Security officer on campus
We are pleased to announce that on January 6th Robert Morris started at University Center Rochester as Security Officer. Officer Morris has a strong background and experience in law enforcement. He graduated from the law enforcement program at RCTC and has worked for Olmsted County in a variety of positions. His office is CF130. In case of emergency he can be reached at 285-7262. Please welcome him to campus.

January CAB Events - FREE! Everyone is welcome

Preacher Moss
Wed., Jan. 22, Time 12-1pm, Atrium
“End of Racism” Comedy and Lecture Tour
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.

Mission Improv
Wed., Jan. 29, 12 – 1 pm, South Room
Fast-paced, Chicago Based Show
Based on “Who’s Line is it Anyway?” with each game made up by the actors on the spot, off of audience suggestions. Some games even have voluntary audience members playing along with Mission IMPROVable. They have trained at the famed Second City Conservatory as well as other infamous Chicago-based theatres and are a main stage performance at the Chicago Improv Festival.

AASC proposal deadlines
Deadlines for Academic Affairs and Standards Committee (formerly Curriculum Council) for the months of February and March will be changed as follows: Thursday, February 13th, @ noon; Fri, March 7th.

The deadline for the remaining meeting is: Tue, April 15th for the May meeting.
Parking permits
Staff Parking Permits for the fall semester have expired. If you have purchased parking permits for the spring semester, please remove your old permit and place the current one in your vehicle. If you haven't purchased a spring semester permit, please do so. As some of you have already noticed, warning flyers were placed on those vehicles who were in the designated Staff parking lots but were displaying expired fall permits.

Obviously those with Annual permits need not

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Weekly Funny

"I haven't been listening to my body lately, so it sent me a fax telling me to start exercising again."

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Process Management Courses
RCTC will be offering a course in flowcharting and documenting work processes. Most work areas in the college have previously identified key processes. This course will assist departments in creating, updating and converting work process to electronic form. Persons participating will be trained using Vision, a Microsoft product.

- Each course is 2 hours in length
- Each person only needs to attend one two hour course
- Course size limited to 12

Process Management Course Schedule
Thursday, January 30 from 2:00 to 4:00 pm in GL132

1. Wednesday, February 5 from 1:00 to 3:00 pm in GL132
2. Thursday, February 13 from 2:00 to 4:00 pm in GL132
3. Friday, February 21 from 10:00 am to Noon in GL132

To enroll send an email to Dave Weber indicating your preferred date. Also indicate a second choice. All courses will be offered in GL132. Additional sections may be added as needed.
Supalla’s Scribblings

Governor Pawlenty’s budget reduction recommendation is in and higher education is one of the big losers. The Governor is proposing to take back $50 million from public higher education in FY03…$25 million from the University of Minnesota and $25 million from MnSCU. The Office of the Chancellor’s budget was reduced by $1,400,072 and an additional $965,448 was garnered from System-wide set-asides. The remaining reduction was distributed to each college and university on the basis of their percent share of the FY03 base allocation. Rochester Community and Technical College’s reduction is $547,079! The Governor has asked for quick passage of his reduction bill. If by early February the House and Senate have not passed the bill, the Governor has the authority to unallot the funds necessary to balance the FY03 budget. MnSCU’s $25 million reduction translates to a 4% cut in the state appropriation for this year. But since it is spread over just five months, the impact will be a 10% cut for the rest of the fiscal year. This will be difficult for MnSCU and for RCTC. Demand for higher education is at an all time high. Spring semester enrollments at RCTC are up 17% headcount and 13% FTE. We are already serving more students with less money. At this point in the fiscal year, we have very few options for cutting instructional costs…tuition has been set, faculty have been hired and spring semester has commenced. And this is just the tip of the iceberg. Once the FY03 budget has been balanced, the Governor and Legislature will begin to grapple with the projected $4.5 billion (maybe more) biennial budget deficit. Thus, everything is on the table. Potential cost saving suggestions that have been generated by the RCTC Leadership Team, include requesting the leadership team to take unpaid leave, eliminating out-of-state travel, limiting in-state travel, reducing memberships, eliminating meals/refreshments, reducing hours of operation, closing portions of the campus, freezing new hiring, reducing/eliminating summer session, selling the 15-passenger vans, reducing the Student Life contribution, closing campus during breaks, using the Pepsi proceeds for general operations, spending down reserves, etc.

I’ve appointed Marilyn Hansmann to chair a college-wide Rapid Response Team that will brainstorm ways and make recommendations on how to best deal with the current and future financial crisis. Marilyn has scheduled the first meeting of the Team for early next week. It’s my goal that we can finish the current academic year without closing down the campus or reducing services. In the meantime, we have halted all non-emergency repair and replacement projects, required all capital equipment purchases be approved by the Leadership Council, and asked all departments and programs to do what they can to reduce non-personnel spending. Every aspect of our operation will feel the impact of the budgetary reduction. Staff will have to get by with less…students are sure to pay more. A reduction of this magnitude will transform the way we do business. Updates on both the state and local situation will be shared regularly via CROSSINGS, RCTC-ALL e-mails and forums. Please don’t hesitate to contact any member of the leadership team if you have questions, concerns or suggestions.

This week’s kudos to...

- **Kim Sin** who was one of three Rochester citizens honored with a Champion of Diversity Award. This award is given to recognize the amazing feats of volunteers who have made a significant impact on achieving the Diversity Council’s mission. Kim was honored for being an ambitious volunteer in the RISE program, having volunteered more than 200 hours to prepare a DVD and videos featuring a number of key individuals who support diversity. Way to go, Kim!

- **Janell Holter** was a panel participant at the January 9th Diversity and Beyond Conference organized by the Rochester Chamber of Commerce. The conference included site visits that focused on showcasing successful organizations that have embraced diversity. Thanks, Janell!
Marilyn Treder has been reappointed to the Student Mathematics League Test Development Subcommittee of the American Mathematical Association of Two-Year Colleges. Marilyn and her colleagues will be responsible for selecting, wording, and editing problems and their solutions for the two examinations used during student competition. Nice going, Marilyn.

Please mark your calendar and take advantage of the next Visiting Scholar Series presenter. At 10 a.m., Thursday, January 30 in Hill Theatre, Carol Bly will lecture. In 2001, Bly won the Minnesota Humanities Award for Literature. The Minnesota Women’s Press named her Favorite Women’s Author in 2000. Bly’s current book is Beyond the Writer’s Workshop: New Ways to Write Creative Nonfiction. Don’t miss this opportunity to hear one of Minnesota’s most highly respected authors.

As you have probably noticed, the halls are packed with students and the parking lots jammed with cars. The spring semester enrollment surge has resulted in a 17.15% increase in headcount, 13.47% FTE increase. Applications for spring semester were up 57.47% and new student enrollments increased 48.6%. Thanks to all who made our new and returning students feel welcome. You deserve a long weekend. Enjoy it!

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