January 27, 2003
Volume 8, Issue 21
SPRING SEMESTER EDITION

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Event Schedule – see web
http://www.roch.edu/rctc/about/html/weeklyschedule.htm

Attachments
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❖ Visiting Scholar
Carole Bly
❖ Education Degree

Evening Administration
Jan. 25-30 - Jay Lee
Feb. 1-6 - Barb Mollberg
Feb. 8-13 - Marilyn Hansmann

The evening administrator can be reached at 285-7262.

College Crossings
Rochester Community and Technical College

Special RCTC All-College Open Forum
Fiscal Crisis Update
Friday, January 31, 2003
11:00am - UCR - CF206/208 or 12:30pm - Heintz Center - HB117
(See Scribbling's for more information)

RCTC Showcase 2003
RCTC's Showcase will be held on Saturday, February 1 from 10:00 am - 5:00 pm in the JCPenny Courtyard at Apache Mall. Digital Arts, Horticulture Technology, BTEC, and Dental Assisting will be conducting demonstrations throughout the day. Demonstrations include: computer graphics, multimedia technology, music technology, landscape design, floral design, voice recognition software, and a live on-line course.

Dental Hygiene will be sponsoring pictures with the Tooth Fairy from 2:30 - 4:00 pm. Special appearances will include RCTC's Danceline, Cheerleaders, Drama Club and "Sting." Join us for an informative and entertaining day!

Dean’s List news
Excellence in scholastic achievement is recognized each semester by the Vice President's Office of Student Affairs. Students successfully completing at least 12 credits (with grade points), and who earn a minimum term grade point average of 3.000 or better, qualify for the Dean's List. These lists are posted in the Admissions and Records area, Heintz Center and are also published on the RCTC Web Site. Letters of Congratulations are also sent to students receiving a 3.5 GPA and above.

There are 1,062 students who made the Dean's List for Fall Semester 2002 with 500 students obtaining at least a 3.5 or above GPA. Congratulations to all who made the list!

Education degree
Faculty or staff interested in a proposed U of M EdD degree in Rochester are welcome to attend an information session from 3-4 on Feb. 4 immediately following the Program Leader/Division Coordinator meeting at Heintz Center in Room C-105. More information is attached to this week’s Crossings.
Thank you
Many thanks to everyone at RCTC for the flower arrangements, prayers and words of encouragement during my Mom's brief illness. After her death, it was heart-warming to receive your sympathy cards, memorials, flower arrangement and words of support. A special thanks to those who came to the funeral home and to the funeral. My family and I are most appreciative.

Delores Kiehn

Weekly Funny

"That new fast food place might be a little too fast. They throw the food in your car as you drive by."

What’s New at Goddard Library
This past Fall semester, the library began subscriptions to the following databases: Scribner Writer’s Series, Twayne’s Author’s Series, Polling the Nations, PsycInfo, and PsycArticles. We are so excited about these databases that we are offering brief workshops in the library in early February. On February 5th, from 12-1 there will be a workshop on PsycInfo/PsycArticles and Polling the Nations, and on February 6th, from 12-1 there will be a workshop on the Scribner Writer’s Series, the Twayne’s Author’s Series and Polling the Nations. Both workshops will be held in GL132. Please send the library an e-mail if you’d like to attend either of the workshops by clicking on “Ask a Librarian” on the Library’s homepage, or by sending Jen Bruce or Mary Dennison an e-mail.

Scribner Writer’s series – A full-text database to 1,600 bio-critical essays on selected writers throughout the world from ancient times to the present.

Twayne’s Author’s series – A full-text database covering literary criticism to over 600 authors from around the world. In addition to information about the lives and works of these authors, this file also illuminates the history and influence of literary movements and the development of literary genres from ancient times to the 20th century.

Polling the Nations - A database that contains a wealth of public opinion covering a broad range of issues. This file includes the full-text of the questions and responses from surveys from the U.S. and more than 90 other countries in Europe, Canada, Mexico, Africa, and Asia.

PsycInfo – A citation/abstract (not full-text) database of psychological literature from the 1800s to the present. Some of the citation/abstracts link to the full-text articles in PsycArticles.

PsycArticles - A full-text database of articles from journals published from 1988 to the present by the American Psychological Association, the Canadian Psychological Association, and the Educational Publishing Foundation.

On-campus access: To access any of these databases, at the library’s homepage (http://www.roch.edu/library), scroll to “Article Databases,” select “List by Title,” then click on the database that you want to enter.

Off-campus access: If you are accessing the Library pages via cable modem, AOL, or other nonCollege providers, you will need to use the proxy server in order to access these databases. Information on the proxy server is available from the library’s website by scrolling to “Virtual eLibrary,” then clicking on “Remote Access Information.”
Supalla’s Scribblings

I’m drafting this on Wednesday as I’ll be in St. Paul all day Thursday attending a “Beat the Odds” breakfast hosted by Senator Kiscaden, a MnSCU Foundation appreciation luncheon and the MnSCU Board meeting. Larry Tucker and Vern Bell will be recognized for their crafting a beautiful bookcase for the Office of the Chancellor. The State AFSCME association provided the materials and Vern and Larry used their talents to craft a gorgeous bookcase that will showcase books and materials authored by MnSCU employees. What a beautiful piece of furniture, guys!

With things in St. Paul moving rather quickly, this legislative update might be outdated by the time you read it. The Legislature continues to debate the Governor’s budget reduction proposal in hopes of finalizing the short-term deficit in the next week or so. Then, they will begin to tackle the much bigger $4.56 billion biennial budget deficit. Please do your part to make sure your representatives know how a reduction in the higher education investment will impact Minnesota. Tell your personal story…or that of a student. Let them know how state grants, financial aid, and childcare grants have made a difference in your life. Impress on them that their support of higher education will keep a quality college education accessible and affordable. Call or e-mail them now. If you need help in finding the names and directory information of your legislators, go to http://www.leg.state.mn.us. Marilyn Hansmann and I will share more information on the FY03 budget at two all-staff budget forums on Friday, January 31, 11 a.m. at UCR-Main and 12:30 p.m. at Heintz Center. Hope to see you there.

Just how BIG is $4.56 billion? If every man, woman and child in Minnesota gave $1,000, the deficit would nearly be solved. If the state closed all the state parks, shut down half of the state colleges and universities and laid off one-third of all state employees; the deficit still would only be halfway solved. The state would need to open 23 state-run casino (with an estimated $100 million yearly profit from each casino) to resolve the deficit. – from The Students’ View (A Publication of the Minnesota State College Student Association)

I hope we all recognize the talented academic students enrolled at RCTC. Marilyn Treder has informed me that, once again, RCTC math students did very well in the first round of the Student Mathematics League (Central Region) competition. The Rochester team ranks #2, just one-half point below Johnson County Community College (KS). RCTC students tied for #1 (Pavel Batrachenko) and garnered the #7 (Surinder Bimbra) and #8 (Greg Eggenberger) positions in the individual competition. Congratulations to the students and to the quality faculty who teach and mentor these students. Best wishes in Round 2. The Dean’s List for fall semester has been released and 124 students garnered 4.0s, 376 students achieved 3.5 GPAs, and another 562 students earned 3.0+.

Congratulations to Rhys Lloyd, RCTC football kicker, who was named to the 2002 NJCAA All-American Football Team. Word has it that Rhys will be the University of Minnesota’s starting kicker next fall. Lentrell Nealy was recognized as an honorable mention offensive player.

University Center Rochester will host two upcoming Winterfest events. Mayor Brede has announced several “blues-busting” events for the weekend of February 8 and 9. Why not come out and join the Frozen Goose 5K Fun Run and Walk, 10:15 a.m., February 8. The event, sponsored by the Optimist Club benefits the Rochester Boys and Girls Club and the Optimist Childhood Cancer Campaign. Then, stop over at Heintz Center on Sunday, February 9 and check out the Ronald McDonald House KidsFest.

For years, Rochesterite’s have been bemoaning the fact that we live in the largest city in the U.S. without a full-blown four-year college or university. Research by the Post-Bulletin has proven that we don’t even come close to holding this long-touted belief. The Census Bureau publishes a list of U.S. cities with populations over 100,000 and four of the first ten cities checked out do not have a four-year, bachelor’s degree granting college or university in their corporate limits.
It was great to see Jay Lee’s picture gracing the front page of the January 13 City/Region section of the Post-Bulletin. Jay, who recently received the Mayor’s Medal of Honor for Education, was recognized for organizing the quality law enforcement program that Brian Watters has continued to develop. I happened to sit next to Sheriff Borchard at a recent dinner and he indicated that in all his experiences around the area and state, he knows of no other law enforcement program that has a better working partnership with area agencies than the RCTC program. Way to go, guys!

Thought for the Week…
"A great teacher never strives to explain his vision – he simply invites you to stand beside him and see for yourself.”
- Reverend R. Inman

Stay warm and safe!  Don

Policy revisions
Two policies have recently been reviewed by the Academic Affairs and Standards Council and approved for implementation effective Spring Semester 2003.

* Advanced Placement (RCTC Policy 3.15)
* Academic Standards (RCTC Policy 3.17.3)

To view the changes on the above-mentioned policies, and for a complete description of all RCTC policies, please refer to the RCTC Policy Website at: http://www.rctc.edu/policies/

Art Gallery Opening
You are invited to an opening reception 6:30 - 8:00pm next Tuesday, January 28, in the Art Gallery across from Hill Theater. The artist, Ryan Fryar will be giving a gallery talk at 7 PM.

The exhibit, "This Here There," makes references to maps and charts in prints, drawings and paintings. Fryar's maps and charts, however, are more like real life. "Like life, my maps come with dead-ends, reversals and confusion mixed with rare clarity. They invite the viewer to come up with their own interpretations for the events, the things and the places."

Please join us in the Art Gallery next Tuesday to hear more about the artwork and the artist. Also encourage students to attend. If you are unable to make it to the opening, please stop in the gallery before March 4th to see the exhibit.
Rochester Community and Technical College
Minnesota State College Faculty (MSCF)
Faculty Shared Governance Council (Special Meeting)
Minutes for Wednesday, January 15, 2003 – 3:00 p.m. – AT109

Present: Administration Hansmann, Harris, Supalla, Thompson
Faculty Shafer, Hill, Israelson, Marconett, Wright (Chair)
Recorder: Kingsbury

ITEM 1 (A) Governor’s Fiscal Year 2003 Budget Reduction Recommendation – Supalla distributed information reflecting how MnSCU proposes the Governor’s FY03 $25m reduction in higher education for MnSCU be shared amongst the system and individual campuses. The RCTC portion equates to approximately $550,000. Supalla concurred with Chancellor McCormick’s statements that with Spring Semester already in session, teaching/learning will be less harmed for the short term. Although the objective should never be to turn away students, Shafer commented that the offering of courses (and hiring of adjunct instructors) at a loss to the college should be taken into consideration. Supalla responded that the issue arises when adjunct faculty are paid off the salary schedule and loads increase to the point of requiring the payment of fringe benefits. Supalla also noted that even when tuition covers the cost of instruction, there are other expenditures generated for necessary services associated with the courses. Thompson added recent STAR sessions have, in essence, deterred some students from enrolling this spring because of the filled sections in courses.

Supalla also shared several cost saving suggestions that have been generated by the RCTC Leadership Team, including:
* RCTC Leadership Council Members take five days off (without pay) between now and June 30, 2003
* Eliminate out-of-state travel (understanding faculty staff development proposals are at the discretion of the faculty)
* Limit in-state travel and utilize more ITV and teleconferencing
* Eliminate renewal of several non-accreditation memberships
* Eliminate meals/refreshments served at RCTC functions
* Reduce hours of services (i.e. closing Admissions, Library, etc.)
* Close portions of campus (i.e. Heintz Center on Saturdays)
* Freeze new hires (including two new maintenance positions allocated for the Sports Center, Director of Institutional Research and support staff position for Academic Affairs/Communications), with exceptions being made to necessary positions (i.e. Director of Human Resources replacement, faculty hires and sabbatical replacements)
* Reduce or eliminate summer school offerings
* Sell 15-passanger vans and contract transportation services or purchase shuttle-type vehicle with cost recovery from user budgets
* Reduce student life contribution
* Spend down reserves
* Close campus during breaks
* Temporarily halt any purchases with the PEPSI contract funds and use these monies to cover operating deficit

Hansmann announced several things have already been set in place, including the halting of all Repair and Replacement projects (with the exception of ADA requirements), and the requirement of Leadership Council (Deans, Directors {Human Resources, Technology, Marketing, Finance and Facilities}, Vice Presidents, or President) approvals for all capital item purchases. Supalla explained there is a difference between capital bonding and general operating budgets and announced Senator Kiscaden still intends to introduce the bonding proposals for Rochester.

Supalla concluded by announcing everyone will feel the impact of the budgetary reduction (faculty have already by program suspensions/layoffs, students will by possible reduction is course offerings and services, and support staff will by possible reduction of hours), adding any reduction of hours (closings during breaks) would require a memorandum of understanding with the bargaining unions. Communication is important and updates will continue to be shared through Crossings, e-mail, and forums.

ACTION: Information Only.

Adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

Next Meeting: January 28, 2003 – 2:00 p.m. – AT109