<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Presenter/Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9:00 – 9:15 am</td>
<td>Welcome &amp; Announcements</td>
<td>Hill Theatre</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:15 – 9:45 am</td>
<td>Integration – Bridges to Healthcare</td>
<td>Abbey Hellickson and Faculty</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:45 – 10:00 am</td>
<td>Veterans – Credit for Prior Learning</td>
<td>Mike Mutschelknaus</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:00 – 10:15 am</td>
<td>Break</td>
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<tr>
<td>10:15 – 10:45 am</td>
<td>State of the College Address</td>
<td>President Supalla</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:00 – 12:20 pm</td>
<td>Extraordinary Education Breakout Sessions</td>
<td>See Topic Descriptions Attached Select One Session to Attend From Topics A - H</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:20 – 1:20 pm</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
<td>Provided – 3rd Floor Cafeteria</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:30 – 4:00 pm</td>
<td>Division/Department/Program Training/Meetings</td>
<td>Various Locations Determined by Departments</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Discussion Session Outline
April 10, 2013

Introduction:

At RCTC, our overarching goal is to support our students’ efforts to achieve their academic goals. We do this through many means: providing efficient service, providing a safe and productive learning setting, offering access to accurate information, supporting students as individuals, and providing high quality learning opportunities in our labs, classrooms and other learning environments. Student retention and completion of academic goals are central measures of our collective success.

The core questions and main ideas provided for this set of group discussions have been assembled through summaries and reviews of our prior Extraordinary Education conversations. In today’s activity, you are invited to select a topic of specific interest to you. You will have an opportunity to examine this topic with RCTC coworkers from a variety of backgrounds and roles, and suggest new directions and projects for the college. The aims of today’s conversation are: (1) To take a cross-functional perspective on opportunities for improvement, and (2) To recommend specific actions that can be taken to move our college forward.

Recommended Steps:

1. Examine the topic, the core question, and the main ideas provided for discussion. Adopt a college-wide perspective. Reflect on what these ideas and issues mean for our students.

2. Consider the current situation and the current experiences of RCTC students. Envision specific ways in which these can be improved. Identify specific changes to our students’ experiences that will enhance the students’ likelihood of successfully achieving their academic goals.

3. Look to the future and actions required to get us there. Discuss and record your thoughts on these four specific questions:

   a. **What can I do** to improve our students’ experience, particularly to improve the chances that an RCTC student will complete his/her academic goal?

   b. **What should the college do**, in a coordinated effort, to enhance our students’ experience and improve the overall rate of student success?

   c. **What specific project(s)** should be initiated and completed in the coming year?

   d. **Who** should be involved?
“Extraordinary Education” Discussion Themes
April 10, 2013

Topic A: Academic and Social Support Networks
Facilitator: Sara Kling-Punt        Location: EA103

Core Question:
How can all of us build “community” in an effort to enhance student success at RCTC?

Main Ideas:
- Enhancing the ways in which students get connected to available services
- Including student services and others within FYEX activities
- Building personal connections
- Actively involving student services with academic affairs in addressing student needs
- Reducing red tape

Topic B: Building a welcoming, respectful and inclusive learning environment
Facilitator: Shelli Arneson and Nirmala Kotagal        Location: EA119

Core Question:
How can we improve our environment and culture to enhance success for all students at RCTC?

Main Ideas:
- Making services more personal
- Creating personal connections
- Providing expanded orientation
- Integration of Student Life with academics
- Using inclusive language in the classroom
- Diversity and inclusion training
- Opportunities to better serve our diverse student population
**Topic C: Defining and Building our Students’ Digital Literacy**

**Facilitator:** Missy Hagen  
**Location:** EA121

**Core Question:**

*In what ways can we help students be better prepared for academic coursework that requires technological skills?*

**Main Ideas:**
- Defining digital/information literacy for today’s students
- How to provide training “just in time”, as needed
- Making students (and staff/faculty) aware of training resources already available

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**Topic D: Enhancing Student Experiences in ONLINE courses**

**Facilitator:** TBD  
**Location:** EA124

**Core Question:**

*How can our online courses and related communications be more effective in attracting – and retaining – students?*

**Main Ideas:**
- How to ensure students are “ready” for an online class
- How to create personal connections with ONLINE students
- How to expand use of the Quality Matters concepts

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**Topic E: FYEX – Expanding its Impact**

**Facilitator:** Michelle Cochran and Brenda Frame  
**Location:** EA128

**Core Question:**

*How can we better utilize the First Year Experience to improve student retention and student academic success rates?*

**Main Ideas:**
- How can we measure / improve FYEX’ effectiveness?
- Need for more FYEX training for instructors?
- How to enlarge the number of enrolled students
- How best to form Learning Communities (with Reading, Math, English, or others? )
Topic F: Improving Developmental Education  
Facilitator: TBD  
Location: EA241

Core Question:  
How can we use what we know about our students and about learning to accelerate our students’ progress to college-level coursework and maximize their opportunity to achieve a useful college credential?

- Focus on the benefits of developmental education  
- Eliminate stigma  
- Explore self-paced, individualized options  
- Explore and apply “embedded” curriculum options  
- Utilize known best practices  
- Evaluate and scrutinize placement methods

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Topic G: Learning & Teaching Improvements  
Facilitators: Heather Sklenicka and Teresa Tweeten  
Location: EA244

Core Question:  
How can we enhance students’ learning opportunities?

Main Ideas:  
- How to build students’ sense of responsibility  
- Using Learning Communities concepts  
- Class size issues  
- Using Chats and Group work in class  
- Promoting and expanding use of the Learning Center  
- Strengthening Peer Tutoring
Topic H: Infrastructure and Support for Learning
Facilitator: Shayn Jensson Location: EA246

Core Question:
How can RCTC’s environment be improved to better support students’ learning?

Main Ideas:
- What architectural changes should be made at RCTC in the coming one to three years
- What can be done to enhance students’ daily experience
- How can our facilities be made more inviting; more efficient
- Are there support services that could be improved?
- What Information Technology enhancements make sense for our students