College Crossings

RCTC Open Forums to resume
The first Rumor Control Through Communication (RCTC) Open Forum for 1999-2000 has been scheduled for Thursday, November 4, 1999. The forums will be held at 11:30am in CF206 (UCR) and at 2:00pm in HB117 (Heintz Center). Some items to be discussed include:
- Noel-Levitz Student Survey Feedback
- Capital Restriction Bonding Update
- Budget Process
- NCA/Baldrige/MQC/New Designs

Please join the RCTC Administrative Cabinet at the Open Forums and share your questions/concerns with them on November 4th!!

Significant events in the lives of RCTC employees
Special college funds are used by the President’s Office to provide acknowledgments for RCTC employees or their immediate family members to recognize significant events in their lives. RCTC recognizes the following events: Hospitalization/Surgery (employees only); Death (current employees, spouse, children, parents or brothers/sisters, and retirees); Birth/Adoption (employees only); and other special exceptions as deemed appropriate by the President’s Office.

Your assistance in sharing news or acknowledgments of these significant events is greatly appreciated. Please continue to share the announcement/information via e-mail immediately to UCR All, including logistical details, i.e. occasion, hospital, funeral homes, etc. This information is retrieved by the President’s Office, confirmed, and appropriate arrangements are made.

Baldrige Banterings
Are you on a committee yet? One of the results of our ongoing assessments is a revamping of our committee structure at RCTC. Our goal is 100% faculty participation—that is to have every faculty member join one or more committees. Paula Theisen and Kathy Peak are training committee chairs on efficient meeting practices so meetings will optimize time and resources. Our five all-college committees are listed below along with a contact person from each.

- Teaching and Learning: Judy Harris
- Innovative Designs Committee: Judy Harris
- Student Stakeholder Relations: Dave Weber
- Employee Relations: Susanne Sheehan
- Technology Committee (UCR Committee): Tim Gilsrud
COME AND GET IT!
Taher, Inc.

REGULAR HOURS
DINING ROOM - UCR Commons
HEINTZ CENTER SNACK BAR - Heintz Ctr.
Mondays - Fridays: 7:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Monday
Roast beef, potatoes, veggie
Chicken noodle soup

Tuesday
Taco bar
Cabbage soup

Wednesday
Stir fry pork, rice
Bean/ham soup

Thursday
Potato bar
Tomato soup

Friday
Chef's Choice

Weekly funny...

“Welcome aboard, Blane, I’ve decided to hire you as my Boy Friday.”

Thank you
A big THANK YOU to everyone at the College for all of the support, well wishes, cards, flowers, and presents during our pregnancy and for the birth of the triplets. Dillon, Justin and Ryley are all doing well and are starting to show their own personalities. We hope to be able to come for a visit in a few weeks when Mom and Dad have gotten a few more hours of sleep! Thanks again.

—Beth and Mike Diekmann and family

For your information
Returning students are not required to fill out the hard card registration form when they are using the WEB for registration. After all who will they really have to hand it to when they have registered? However, the hard card form will be required for counter registration.

For programs that are required to have advisor approval for registration, the Advisor Access Code identifies that you have seen the student. This is much like your signature on the card registration form. Once a student has used the Advisor Access Code, they can access their registration the entire time their registration window is open.

If you are concerned about changes in registration, you may want to monitor the class lists as we get close to the beginning of the term.

We will have web registration instructions available along with schedule planning work sheets.

Recipients for vacation donation program
Listed below is the new individual who has been approved as a recipient for the vacation donation to the sick leave account program. This individual may have already or will be exhausting all paid leave time and will be losing health insurance coverage’s. State employees may donate up to 12 hours (per recipient) per fiscal year to these individuals or any other recipients on the sick leave account. More details regarding this individual and forms to donate leave are available from the human resources office.

James Colberg

Thought for the week...
Put some variety in your life...buy a box of assorted chocolates!!!
Congratulations to Ivan Imm and the CE/CTS/ED team who wrote and defended a Minnesota Job Skills Partnership grant application. RCTC submitted a $391,000 grant application and this week was awarded $387,000 to deliver education and training for both acute care and long term care staff. The proposal was supported by, and the training will be delivered, over the next three years, to employees at Olmsted Medical Center, Samaritan Bethany, Comfort Home Health Care and Stewartville Care Center. Training will be provided both through on-site classes and Web-based distance learning technology. Because grant requests were limited to $400,000, RCTC’s grant will rank at or near the top of grants awarded during this funding cycle. Nice work, Ivan!

Last week, MnSCU released data indicating that 25 of the 29 two-year colleges experienced enrollment increases. Enrollment at 36 MnSCU institutions surged upward this fall, with two-year colleges and state universities reporting a 6.6 percent increase over fall 1998. The gain of 9,023 students brings total MnSCU enrollment to 146,678. “This is the largest enrollment increase since the system was formed,” said Chancellor Morrie Anderson. “Minnesota students and parents are recognizing that our colleges and universities offer high-quality education that can help them succeed in life and work.” RCTC enrolled 4,339 students fall semester, a 218 student increase over fall 1998, a 5.3 percent increase. Gary Swenson, Director of Institutional Services, who has an excellent track record for estimating end-of-year projections based on fall data, has increased the original FY00 FYE projection from 3080 to 3125. RCTC, in response to the System Office request for FY01 tuition and FYE projections, is recommending a 6 percent tuition increase coupled with an enrollment increase to 3200 FYE. Thanks for your help in growing…and now retaining…this year’s enrollment!

With three House and Senate committee visits and the University of Minnesota Board of Regents meeting behind us, I can concentrate on campus business. Last week’s presentation to the Senate Higher Education Budget Division drew favorable reaction from our visitors. Dave Weber developed terrific PowerPoint presentations customized for each of the legislative visits. Thanks to those who made presentations and all who attended the sessions. What’s happening at UCR is definitely a model for the rest of the state. You can be very proud of your accomplishments…I am!

Mark your calendars and plan to attend the first of this year’s RCTC (Rumor Control Through Communications) Forums. The forums are scheduled for Thursday, November 4 from 11:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. in UCR’s CF206 and again from 2-3 p.m. in Heintz Center’s HB117. See you there!

Thanks to Bonnie Mercer who represented RCTC at a luncheon where CAD (Drafting) Technology student Michael Laska received a Rotary II scholarship. Congratulations, Michael! Thanks for choosing RCTC for your higher education.

Harry Pontiff, MnSCU’s Associate Vice Chancellor for Instructional Technology, has accepted the position of Chief Information Officer at Hamline University. Linda Baer, Senior Vice Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs has announced the appointment of John O’Brien as Interim Associate Vice Chancellor for Instructional Technology. Prior to John’s appointment, he served as System Director for Instructional Technology.

According to CNN, the recommended reading list for Berkeley this year will include “The Complete Tales of Winnie the Pooh” by A.A. Milne as well as its typical lineup of classics such as Carl Sagan’s “Contact” and the books of Genesis and Exodus. When was the last time you enjoyed a Winnie the Pooh book?

Story for the Week—“Discouraged”

As I was driving home from work one day, I stopped to watch a local Little League baseball game that was being played in a park near my home. As I sat down behind the bench on the first-baseline, I asked one of the boys what the score was. “We’re behind 14 to nothing,” he answered with a smile. “Really,” I said. “I have to say you don’t look very discouraged.” “Discouraged?” the boy asked with a puzzled look on his face. “Shy should we be discouraged? We haven’t been up to bat yet.”

~Jack Canfield~

Thought for the Week

We can do no great things; only small things with great love.

—Mother Teresa

Keep doing great things with love! Don