WHAT'S INSIDE?

UCR events
Attached to this week's College Crossings is the UCR schedule of events for September 7-10.

Evening Administration
The evening administrator for September 7-9 is Gary Swenson who can be reached at x7260.

Crossings attachments
To access attachments to College Crossings, go to the bottom of page 1 (this page) and place your cursor directly over the top of the words that describe the attachment. When the cursor changes to a hand (with a pointing finger), you should be able to click and see the attachments. If you still have trouble, please contact Jenee McGurren at x7270.

WHAT'S INSIDE?

Student Satisfaction Survey
— Page 5

ATTACHED

✦ UCR event schedule
✦ Football schedule
✦ Golf schedule
✦ Soccer schedule
✦ Volleyball schedule
✦ Vacancy announcement

1999-00 Visiting Scholar Series kicks-off with Einstein

The 1999-2000 Visiting Scholar Series is primed for a new and exciting season. The first event, starting the season off with a bang, will be EINSTEIN: A STAGE PORTRAIT. This event is sponsored by the RCTC Campus Activity Board’s SPICE (speakers, programs, issues, current events) Committee.

Affectionately revealing the man behind the 20th century icon, this dramatic biography, performed and directed by John Crowther, depicts Einstein in his sixties, comfortably ensconced in his study at Princeton, reflecting back on his life. In a gently rambling exposition, punctuated by digressive anecdotes and playful analogies illustrating elements of his theories, Crowther – bearing an impressive physical resemblance to his subject – takes us through the scientist’s childhood and early adulthood in Germany and Switzerland, describing a career marked from the first by intellectual insubordination.

Following historical events, we also learn of the personal price paid for professional success, in sorrowful reminiscences about his neglected wives and children. Crowther is superb in his ability to convey not only the heart and mind of the man, but also his soul, the essential religious beliefs underlying his search for order in the universe, his awe at its revelation as towards something holy.

You can witness this fabulous rendition on Wednesday, September 29th at Noon in the Hill Theater or that same evening at 7:00 p.m. at the Rochester Public Library Auditorium.

For more information call: RCTC Foundation 281-7771

Coming in October! Val Webb, local author, will discuss her recently published book, Why We're Equal: Introducing Feminist Theology. Dr. Webb will be on campus October 27th at 10:00 a.m. in the Hill Theatre. The venue for the evening presentation will be announced later.

RCTC Homecoming Game — Saturday, September 11, 1999
Century High School at 1:30 p.m.
GO YELLOWJACKETS!!! GO YELLOWJACKETS!!!

Hope you had a nice long weekend!!!
**REGULAR HOURS**
DINING ROOM - UCR Commons
HEINTZ CENTER SNACK BAR - Heintz Center
Mondays - Fridays: 7:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
Monday: CLOSED - LABOR DAY
Tuesday: Corn beef/cabbage, potatoes, carrots
California vegetable soup
Wednesday: Chicken fajitas, refried beans, rice
chips/salsa
Green chili with pork soup
Thursday: Roast beef, potatoes, veggie, bread
Chicken rice soup
Friday: Grilled chicken Caesar salad, bread
Beef noodle soup

**COME AND GET IT!**
Taher, Inc.

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**Weekly funny...**

**GOOD HEAVENS!**
I'm not alone! I knock and someone knocks back! Perhaps... if we could devise a code... we could send Memos!

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**RCTC staffing update**

**Unclassified MAPE**
- *MnSCU Program Director 1 – Cont Educ. Option (Community Outreach Coordinator)*. Part-Time (.75 FTE over 12-months). Position posted/advertised.
- *MnSCU Program Director 1 – Student Services Option (Academic/Transfer Advisor)*. Full-time, grant funded. Position posted/advertised (see attached vacancy announcement).

**Classified Positions**
- *General Maintenance Workers* (Intermittents). Applications accepted ongoing.
- *Electrician – Master of Record* (UFT AFSCME). College-wide work area. Appointment to be made from DOER certified list.

For information on any of the above openings, contact the human resources office at x3131.

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**You're invited**
Please join us in honoring
Evey Schmitt on her retirement from RCTC.

The Nursing Faculty invite you to
A reception honoring Evey
for 25 years with the
Associate Degree Nursing Program

**Wednesday, September 15, 1999**
2:30 - 4:30 p.m.
Coffman Room 206/208
Rochester Community and Technical College

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**Thought for the week...**
What's worse... to be politically incorrect or to be actually wrong?

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**UCR Art Gallery**
The University Center Rochester Art Gallery will be exhibiting selected pieces from "Art of the World" which has been made possible by the Rochester Art Center. The exhibition opening and reception will be Thursday, September 23 from 6:30-8:00 p.m. Almae Larson will be giving a gallery talk at 7:00 p.m. The vivid banners were created in a workshop by newly arrived students to Rochester from around the world. The enlarged student designs reflect their individual memories, aspirations, and cultural traditions.
Supalla’s Scribblings

Thanks to Gregg Wright who joined me at the “Ask the Experts” desk in the MnSCU booth during the first Sunday of the State Fair. We gave away boxes of pens, distributed stacks of the MnSCU “Go Places” marketing publication, responded to questions, and enjoyed conversing with hundreds of fair goers.

The RCTC family extends our condolences to Ruth and Chuck Siefert on the recent death of Ruth’s dad. Our thoughts and prayers are with you and your families.

Congratulations to Don Strelow, auto mechanic instructor, who was recently awarded the Advanced Level and Master Automobile Technician certificates from the National Institute for Automotive Service Excellence. The certificates were awarded on June 30 at Herndon, Virginia, and signify that Don has successfully passed the examinations and met the experience requirements in nine areas of demonstrated competence. Way to go, Don!

RCTC’s Continuing Education/Customized Training Department was featured in a front-page photo-essay and full-page article in the Summer 1999 edition of “The Hi-Lites,” Crenlo’s employee newsletter. Marilyn Holst is pictured with a welder concentrating on his ESL Workplace English session and with several employees enrolled in a Math and Measurement class. Crenlo is the recipient of a two-year training program coordinated by RCTC and the Minnesota Job Skills Partnership Fund. Crenlo Personnel Administrator Donna Bird is quoted in the article... “Crenlo was especially excited about this educational opportunity because while the training is administered by the professional educators on the RCTC staff, it is also custom written uniquely for Crenlo and tailored to a Crenlo specific agenda.” Bird applauds the RCTC staff for their willingness to teach the course from 10 p.m. until midnight in order to best accommodate the second and third shift employees. Once again, employees at RCTC demonstrate they’re already practicing the F-word of the new millennium... FLEXIBILITY! Nice going, team!

Minnesota Data from the August 27 “Almanac Issue” of THE CHRONICLE OF HIGHER EDUCATION...

- Proportion of Adults with a Bachelor’s or Higher Degree — 22%
- Projected Change in the Number of High School Graduates 1999-00 to 2009-10 — +1%
- High School Dropout Rate — 7%
- Number of Public and Private Colleges and Universities — 116
- Proportion of College Students Enrolled Full-time — 60%
- Proportion of College Students Enrolled at Public Institutions — 75%
- States’ Share of the Total US College Enrollment — 2%
- Percentage Change in State Appropriations for Higher Education, 1997-98 to 1998-90 — +5%

Narrative specific to Minnesota’s current higher education happenings focused on what it means for higher education to have a former professional wrestler in the Governor’s mansion, higher education funding gains from the Legislature, state grant enhancements, tuition increases, and the University of Minnesota’s legal problems involving the athletic cheating scandal, gender discrimination, misuse of federal funds and faculty free-speech litigation. Check out the Almanac Issue for other interesting higher education comparisons.

In any moment of decision, the best thing you can do is the right thing. The worst thing you can do is nothing.

— Theodore Roosevelt

Hope you enjoyed a relaxing and refreshing three-day weekend. Have a great week!

— Don
People news: Alice Marie Mumaw Jacobs, one of our former Deans, asked me to share some news with you. Most recently President of Kaskasia Community College, Alice will be moving to Danville, Illinois on September 17th to become President of Danville Community College. Ironically she and Ron Thomas, also a former RCTC Dean were finalists at Danville. As many of you know, Ron was recently appointed President of Dakota County Technical College.

Visiting Scholars: Plans for this year’s Visiting Scholars Series are well underway. The first event will be on September 29 at noon in Hill Theater where you will have an opportunity to meet the great Einstein himself. On October 27th at 10:00 a.m. in Hill Theater, Val Webb, local feminist, scholar, community activist, microbiologist, and artist (to list a few of her accomplishments), will speak on the topic “Career and Consequences of Eve in Religion and Culture.” Dr. Webb has recently published a book Why We’re Equal: Introducing Feminist Theology. On February 23rd, Minnesota writer Robert Bly will be speaking about his latest book: The Maiden King: The Reunion of Masculine & Feminine. For those of you really old timers on campus, you may remember when Robert Bly read some of his anti-war poetry on campus during the Vietnam era. Maiden King is his most current book done in conjunction with Marion Woodman.

Common Book: Each year on our campus, suggestions are solicited for the choice of a common book. The Honors Program has taken the lead in coming up with the final selection. In the past we have used Cornel West’s Race Matters, Deborah Lipstadt’s Denying the Holocaust, Franz de Waal’s Good Natured AND we have been able to bring the author’s to campus as part of the Visiting Scholars Series. The purpose of the common book is to select a book that might be used by instructors in a variety of disciplines as a required text, optional reading, or in some other way. Looking at a book from a variety of perspectives with the added bonus of bringing the author to campus offers our students a chance to see how several disciplines look at the same text. Last year I ordered copies of the common book for faculty and tried to initiate an on-line book discussion. Had the discussion manager (me!) been a little more diligent, I think it would have worked well. I’d like to try it again—this time with a few face to face meetings this fall. If someone out there would like to serve as an on-line discussion leader, we can try that also. I’ll order books and this fall we can talk about how you might use them in your classroom spring semester because that’s when Robert Bly will be here. With the popularity of books on gender issues, Maiden King should provide a plethora of learning opportunities and interest for our students. So let me know if you want a copy of Maiden King and if you’d like to participate in a book discussion on using it in your classroom.

Finally, I plan to attach a Two on Tuesday schedule to next week’s Crossings. Watch for great opportunities that will be expanded to Two on Wednesdays and Thursdays as well as Tuesdays. Just keep that 2:00 o’clock time frame in mind.

We’re off to a great start—thanks to a great team effort!

—Judy Harris

Baldrige Banterings...

Question of the Week
I don’t understand why we continue to have a secluded vision of RCTC as indicated with NCA and Baldrige. We are a part of UCR and we are ignoring the U of MN and WSU in the assessment. We need to wake up to the future of this institution – UCR. Change as MGM said. Expand the vision.

Over the past several months, RCTC through the UCR Steering Committee and individual meetings has recommended the innovative designs planning process and championed the Baldrige National Quality program to our University Center Rochester partners. RCTC has regularly communicated and extended invitations for our partners to be fully engaged in the NCA/Innovative Designs/Baldrige initiatives. For whatever reasons, they have chosen to not fully adopt, or engage themselves in these initiatives. We determined that due to RCTC’s upcoming reaccredidation and the need to establish a strategic direction that it was time to move forward.

We have invited the partners participation in the June training conducted with the Minnesota Council for Quality. Provost Bower and Vice Provost Tolsma did attend. The two partner institutions did not participate. Invitations to participate in Baldrige Express have also been extended with minimal participation. RCTC will continue to invite and seek our UCR partners involvement through team and committee activity, the UCR Steering Council and other ways. As partners, their ideas, support and active involvement is important.
Student Satisfaction Survey Highlights
What is most important to all RCTC students? (all students)

RCTC students were asked to rate 70 items indicating the level of importance from their perspective. Items were rolled up and presented as aggregate scores for 11 scales or dimensions. For example, campus climate as a rolled up scale represents the aggregate ratings for 10 of the 70 items. Values for each individual item is also presented in the full research documents. A total of 523 students participated in the survey. The following table depicts by scales areas of greatest importance, or the requirements students have of RCTC.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Performance Scale</th>
<th>Level of Importance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Instructional Effectiveness</td>
<td>6.10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Academic Advising/Counseling</td>
<td>6.09</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Registration Effectiveness</td>
<td>6.03</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Concern for the Individual</td>
<td>5.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Admissions and Financial Aid</td>
<td>5.83</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Service Excellence</td>
<td>5.79</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Campus Climate</td>
<td>5.78</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Academic Services</td>
<td>5.77</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student Centeredness</td>
<td>5.76</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Safety and Security</td>
<td>5.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Campus Support Services</td>
<td>5.19</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Based on a 1 to 7 scale, with 1 being not important at all, to 7 being very important.

The most important expectations of RCTC students are:

The following table depicts by item level the areas of greatest importance, or the requirements students have of RCTC.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Importance</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The quality of instruction I receive in most my classes is excellent.</td>
<td>6.37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Classes are schedule at times convenient for me.</td>
<td>6.30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I am able to register for classes with few conflicts.</td>
<td>6.28</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Based on a 1 to 7 scale, with 1 being not important at all, to 7 being very important.

Underlined items did not appear on staffs’ list of what we thought were the most important expectations of students.

Next Week: Where are students most satisfied with their educational experience at RCTC.