEM 4 (A) Regional Flu Center Planning/Pandemic H1N1 – Supalla announced Olmsted County is seriously considering utilizing the Regional Sports Center for a Regional Flu Center should a pandemic outbreak occur. Hansmann reported that meetings are being coordinated with faculty participation to discuss the academic implications of a take-over of the facilities by the County. Supalla also announced more information will be shared as it becomes available. Wright suggested Administration be proactive and communicate with faculty on what is expected should the County take over the facilities during finals week. ACTION: Information Only.

ITEM 5 (A) –Video Surveillance (Policy 6.4.3.1) – Supalla announced General Counsel is still reviewing the policy. ACTION: Item will be placed on hold until further communication is received from General Counsel.

Adjoined at 2:35 p.m.

NEXT MEETING: October 27, 2009 – 2:00 p.m.