Lost and Found
The Lost and Found is overflowing! Stop at the UCR Welcome Center desk or the Heintz Center Information desk to see what's been left behind. We've got textbooks, notebooks, computer disks, CDs, backpack, jewelry, sweaters, coats, gloves, keys, ID cards, etc.

Don't forget to visit the Assessment of Student Learning website at http://www.roch.edu/rctc/intra/crossings/pdf/CC102102.pdf.

The highlighted program for the month of February is Dental Hygiene. The dental hygiene program has concentrated their efforts on developing a case study project for demonstration of student competency at the time of graduation. They are in the process of piloting a rubric designed to assess the case study project. The project and sample rubric are in the "RCTC Highlights" section of the website.

February is National Dental Health Month!

2003-2004 Academic Calendar
The RCTC 2003-2004 Academic Calendar has been finalized. A copy is attached to this week’s Crossings. The calendars may also be accessed via the intranet site at: http://www.roch.edu/rctc/intra/html/academic_calendar.html
Condolences
Condolences to Jack Denny whose step-father-in-law (Jon Leslie Mollien) passed away last week. Our thoughts are with you and your family.

Weekly Funny

"I used your credit card to buy this $600 million satellite for a science project I have coming up. It was you who said you can't put a price on education."

Educational Technology Department
RCTC's Educational Technology Department (http://www.roch.edu/org/instruct/) would like to take this opportunity to introduce ourselves to new faculty and staff at UCR, and share information about the variety of resources and services available to all.

Project Assistance
Educational Technology offers the use of our resources and personnel to assist in the completion of technology-related projects. Some of the past projects have included videos, audio compositions, websites, interactive CDs, animations, graphics, and online (WebCT) course sites. Digital Art student interns and workstudys will once again be an important part of the creative assets, and can be assigned to projects as needed. Please make your requests as early as possible, so we can schedule the necessary resources. Please contact Missy Hagen at missy.hagen@roch.edu with requests.

Distance Education Services
Educational Technology continues to provide important services in relation to distance education at RCTC. The WebCT server is administered through the department, allowing us to add courses, instructors and students as needed. Technical support for instructors and students in WebCT, Blackboard, or IntraKal is available, and regular training sessions will be offered. If you are interested in more information, contact Scott Sahs at scott.sahs@roch.edu.

Technology In-Services
Throughout the year, RCTC will be offering services and training on technology related topics such as WebCT, Microsoft Office, e-mail, web publishing, multimedia and more. We have reserved a lab in the new Digital Media Center, and will be trying a variety of days and times throughout the Spring semester. Seating is limited, so call 529-2785 or 529-6126 to pre-register. All classes are held in GL132. (Media Services area)

Here is the schedule for February:
Wed 2/05/03 - 9:00-10:50 am: Getting Started in WebCT: Online gradebooks and syllabus
Thur 2/6/03 - 1:00 - 2:50 pm: Converting your course: Moving to the WebCT Environment
Wed 2/12/03 - 9:00-10:50 am: Powerpoint Basics
Thur 2/13/03 - 1:00-2:50 pm: Excel For Beginners
Wed 2/19/03 - 9:00-10:50 am: Scanning and Digital Cameras
Thur 2/20/03 - 1:00-2:50 pm: Groupwise Email
Wed 2/26/03 - 9:00-10:50 am: Projects Open Lab
Thur 2/27/03 - 1:00-2:50 pm: Projects Open Lab
Supalla’s Scribblings

State legislators continue to grapple with the FY03 budget deficit. The House and the Senate have passed differing versions of the bill and now a joint conference committee is attempting to reach a compromise before next Monday. Governor Pawlenty has indicated that he will begin to unallot (unilaterally begin reducing budgets) if the House and Senate don't arrive at a compromise by the end of next week. The House has followed the Governor's recommendation and voted to reduce the MnSCU appropriation by $25 million. The Senate has approved a bill reducing the MnSCU budget by $20 million. Once the current year budget reduction has been resolved, the Legislature will begin to debate how to solve the $4.5+ billion biennial budget deficit. Stay tuned to radio and television, read the paper, participate in all-staff forums, or check out the MnSCU or Legislature's Web site for updates.

Rochester Community and Technical College will fulfill our fiscal responsibility with a plan that will deal with a $547,000 decrease in our current operating budget. The reduction, based on the Governor’s $25 million MnSCU rescission, will be attained by deferring repair and replacement projects, reducing non-personnel budgets, delaying capital equipment purchases and spending undesignated reserves. More difficult budget reduction actions will be necessary in FY04/05 unless the legislature acts to restore base funding. Don’t hesitate to contact Marilyn Hansmann or me if you have questions regarding the budget or suggestions for solving the deficit.

MnSCU’s biennial budget lobbying book, *The Students' Choice: Education for Demanding Times*, has been delivered to legislators. The materials detail MnSCU’s $107.6 million biennial request. The request includes $67.3 million for inflation, $12 million for repair and replacement projects, and $28.3 million for strategic investments. This budget request represents an investment in Minnesota’s long-term health and growth. A 2002 study by economist Paul Anton estimated that the total statewide economic impact of MnSCU in 2001 was more than $3 billion. Every $1 spent in net state spending on MnSCU returns $6.28 in economic benefits to the state.

Happenings:

- Office of the Chancellor’s staff presented RCTC participants attending this week’s Chief Financial and Facilities Officers with a beautiful “Excellence in Facilities Management” award. The award recognized project managers, Erv Berg, and others responsible for overseeing construction of the three recent capital bonding projects. Thanks to all who worked very hard to coordinate the simultaneous construction of the Sports, Technology and Horticulture Centers.

- I hope you took advantage of the great opportunity to hear Carol Bly, Visiting Scholar, and one of Minnesota’s most respected authors, lecturers and teachers.

- See you at the *RCTC Showcase* at Apache Mall’s J C Penney’s courtyard from 10 a.m. – 5 p.m., Saturday, February 1. Special appearances, demonstrations, and program information will be available to weekend shoppers.

- A public meeting on the Highway 52 reconstruction project will be held on February 4, 5-7 pm. at the John Marshall High School, Room 3103. A formal presentation at approximately 5:30 p.m. will precede an open house format for informal discussion with project staff.

- Sunday, March 16, is Rochester Community Day with the Minnesota Timberwolves. You can obtain a $22 ticket to the 2:30 p.m. game for just $17. If you need a ride to the game, grab a seat on the bus leaving from Buffalo Wild Wings for just $12 per person. Tickets may be purchased at the Rochester Area Chamber of Commerce office at 220 South Broadway (Holiday Inn-Downtown).
The American Council on Education has published results of the 2002 national Presidents’ Survey. Among the key findings:

- The percentage of women college presidents has more than doubled since 1986, from 10% to 21%.
- Relations with faculty, legislators, governing boards and alumni top the list of challenges cited by presidents in 2001.
- Fifteen percent of presidents’ immediate prior positions were outside of higher education, nearly twice as many as reported in 1998.
- One in five recently hired presidents report that the search process did not disclose a clear understanding of some aspects of the job or expectations at the time they took the position.
- The average age of presidents increased from 52.3 years in 1986 to 57.5 years in 2001.

**Thought for the Week…**

“When you’re in your 90’s and looking back, it’s not going to be how much money you made or how many awards you’ve won. It’s really ‘What did you stand for? Did you make a positive difference for people?’”

-- Elizabeth Dole

**Question of the Week…**”What do I stand for? Am I making a positive difference in the lives of others?”

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