



College Crossings

Rochester Community and Technical College

December 10, 2007
Volume 13, Issue 14

FALL SEMESTER EDITION

Inside this Issue

- Toy Drive/Food Drive – Pg 2
- Floral Workshop – Pg 2
- Equine Science Show – Pg 4
- Horticulture Sale – Pg 4

Event Schedule – click below
[R25](#)

Attachments

(CLICK on links below to read)

- ❖ Guatemala Trip Poster
- ❖ Guatemala Trip Calendar
- ❖ Food Service Hours
- ❖ Give Food to Get Food
FEAST – Dec. 20th

ATTENTION:

Please plan ahead...there will be no *Crossings* publications 12/24, 12/31 & 1/7 due to the semester break. *Crossings* will resume with the January 14th edition.

Meeting Minutes

Click below:

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

Join your RCTC and WSU Rochester Colleagues as we

"Juggle Up Some Fun"



Annual Holiday Reception

Thursday, December 13, 2007 from 2:00 – 4:00 p.m.

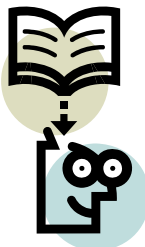
Health Science Center (Lower Level Lounge)

Reception sponsored by the RCTC and WSU-R Administration

Door prizes donated by the RCTC Horticulture Club

And...remember others during the holiday season

This year marks the 10th anniversary of the Teddy Bear Drive. Please bring your donation to the Holiday Reception, or drop it off under the "Teddy Bear Tree" in SS202, RCTC Office of the President.



Academic Accolades

Mike Mutschelknaus has just published "Helping Refugee Students Find their Voices" in the Fall 2007 issue of the Minnesota English Journal. You can read the article by going to <http://www.mcte.org>. Mike has also been selected to present "Teachers as Cultural Brokers in the Composition Classroom" at the 2008 Conference on College Composition and Communication in New Orleans. Both projects focus on improving newcomer education.

The best time to relax is when you don't think you have time for it.

~ Jim Goodwin

Weekly Funny

Snapshots at jasonlove.com



"Tap water?! As if."

Food Drive

Taher is teaming up with Student Life in sponsoring a food drive now until December 20th. Bring can goods and get a free 12oz cup of coffee or a piece of hand fruit. On December 20th we'll have a "Give Food to Get Food" buffet (see the attachment to this week's *Crossings* for more information). Bring can goods to lunch and get a free lunch. Sponsored by your food service and your Student Life. Help us feed those in need!

~ Gary Peterson

Thank You Notes

Dear Colleagues...I want to thank the faculty and staff for the support I received during my time away from the college when my father had his accident and during his passing. Memorials were given in his name to the RCTC Foundation and the American Diabetes Association. I want to also thank my friends for the gifts that were given to add to my garden.

~ Sincerely, Jamie and Darci Prasser and Family

Dear RCTC Family...Thank you so very much for the beautiful floral arrangement that was sent to my Mom's funeral. Also, thank you for all the cards, phone calls and e-mails of comforting words. Your caring and thoughtfulness is very much appreciated.

~ Patty & Gary Stevens

Marketing Corner
 Our Marketing Outreach Coordinator, Anna Hanson, will be at Kenyon-Wanamingo High School doing presentations to two career classes this week.

Toy Drive by Veteran's Club

In the spirit of giving, the RCTC student veterans are sponsoring the Marine Toys for Tots 2007. During the week of December 10th through the 14th, student veterans will be accepting monetary and un-wrapped gifts in the Atrium from 11 am to 1 p.m.. If you are not able to make it to the Atrium, you can bring these items to room CC 401, the Veterans Resource Center, located above the cafeteria at UCR. The Law Enforcement Club will also be a drop off at Heintz Center...donations can be dropped off in HB110 or HB112.



Crossings Classifieds
FOR SALE: HP 1210 printer/scanner/copier. Works, but can be temperamental. Includes new ink cartridges (HP 56 &57)- all for \$45. Please call Kari Takahashi at 281-7786 or via email at Kari.Takahashi@roch.edu.
HOLIDAY HAPPENINGS: Looking for something fun to do over the holidays? Tour the House of Santas - over 8,000 Santas in 21 rooms of a private historical house located at 1020 N Owens in Stillwater, MN. Cost is \$5 - open seven days a week in November/December (am/pm/evening tours available except holidays). You must call to schedule a tour appointment (651) 439-0066. Rose Conway attended...if interested, you can ask her for more details.

Flower Workshop – Back by Popular Demand!
 Luke, Janette, and their elves are back by popular demand! The theme this time will be "Decorate your life" or "Create a great gift". This workshop will cover the basic centerpiece. (see picture below) Luke and Janette will demonstrate ways to personalize the design with color, accessories, and bling!

Wednesday, December 19 from 5:30-7:30pm
HH113 at the Heintz Center ~ Cost: \$40



*Growing for you,
 Robin, Doug, and Hort students*

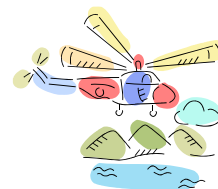
Supalla Scribblings



Tis the season for sharing and caring. I hope that you will take some time during this hectic time of the semester to enjoy the opportunity to network with colleagues and friends of RCTC. Thanks to those who have participated in the fund raising events, adopt a family, and the many other opportunities to help those less fortunate. I personally invite you to celebrate the season by dropping by the lower level Health Science Center's lounge between 2-4 p.m., December 13 for the Holiday Reception. Don't forget to bring along a teddy bear or two for donation to area law enforcement agencies. If you weren't already in the holiday spirit, attending the "A Christmas to Remember" music concert would have eliminated that "baa humbug" feeling.

I've been stockpiling a number of reports that deserve sharing. Here's a synopsis of three of the reports that impact higher education and our ability to deliver accessible, affordable, quality education to a diverse population.

- The Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS) report for RCTC has been released. The report compares our data against ten other two-year MnSCU providers...Central Lakes College, Century College, Hibbing Community College, Lake Superior College, Minneapolis CTC, Minnesota West CTC, Northland CTC, Ridgewater College, Riverland Community College and St. Paul College. RCTC enrollments are significantly greater than the average of the cohort. RCTC enrollments are more ethnically diverse and we enroll more women than others in the cohort. Tuition and fees for full-time RCTC students average \$4498, compared with \$4268 at the other institutions. Even so, our students received significantly less help from federal and state grants and loans. Some of this shortage of outside financial assistance is off-set by RCTC students receiving more than twice the cohort average of institutional grants (primarily Foundation scholarships). Overall, RCTC graduation rates of full-time, first-time, degree/certificate seeking undergraduates is significantly less than the cohort average (26% versus 38%). However, our transfer rates exceed the cohort average (25% versus 17%). RCTC awards many more Associate degrees than our cohorts, but the cohort group awards more one- and two-year certificates. RCTC's revenue from tuition is significantly more than the cohort group who get more revenue from state appropriation than tuition. On average, RCTC spends less per FTE on instruction, institutional support, and student services than the cohort; but more on academic support and public service. We employ significantly more instructional, professional and non-professional staff than the other institutions. And salaries for both academic and non-academic employees at RCTC are very similar to those employed at the other institutions. For additional IPEDS information click on <http://nces.ed.gov/ipeds>.
- The State Higher Education Executive Officers (SHEEO) recently released a report, "More Student Success...A Systemic Solution...Achieving Better Results in Our Schools and Colleges." Here's what the report said about "Success in College." *Every year thousands of students withdraw from postsecondary education without completing a degree or certificate. Many such students will persist and succeed when colleges and universities strategically re-design themselves for greater student success. Each of these practices will help more students succeed. Their potential will be amplified when they become part of a pervasive campus culture focused on student learning. For more student success:*
 - > ***Make student success a prominent feature of every institution's mission.***
 - > ***Set performance standards at high but attainable levels, and help students reach them.***
 - > ***Teach first-year students how to use college resources as early as possible.***
 - > ***Build communities of learners organized around the classroom.***
 - > ***Develop networks and early warning systems to support students needing help.***
 - > ***Connect every student to meaningful activities and positive role models.***
 - > ***Find and fix obstacles to student retention and success, such as courses with unduly-high failure rates and customer-unfriendly campus procedures.***
 - > ***Make successful practices widely acceptable, rather than "boutique" programs which help just a few students.***
- Helicopter parents aren't going away; their micromanaging of their children's lives now extends even into millennials' efforts to land their first jobs following college graduation. The attempts by so-called helicopter parents to hover over their kids throughout their involvement in youth soccer games, school plays, high school sports, the college application process and their college careers, don't stop with college graduation. "Baby boomers view jobs and careers as one of life's great transitions, along with getting married, and so they believe their children's career development requires their involvement," said Dallas Frey, Director of Staffing and Organizational Development at Westinghouse. Mark Presnell, director of the Johns Hopkins University Career Center, is familiar with parents' calls to employers to inquire about the status of their kids' applications, performance reviews and application processes.



Thought for the Week as the Semester Winds Down...

The spirit, the will to win, and the will to excel are the things that endure.

These qualities are so much more important than the events that occur. -- Vince Lombardi, Football Coach

Keep the spirit! **Don**

The RCTC Equine Science End-of-the-Semester Horse Show

This show will be held on Friday, December 14th from 1pm-4pm. This is the final exam for several classes in the Equine Science Program. There will be jumping classes, Hunt Seat Equitation, and Western Horsemanship competition. If you have any questions, contact Julie Christie (507) 398-2326

*The Stables Equestrian Center (college stables)
6489 51st Street, N.E., Rochester*

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. The Stables is the 4th driveway on the left - look for the red barn.

Fitness Center Reminder

To all that use the Fitness Center. The winter/wet season is upon us and I would like to take this time to remind all of you that use the Fitness Center to remember that you need to have **CLEAN and DRY Tennis Shoes** to work out. This means either thoroughly cleaning and drying the shoes you wore to the facility or bringing a clean/dry pair of shoes with you. This is a posted policy and will be enforced. The dirt, mud, water and salt that is brought in on shoes not only dirties the Fitness Center but the salt and gravel, etc. destroys fabric, carpet and other materials that our equipment is made of. We do our best to run a very clean center for all of you to enjoy. By doing so we prolong the life of the existing equipment. This in turn keeps our costs down not having to repair and replace machines every year or two. As I am sure you have noticed, it is very seldom that you see "Out of Order" signs on our equipment. This is because we try and take pride in what we have and take care of it. To continue to do this, we will need your help! We will once again have Fitness Center attendants at the door checking the bottoms of shoes. If they are wet, you will be asked to **Completely** dry them before being allowed in. Thank you in advance for your help in this matter.

~ Jim Williams

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 – **SOLD OUT**
Boxwood trees \$20.00 (available 12/4)
Kissing balls \$10.00 (available 12/6)
Centerpieces \$15.00 (available 12/18)

Holiday Hours

Mon. Dec. 10 & Wed. Dec. 12: 2-4pm
Mon. Dec. 17 & Wed. Dec. 19: 2-4pm

*Growing for you,
Robin, Doug, and Hort Students*



Items Needed

Lynn Guenette, Lori Wright, Jean Marconett and Darlene Voeltz will be in Guatemala from January 1-12 to do volunteer work in the Central Highlands, where the people are extremely impoverished. As you go about your holiday shopping (or if you have these things around your house), here are some things we could use:

- white, sticky-address labels (we will use them for name tags every day at Day Camp)
- stickers of any shape or size
- Sharpie permanent markers
- frisbees (packing-friendly ones are best!)
- small sewing kits (that you get at hotels)
- bars of soap or bottles of lotion (sample size is fine)
- tennis balls (used ones are fine!)
- safety pins (any size)
- \$ donations for purchasing bricks, cement to construct solar ovens
- Spanish books (elementary level) or coloring books
- new toothbrushes (children or adult size)

THANKS so much. We appreciate your kindness, and the people of Guatemala will be very thankful as well. You can send the items to any of us.

~ Darlene, Lori, Jean, Lynn