December Best Bee

Congratulations to Josh Henslin for being selected as the Best Bee for December!!!

Here is some of what Josh’s nominators had to say:
“Josh has been a part of the help desk for almost a year. In this year he has set up a shared drive with countless fixes to problems that do not occur very often. This helps everyone work more efficiently at the help desk since we have fixes to many problems at our fingertips. If there is a problem on our image, Josh will not hesitate to get to the core of the problem and find a fix. This in turn helps everyone on campus.”

“Very helpful, nice, talented, and always welcoming.” “He helps everyone the same regardless of who they are. He works well in a group and works hard to provide a quality environment for students to learn/work in.”

Josh Henslin will receive an "up front" parking spot at UCR for the month of December.

~ Annual Holiday Reception ~

Friday, December 8, 2006 from 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Heintz Center Commons ~ Sponsored by the Administration

The Teddy Bear Drive tradition will also continue this year. UCR Employees will be collecting teddy bears and donating them to the local law enforcement agencies this holiday season. These teddy bears are used by officers to comfort children during difficult situations. If you are interested in participating in this worthy cause, you may bring your bear to the Holiday Reception and place them under the "Teddy Bear Tree."

Circuits and Skins

Join us for an evening of original music composition, world drumming, electronic music performances, video, and surround-sound audio on Monday, December 11th at 7:00pm in the RCTC Hill Theatre. The concert will feature original music compositions by students of the Electronic Music Composition classes; RCTC World Drum Ensemble, under the direction of Denny McGuire and special guests: The E-Jazz Group; Dr. John Paulson-Sax; Eric Heukeshoven- synthesizers; Dr. Kevin Dobbe- electronic percussion; Sam Coutier, Electric Guitar and Denny McGuire- electric bass. A flier with more info is attached.
Weekly funny…

Snapshots at jasonlove.com

"Hey, we have one of those. You hang your laundry on it."

Equine Horse Show…You’re Invited!
What: RCTC’s End-Of-Semester Horse Show.

Who: This is a competition amongst RCTC Equine Science Students. There will be English and Western classes, a jumping competition, western pattern classes, and a bake sale!

When: Friday, December 8th from 1pm to 4:30pm

Where: The Stables Equestrian Center. There is an indoor riding arena (so you won't be outdoors)

Directions: Head east on Viola Road from Century High School for about 5 miles. Turn north onto County Road 11. Take your first right turn onto 51st Street N.E. (gravel road). The Stables are the 4th driveway on the left - look for the red barn… 6489 51st Stree NE.

Questions? Contact Julie at Julie.christie@roch.edu.

Thank You!
A special Thank You and acknowledgment for an outstanding student Milos Jovanovic. As the highest contributor, Milos collected over $80 on Halloween night for the UNICEF fund drive. Perhaps if you have him in class or work with him with other services on campus you might recognize him for his personal efforts.

Marketing Fact
The social benefits that accrue to individuals or groups who participate in postsecondary education include: improved health/life expectancy, improved quality of life for children, better consumer decision making, increased personal status, and more hobbies/leisure activities.


Horticulture Holiday Sale

Poinsettias (6 colors available)
- 4.5” pot with 1 stem/pot for $6.00
- 7” pot with 3 stems/pot for $14.00
Fraser Fir Wreaths $16.00
Boxwood trees $20.00 (available 12/5)
Kissing balls $10.00 (available 11/30)
Centerpieces $15.00 (available 12/12)

Holiday Hours at the Heintz Center HH126 (greenhouse)
- Tues. Nov. 28: 8-10:50am
- Wed. Nov. 29: 2-4pm
- Thurs. Nov. 30: 10-11:50am
- Mon. Dec. 4: 2-4pm
- Tues. Dec. 5: 8-10am
- Wed. Dec. 6: 2-4pm
- Thurs. Dec. 7: 10-11:50am

Growing for you,
Robin, Vern, & Horticulture Students

2007 Summer Youth Programs
Have you thought about offering and coordinating a summer Youth Program? If so - please look at the attached Letter of Intent and submit your ideas/program by December 22, 2006. I will be happy to discuss with you your ideas and explore how RCTC can assist. Getting young people on campus and encouraging them to see the possibility of college in their future is one of the goals of RCTC Youth Programming. Please don't hesitate in asking questions and requesting assistance.

Colleen Landherr Maddox
Community & Youth Program Director
280-3113
colloen.landherr@roch.edu
Supalla Scribblings

If you’ve been in this business as long as I have, you realize that things in higher education aren’t what they used to be. This week’s edition of THE CHRONICLE OF HIGHER EDUCATION summarized some of the major differences in an article, “By the Numbers: How Higher Education has Changed in 40 Years.”

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Exciting RCTC Happenings…

- Darlene Voeltz, RCTC Business faculty member, has been selected from a pool of highly qualified Economics experts to serve as a panelist for the National Assessment Governing Board. Aimed at identifying a method to establish achievement level cut scores on the 2006 National Assessment of Educational Progress in Grade 12 Economics, the panel will be meeting in St. Louis on January 11-13 as part of a critical step in establishing achievement levels for the Nation’s Report Card in Economics. Congratulations, Darlene!

- Wayne Baker, Executive Director of the National Junior College Athletic Association, sends sincere appreciation to M. J. Wagenson and the National Volleyball Championship Tournament volunteers for hosting a terrific 2006 tournament. Special thanks to M. J. and the other RCTC faculty and staff who volunteered to assist at the event. Coaches, players and fans from around the country praised the work of the tournament committee and loved their time in Rochester. All would love to come back here when the Planning Committee joins the Rochester Amateur Sports Commission to host the 2007 national championships.

- Congratulations to the athletes and teams that recently completed the fall sports schedule. Once again, RCTC teams did very well against Minnesota Community College Conference and NJCAA regional opponents. Our volleyball, football, soccer and golf players and coaches work extremely hard and represent RCTC well whether on or off campus. Our winter season sports of basketball and wrestling have begun. I encourage you to come out and support our women and men athletes and the coaches.

- The Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs voted on November 17 to award continuing accreditation to the EMS Paramedic Program. The recent peer review conducted by the Committee on Accreditation and the Commission’s Board of Director’s recognized the program’s substantial compliance with the nationally established accreditation Standards and has scheduled the next comprehensive evaluation of the program and on-site review to occur no later than 2009. Congratulations to Rick Peterson and the Paramedic Program.

- On Saturday, December 2, Chuck Blattner directs the Rochester Concert Band and Choir in Rochester’s annual premier holiday celebration, Yule Fest. We all know Chuck uses Yule Fest as a warm-up for RCTC’s “Making Spirits Bright” concert presented next week. I hope you didn’t forget to purchase tickets for this in-demand production.

- Bill Tschida, MnSCU Vice Chancellor for Human Resources, and Vicki Schoenbeck, Program Assistant to the Vice Chancellor, made a trip to RCTC on November 29 to present our Human Resources team a special award for their efforts in helping coordinate the first-ever Regional Staff Development Training Session. Congratulations to Beth Amslon, Jennifer Haug, Kim Leitzen and Norma Perez who were thanked for their contribution to the first-ever regional training opportunity.

Thanks to Rose Conway for once again coordinating a very successful and fun State Combined Charities Campaign. The last couple of years, several of you have told me that you’d like your United Way of Olmsted County contribution recognized like those of your friends and neighbors. United Way of Olmsted County, working with Rose, has found a way to make this happen. If you’d like to be recognized in the local contributor book that’s distributed by UW, contact Rose for a copy of form what will allow RCTC team members to self identify themselves and their level of giving. This will allow UW to include eligible staff in the Caring Club program. This process works for other teams in the community.

Quote for the Week…

“It’s time we turn this elephant around and upside down and take a look at it. This community can withstand the scrutiny.”

-- U.S. Secretary of Education Margaret Spellings quoted speaking about higher education in Inside Higher Education. --

As we enter the last month of the year and the last weeks of the semester, take care of students and take care of you. Don
Thank You Notes

The family of Lloyd K. Peterson wishes to sincerely thank staff and faculty at RCTC for the beautiful flowers, cards, telephone and email messages sent in condolence upon his death on November 19, 2006. My father was a wonderful and special man and he will be greatly missed by his family and friends. It has been a difficult time, but your thoughts and kind words have given us comfort.

~ With deep appreciation, Judy Lindman and family

Condoledences

Condoledences to Judy Lindman whose father, Lloyd Peterson passed away on Sunday, November 19. Condoledences are also extended to Gary Buns (PT Football Coach) and Rose Buns (AD Nursing Instructor) whose mother/mother-in-law, Elaine Buns, passed away on Thursday, November 23. Condoledences to Gary Peterson (Tahter Food Service Director) whose father, LaVern Peterson passed away on Friday, November 24. It is also with deep sorrow we announce the passing away of Chih "Charles" Lie (RCTC Adjunct Physical Education Instructor) on Wednesday, November 22. Our thoughts are with all these employees and their families.

Congratulations!

The RCTC Human Resources Staff (Beth Arntson, Kimberly Leitzen, Jennifer Haug, and Norma Perez) were surprised on Wednesday, November 29, when Vice Chancellor of Human Resources, Bill Tschida, and Program Assistant, Vicki Schoenbeck, arrived at the UCR Campus to personally congratulate them for being recipients of a MnSCU Human Resources All-Star Award. The RCTC HR Department, along with the other MnSCU HR Departments who planned the first Regional Staff Development Day, were recognized for their promotion of collaboration in organizing the activities held this past spring. The actual award was presented to each of the campuses during the Fall HR Conference held in Marshall.

Thank You Notes

Just a quick note to let you know that I am finally home from the hospital, arriving about 8:00 p.m. November 13. Many of you know of my delayed release date due to a staff infection. After treating it a couple of days with intravenous antibiotics, I am now on an oral medication that should take care of any lingering bacteria.

Now that I am home, I will receive home health care and home physical therapy several times a week. Once my shoulder and back are healed, around the middle of December, I will be ready for Phase II in my recovery. Phase II will include a return to St. Mary's Rehabilitation Unit, to work on strengthening my legs. In the meantime, I am relying on my motorized wheelchair to get around.

At this time, I also want to thank all of you who have sent cards, flowers, and gifts or have come for visits, brought food for Hugh and Elliot, and offered much needed moral support. Also, special thank you to the angels that cleaned my house, including my refrigerator! It is my hope that I can regain my strength to repay all of you whenever you may need help. I am humbled by your thoughtful deeds.

It is wonderful to be home, and yes, I have a long way to go to go before I return to my old lifestyle. My last hour of physical therapy included me standing for 5 minutes! Of course I had someone in front of me and a person behind me for support, but my legs can support my weight and that is very promising.

Again, thank you for all of your support and feel free to stop by for a visit if possible. Knock on the door, and then come right in, as I will be slow getting to the door. Hope to see or hear from you soon.

~ Fondly, Pat Kraemer
Campus Exhibits in Goddard Library
Goddard Library invites your exhibits of cultural, artistic and educational interest for temporary placement in the library. A lockable display case and wall mounted exhibit board are available in one month reservations for campus groups and organizations. The reservation request form, guidelines and schedule are available by calling the library at 285-7233 or by email to library@ucr.roch.edu.

New York Study Tour
Attached to this week’s Crossings is information regarding the New York Retail Merchandising/Interior Decorating Study Tour. The tour will March 29-April 3, 2007. Registration should be done before Dec. 8th. For more information please see the attached flier or go to http://www.rctc.edu/program/rmds

Congratulations!
Congratulations to Anne Benson (Math Instructor) on the birth of twin granddaughters! Anna Maria and Sophia Maria were born to Anne’s son, Jesse, and daughter-in-law, Lisa, on Monday, November 6.

Flu Shots on Campus
Covered Employees: Thursday, December 7, 11:00 - 4:00 UCR Cafeteria
Flu shots with no out-of-pocket costs for all state employees covered by a State of Minnesota Advantage Health Plan. You must present your card! If you are a covered employee and cannot attend this date, you can get a flu shot with no out of pocket costs through your primary healthcare provider.

Non-Covered Employees and Students: Monday, December 11, 11:30 - 1:00 UCR Cafeteria
Flu shots for students and state employees not covered by a State of Minnesota Advantage Health Plan. The cost is $20.00 (cash only).

For more information visit http://www.doer.state.mn.us/eisehpp/flu/QAemployee.htm

Congratulations, Don!
Roy Sutherland, Rochester Park and Recreation Director, announced President Don Supalla will be inducted into the 2006 Rochester Park and Recreation Wall of Honor. Because the official recognition ceremony will be held on a day when President Supalla is scheduled to be at a meeting in St. Paul, Mr. Sutherland surprised Supalla in his office on Wednesday, November 29 with a clock/plaque for his induction.

The Wall of Honor recognizes individuals and organizations that have made a significant contribution to the Rochester Park System and the quality of life that we enjoy in Rochester. President Supalla was nominated because of his vision, commitment and cooperation with the Rochester Park & Recreation Department. His willingness to make the campus truly part of the community has created a complex that is inclusive, inviting, innovative and a true asset to the community.

President Supalla was also recognized as being instrumental in a number of co-developed projects on the campus property. These include:

- The Fuad Mansour Sports Complex
- The Rochester Youth Football Fields
- The Rochester Youth Baseball Complex
- The Regional Field House
- The soon to be built Football/Soccer Complex.

The nominator was also quoted as saying "Without President Supalla’s willingness to partner to make sure things get done and his willingness to step up to the plate, none of this would have been possible. On any given day, there are hundreds, if not thousands, of Rochester kids on the campus doing what they enjoy the most, having a great time."

Thank you, Don, for your commitment to ensure UCR/RCTC is part of the community!

December Duplicating Hours
Dec 1 - Dec 22 Regular Hours
Dec 23 - Jan 1 Closed
Jan 2 - Jan 5 8:00am - 4:30pm
Jan 6- Jan 7 Closed
Jan 8 Regular hours resume
7:30am - 6:00pm Mon - Thurs
7:30am - 4:00pm Friday
8:00am - 11am Saturday
Rochester Community and Technical College
Minnesota State College Faculty (MSCF) Faculty Shared Governance Council
Minutes for Tuesday, October 24, 2006 – 2:00 p.m. – AT109

Present: Administration Bequette, Cram, Hansmann, Supalla
Faculty Israelson, Marconett, Martinez, Wright (Chair)
Recorder: Kingsbury
Guest: Arntson

ITEM 1 (A) Faculty Attendance at Staff Development – Bequette expressed concerns regarding the low attendance of faculty at Staff Development Day activities, and the Teaching and Learning Administration’s desire to not take or police attendance. Bequette added the issue was discussed at a recent Department Chair/Program Leaders meeting and it was recommended that Faculty Leadership visit with faculty about the issue. Wright responded the Department Chair/Program Leaders Committee discusses issues relating to departments and programs, and should not be forwarding recommendations, but rather recommendations are to come through committees with appointed faculty representing faculty positions. Bequette clarified his discussion of the issue with the group was for guidance and advise, and not to secure an official recommendation. ACTION: Wright will send a reminder to faculty (and copy Arntson) about Staff Development Day participation.

ITEM 2 (A) Identification of Faculty for Committees – Bequette announced the issue can be removed from today’s agenda. ACTION: Information Only.

ITEM 3 (A) Student Success Day Information – Bequette announced preliminary data has been collected, but additional data needs to be collected on the effectiveness of the day, i.e. creating a database that enables the College to identify students who participate in the activities and their academic progress compared to those that do not attend. Wright complimented Bequette and the committee for establishing a tracking system, but emphasized the need to also track those students on probation and suspension (those that need the assistance and do not attend). Wright also reiterated that the Student Success day in the Spring semester has not had the support of the faculty. ACTION: Item will be brought back to the next meeting.

ITEM 4 (A) Update on Program Closure/Layoffs – Arntson announced a Special FSGC meeting was held and four layoffs letters will be processed (Electronics, Computer Operations, EMT, and Paramedic). Arntson added the EMT layoff is necessary to offer reassignment to the EMT layoff. If the Paramedic employee chooses not to accept the reassignment, then he is essentially accepting layoff or retirement and the EMT layoff will be rescinded. All letters will be issued prior to November 1, 2006. Bequette added the Electronics, Computer Operations and Paramedic programs will be placed on suspension, allowing for a three year period to reconsider before closing. ACTION: Faculty will review the information before announcing a position or taking any action.

ITEM 5 (A) Telecommuting Policy – Arntson requested feedback on the draft policy. ACTION: Issue tabled until Distance Education Subcommittee has an opportunity to review and report back to Wright.

ITEM 6 (A) Heintz Center Asbestos Update – Hansmann provided an update on the Heintz Center roof project, announcing asbestos was found below the roof and above the ceilings, hence the need to suspend the project. Hansmann added, however, that the air quality testing came back negative, indicating asbestos is not being released in the air. A request has been submitted to MnSCU for $3.4 million of emergency HEAPR funding to off-set the cost for replacement of ceilings, lights, and floors to finish the “shell” of the rooms after the asbestos is removed. Hansmann also noted that the Memorial Hall roofing project should be completed in mid-November. The Health Science project roofing project will commence shortly. ACTION: Information Only.
ITEM 7 (A) Repair and Replacement Process – Hansmann announced the Finance and Facilities Committee has forwarded a recommendation, and obtain approval by Cabinet, to establish a Repair and Replacement process that provides an opportunity for anyone to submit proposals for funding in projects. It is estimated the available funding for the project will be close to $600,000 of the anticipated $800,000 Repair and Replacement budget. The process includes the Committee forwarding recommendations in rank order to Cabinet for final approval. Wright acknowledged a similar process was successfully conducted at the former Technical College. Wright questioned if a similar process would be used for determining capital equipment requests. Hansmann responded she wasn’t convinced the Finance and Facilities Committee would have enough background information to follow the process, but would need assistance from Teaching and Learning Leadership for guidance. Hansmann agreed to look into establishing a similar process once the R&R process is operating successfully. **ACTION: Information Only.**

ITEM 8 (A) System Budget Request – Hansmann outlined MnSCU’s budget request framework and proposal for a 4% system-wide average tuition increase if additional funding is provided by the legislature. Supalla emphasized there is no guarantee the Board of Trustees will approve the Office of the Chancellor proposal. **ACTION: Information Only.**

ITEM 1 (F) Marketing Efforts – Wright shared faculty concerns regarding the need to suspend programs and questioned if enough marketing was done to assist the programs in increasing enrollment. A discussion occurred on the philosophy of doing college-wide marketing versus individual program marketing. Martinez specifically indicated his concern that a program like Paramedics would be in trouble in a clinical community like Rochester. Supalla responded the history of the program’s declining enrollment is not sudden, and marketing alone can’t be expected to maintain or increase enrollment, but rather occupational program leaders also have a responsibility. Supalla also noted without specific concerns being shared as it relates to marketing efforts, and the lack of the Chief Strategic Operations Officer in the room for the discussion, further discussion would be moot. **ACTION: Faculty will share more specific marketing concerns with Weber, and the item will be brought back to the next meeting.**

ITEM 9 (A) Other Items – Bequette announced a letter would be going to all faculty encouraging assistance in increasing and retaining current enrollments for spring semester. Wright questioned if a conversation occurred with Mayo Clinic as it relates to their declining employee benefits for tuition reimbursement. Supalla responded a conversation has been held with key Mayo Clinic individuals and there is a belief that, although their benefits have decreased, they are still at the top from a business perspective and there is no feeling of changing their policy in the future. **ACTION: Information Only.**

Adjourned at 2:45 p.m.

**NEXT MEETING:** November 28, 2006 – 2:00pm – AT109