Employee Recognition January 2004

Congratulations to Michelle Messenger for being named RCTC’s Best Bee of the Month January 2004!!!

Michelle is a Marketing Specialist at RCTC in the Marketing and Communications department. Michelle has worked at RCTC for more than 12 years in Enrollment Services, Recruitment, and in Marketing. Over the years, she has coordinated RCTC days at Apache Mall to help expose the larger community to our programs. Michelle has been an especially strong supporter of our technical and occupational programs. Often her work involves long weekend hours. Michelle’s nominators recognized Michelle for working with program leaders and division coordinators to produce a cover page for all of RCTC’s programs. Michelle’s strengths include patience, hard working, professional, cooperative, and great at getting things done. Finally, Michelle’s nominators say she is an extraordinary advocate for RCTC and she is truly a busy bee as well as a Best Bee! THANK YOU, Michelle and congratulations on being named the “Best Bee of the Month”! Michelle will receive an “up front” parking space for the month of January!

UCR Art Dedication and Festival

You are cordially invited to attend the TELEPro Art Dedication and Festival on Wednesday, January 14, 2004 from 11am to 1pm in the UCR Atrium. A brief program will be held at 11:30am and will feature, "Principles of Uncertainty", the latest work of art created by artist Brad Kaspari. Students will also showcase their artwork including original music compositions, video and graphics from 11am to 1pm. Come and see all the artwork, meet artist, Brad Kaspari and enjoy some light refreshments.

Parking at UCR

Attached to this week’s Crossings is information about parking fees, lots and enforcement. Please review this document and direct any questions/concerns to Bob Morris, Campus Security Officer at x2789.
Weekly Stakeholder and Market Fact
The impact of the web continues to be a major marketing and communication force. In 2003, the college web site had 623,521 total visits with 2,754,682 total page views. This compares to 388,527 total visits and 1,970,826 total page views in 2002. More web statistics to be shared in future market facts.

Thank you notes
It is with sadness and excitement that I leave RCTC after nearly 30 years. Many thanks for your kindness, friendship and support. You have been a great group to work with. Keep up our tradition of excellence!

Barb Schultz

Thank you to faculty, administration, and staff for the beautiful floral arrangement sent for my brother Ray's funeral in Colorado. Also thanks for the cards and personal messages I received as expressions of caring.

Vern Bushlac

Thank you to the RCTC Family Fund for the generous gift sent to help cover expenses while my husband has been in the hospital. Although I have only been at RCTC a very short time, you have all made me feel like I am part of the family. I especially want to thank my colleagues and friends in the English department for all they have done for me during the past two months.

Nikka Harris

Please accept our gratitude for the many kind thoughts, prayers, cards, and memorials for the passing of our father Everett Main. On behalf of our family we want to say thank you also for the beautiful plant. With deepest appreciation.

Pat Pacyna and Eunice Mahlum

Database Trial
Goddard Library has a 30 day trial (expires January 31, 2004) to the new Oxford Reference Online: Premium Collection. This Collection includes over 100 authoritative quick-reference titles covering subjects from the humanities and social sciences to science and medicine, and from business and finance to law and computing. It includes over 50,000 scholarly articles from the Oxford Companions series. Please give this database a try and let us know if it is resource you and your students would use. You can access it by going to the library homepage at http://www.roch.edu/library and click on Article Databases and then click on Trials. For other Goddard Library news, see the attachment to this week’s Crossings.

It’s a BOY!
Congratulations to Todd and Angela Johnson who are the proud parents of their first child, James Peter Johnson, who arrived on Friday, December 19, 2003, weighing in at 7lbs, 9oz, and 19 inches long.
Supalla’s Scribblings

Hopefully you enjoyed a relaxing, restful and refreshing semester break. Closing UCR from December 24 through January 4 seemed to have caused few problems operationally and most employees I’ve talked to enjoyed the extended time with family and friends. A more formal assessment of the closing will be forthcoming in a survey soon. Please take a few minutes to share your thoughts, which will be used as we decide soon whether the semester closing is something we want to continue. While UCR Main and Heintz Center were closed, the UCR Sports Center was a beehive of activity. Three major holiday tournaments brought teams from around the country to Rochester, thousands of participants and spectators to UCR, an economic impact for businesses, and lots of great press coverage for RCTC.

It appears that spring semester enrollments will increase over last year, continuing a several year trend of significant enrollment growth. One of the highlights during the first week of the semester will be the dedication of Brad Kaspari’s “Principles of Uncertainty,” artwork installed as part of Minnesota’s Percent for Art program. The interactive piece, located to the right of the Digital Media Center on the first floor Atrium, will be dedicated on Wednesday, January 14 between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. A brief program will be held in the Atrium at 11:30 a.m. Percent for Art legislation enacted several years ago, requires that one percent of the construction cost for all state capital bonding projects be earmarked for public art. The three large sculptures currently tarp-covered in front of the Regional Sports Center are also a result of the Percent program. These sculptures will be unveiled as part of a dedication ceremony during the NJCAA National Wrestling Tournament in late February. In conjunction with the unveiling, RCTC will rededicate the new performance court as Rockenbach Performance Court in anticipation of Rockenbach Gym’s renovation into a new Health Science Center. Richard Szeitz, former art professor at Moorhead State University, has been commissioned to create a beautiful 24-foot tall metal sculpture for the SMART garden, as the Horticulture Center’s Percent for Art project. It’s anticipated that artwork will be installed this summer in time for a major statewide horticulture conference being held at UCR in August.

Congratulations to Marilyn Hansmann, Ruth Siefert, the entire Business Office staff and staff from other areas of the College who were involved in a several-month financial audit process. RCTC was in the second tier of MnSCU colleges and universities to undergo a full financial audit. This is a continuing effort to ultimately, beginning with the largest institutions, audit all institutions. Once audited, the annual process continues indefinitely, so RCTC will once again find itself heavily involved in the process next August – December. All 12 audited institutions, plus two audits involving Office of the Chancellor functions, received unqualified clean audits. That’s as good as it gets and staff involved in this time-consuming task deserve our thanks. A copy of the audit report is available in Goddard Library and Marilyn will be making presentations at the President’s Advisory Council, Faculty Shared Governance, and Student Senate meetings. Please don’t hesitate to contact Marilyn if you want her to personally review the Annual Audit Report with you or if you have questions.

State Employee Recognition Week is scheduled for January 26-30. Let me take this opportunity to say THANK YOU for the wonderful public service work you do. I’ve asked the Employee Recognition Task Force to look for ways to help us celebrate and recognize you for your hard work and dedication.

On the Campus…

- Special thanks to each of you who donated one or more of the 118 teddy bears. In addition, Lori Halverson Wente’s daughter conducted her own drive that netted an additional 135 stuffed creatures. Local law enforcement officials were blown away when 253 animals were delivered just prior to the holidays.
Congratulations to Nicki Ugalde, Alice Hidalgo and Lillyam Arroyave…RCTC Spanish teachers…who were complimented in a recent note to Dean Mollberg. This student, as a result of the quality instruction she received, passed her Spanish proficiency test last summer and wanted to thank her instructors for their support and encouragement.

If you didn’t get an impressive listing of spring semester events scheduled by the MnSCU Center for Teaching and Learning, and are interested, contact Jim Stegge.

Kevin Dobbe, Digital Arts faculty member, has been selected by MnSCU to serve as a discipline lead faculty facilitator for music during spring term. As lead faculty member, Kevin will be responsible for providing valuable insight into drafting a discipline specific work plan to address strategies, action items, timelines and responsibilities for resolving transfer issues across MnSCU. Way to go, Kevin!

Congratulations to Don Baldus who has been appointed to the Math E-Learning/Lab Coordinator position for spring semester. Don will be working with colleagues from UMR and WSU to develop plans for a UCR Math Learning Center.

RCTC sponsors just one charter school…Rochester Off Campus. In December, Jay Martini, ROC administrator, received the Mayor’s Medal of Honor for Education. Congratulations, Jay!

The RCTC College Foundation 2003 Annual Report has been distributed. If you didn’t receive a copy, please contact Marilyn Etbauer or Judy Bird who will be happy to send you one. If you didn’t contribute to the Foundation in 2003, please consider starting off the New Year with a one-time gift or payroll deduction. The Foundation ended 2003 with assets of $1,714,710…help us end 2004 with $2 million through a generous contribution.

The Student Senate has initiated a drive to garner funds for the upcoming Eagle’s Cancer Telethon. Why not make your Cancer Telethon contribution through the Senate and help them achieve their $5,000 goal?

**Thought for the First Week of the Semester…**

*“Education is not the filling of a pail, but the lighting of a fire.”* - William Butler Yeats

*Light some fires!*  Don

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**Special Thank You**

Thank you all for the kind wishes, cards, and donations to the RCTC Scholarship Fund. Dave and I matched donations so that a total of $4,000 was added to RCTC Scholarships. A special thanks to Missy Hagen, Jerry Casper, Gary Schatsschneider, Greg Miller, Nick Mezacaqa, Ben Hain, Roxy Roadway, Judy Kingsbury, Mona Permann, Rachelle Splittoesseer, and Don Supalla for their help in arrangements and presentation of The Complete Works of William Shakespeare Abridged. What a wonderful dedicated group of administrators, staff, and faculty I have had the privilege to work with! Best wishes to RCTC and each of you.

*Judy Harris*

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**Condolences**

Condolences are extended to Kay Wiegert whose father-in-law, Bernard Wiegert passed away on Saturday, January 3rd. He was 87 years old.

Condolences are extended to Keith Brown whose father, Daryl Brown passed away on Sunday, January 4th. He was 73 years old.

Our thoughts are with Kay and Keith and their families.

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**GODDARD LIBRARY, LIBRARY TECHNOLOGY CENTER, AND DIGITAL MEDIA CENTER SPRING SEMESTER HOURS**

*January 12-May 14, 2004*

- **Monday-Thursday:** 7:30 AM-10:00 PM
- **Friday:** 7:30 AM-4:30 PM
- **Saturday:** 9:00 AM-5:00 PM
- **Sunday:** 1:00 PM-5:00 PM*

**CLOSED:** Jan. 19 and Apr. 11

(*Digital Media Center Closed - Hours are subject to change)*
Campus Security Tips

ESCORT SERVICE:
Call for a RCTC escort (285-7262), University Center Rochester Security. Escorts are provided from 8:00 a.m. - 10:00 p.m. Monday through Friday and 8:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. on weekends. Escorts are provided from the academic buildings to all campus parking areas.

CODE BLUE SECURITY CALL BOXES:
There are call boxes (indicated via blue lights above the boxes) located along the bike bath on the west side as well as one located in the West parking lot and one in the North parking lot. At this time all are operational with the exception of the one in the North parking lot.

PROTECT YOUR AUTOMOBILE:
- Always lock your car doors and never leave your keys in the vehicle.
- Try to park your car in a well-lit area.
- Always lock valuables out of sight, preferably in trunk. Always carry wallet, checkbooks and purses with you.
- Mark your car radio and other removable car equipment with your driver's license number.
- Check the back seat before entering your car.
- Call for an escort (285-7262).

PROTECT YOURSELF AT NIGHT:
- Avoid walking alone at night.
- Refrain from taking shortcuts, and walk where there is plenty of light and traffic.
- Walk with a friend.
- Call Campus Security for an escort (285-7262).

PROTECT YOURSELF WALKING AND JOGGING:
- Avoid walking alone after dark. If you travel alone at night use the RCTC Escort Service (285-7262).
- Walk along well-lit routes.
- Be alert to your surroundings. If you suspect you are being followed, run in a different direction, go to the other side of the street and yell for help, or head quickly for a lighted area or a group of people.

HELP US PROTECT YOU:
- Watch for suspicious persons in and around the College buildings and in parking lots. Do not pursue them. Call Campus Security immediately. Call Campus Security if you should enter your room and find a stranger, regardless of the "cover story" supplied.
- If you see any suspicious activity or people on or near campus, call RCTC Security (285-7262) or the Rochester Police Department (911). If dialing from a campus phone you must dial 9-911. Do not assume that what you observe is an innocent activity or that it has already been reported.
- Do not assume the person is a visitor or college staff member that you haven't seen before.
- Suspicious people may be loitering about at unusual hours and locations or running, especially if something of value is being carried. Persons may be under the influence of drugs or need medical or psychiatric assistance. If you spot someone carrying property that may be suspicious, or going room to room trying door handles report it to Campus Security immediately.
- Immediately report all thefts and property loss immediately to Campus Security and/or the Rochester Police Department.
- Be security conscious at all times.

You may also direct students and staff to the Security website at: http://www.roch.edu/dept/facilities/

Attached to this week’s Crossings are Summarized Incident Reports from UCR.
January Student Ambassador Events
January is a great time to be in Minnesota, and especially at RCTC! Stop by and enjoy music, a speaker, and a dance company. All three events are FREE and brought to you by the Student Ambassadors.

**COFFEEHOUSE CONCERT, EASILY AMUSED - WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 14, 11:15 am – 12:30 pm**
Quiet Lounge/Art Gallery. Coffee and light refreshments will be served.
Easily Amused is Renee Lamoreaux and Keith Mcpherson. They have garnered Canadian Music Week’s award for Best Online Indie Artist and their persistent barnstorming of American campuses has landed them a nomination for Best College Duo in the U.S. by CampusAwards.com. Easily Amused is well on its way to becoming a musical force to be reckoned with. The endearing harmonies and tight guitar work have by no means reached a plateau. In fact, the charismatic duo’s music is ever evolving and Easily Amused proves there continues to be a place for honest songwriting and musicianship in the music industry. Macpherson remarks, “We are real people, playing real music and have a true honesty in the music we create together.”

**PREACHER MOSS, “End of Racism” Comedy and Lecture Tour**
Wednesday, January 21, 12:00 pm – 1:00 pm, Atrium (1st floor)
Armed with sincerity, intellect, and rare comedic ability, Preacher Moss is the “End of Racism.” Comedy and Lecture Tour. “Speaking on Truth,” Moss has been playing to the hearts and minds of college students all over the country. With his insights on “racial understanding vs racial interaction,” he has quickly become the funniest social commentator on the college scene today. “The End of Racism” is not just the name of the tour, but a commitment that we all share. Preacher Moss knows how to deliver the goods on how we see race, through laughter, respect, and the humility of a man who has felt the sting of racism for not just blacks…but Whites, Gays, Latinos, Asians, the poor, and the underclass of America.

**MIDDLE EASTERN DANCERS**
Wednesday, January 28, 11:00 am – 12:00 pm, Atrium (1st Floor)
The Raks Sharqi Dance Company, Inc., is a nonprofit Cultural Diversity Organization dedicated to the study and performance of Middle Eastern Dance. Their name means, “Undulating Dance of the East,” an Arabic name descriptive of the unique character of their dance. They are spirited dancers brought together by their love of performing arts and their desire to study cultural diversity through the art of dance. Middle Eastern Dance is the oldest known dance discipline. It has evolved over 6,000 years into many exotic variations while maintaining rich traditions and style. Spiritual and health benefits are a few of the many pleasures that attract performers of every age. Whether young or old, those who take time for dance will bring joy into their lives and into the lives of their audience. Additionally, as an exceptional form of exercise, this dance contains elements of relaxation, body toning, agility and aerobic activity for health benefits.

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**College For Kids 2004**
We are seeking instructors and course proposals for the 2004 College For Kids program. This is a unique opportunity for students in grades 3-5 and for the first time grades 6-8 who have been identified as gifted and talented. The first session will run from July 26-30 for grades 6, 7, & 8. The second session will be from Aug 2-6 and Aug 9-13 for grades 3, 4, & 5. All classes are held at University Center – Rochester. Course proposal and more information is attached or available from Colleen Landherr – Community and Youth Program Director.

**College For Kids 2004**
A Spectrum of Learning

**Deadline for course proposals is:**
February 23, 2004. Questions: contact Colleen Landherr at 280-3113 or colleen.landherr@roch.edu