Program Leaders/Division Coordinators meeting  
Tuesday, February 5, 2002 – ROOM: CF 206/208  
(\textit{Note: This is a room change})

1) Bring revised Grad Standards courses: It is my understanding from Marj Reif that her committee agreed that one standard per course should be the norm; however, a course may two standards if the department feels strongly that this is justified.

2) Scheduling: summer and next year

3) Your issues/Other

4) Benchmarking RCTC Assessment: Tammy Lee and Anne Niccolai

Everyone is welcome.

Class cancellation/absence line – 280-3145

All faculty and staff in the Academic Affairs unit are asked to call the RCTC Class Cancellation/Absence line (280-3145) to report absences due to illness or other unanticipated reasons. This dedicated voice-mail line is checked by 7:00 a.m. and on a regular basis throughout the day for messages related to class cancellations. Please do NOT leave class cancellation messages on personal voice mail as they may not be retrieved in a timely manner.

Whenever possible, absences should be called in before 7:00 a.m. to allow for early notification to the appropriate faculty secretaries, division coordinators/program leaders and deans so that classrooms are posted for faculty absences and backup coverage for other staff can be arranged in a timely fashion. Classes are also posted to the web. It is important for faculty and staff calling this line to indicate the date(s) of the absence and the reason for the absence, and faculty should indicate in their message, the title, number and section of the class(es), what time their classes meet, and the rooms their classes meet in.

The class cancellation/absence line is located in the human resources office. Any questions should be directed there (285-7125 or 280-5007).
Weekly funny…

"My snowman doesn't look like yours because mine eats right and works out."

**Student Life happenings – you’re invited!!**

*Stadium seating!! Great popcorn!! Cold and delicious punch!! NO high-priced tickets!*

Movie Matinee Double Feature, Tuesday, Feb. 5, CF202
11:00am - Final Fantasy
2:00pm - Tomb Raider
Free Popcorn and Punch

*Sit back and laugh your head off*

Chris Johnson, Comedian, Wednesday, Feb. 6, South Room, 12:00pm - 1:00pm
Big Wheels, Twister, Clue and Lawn Jarts - welcome to Chris Johnson's World. Chris is an offbeat, high energy, electric comic who will keep you laughing!

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**Valentine’s Day Sale**

The Advanced Floral Design Class will be selling Valentine's Day Floral Arrangements, priced to fit all budgets, on Wednesday, February 13 from 12noon to 3:30pm in the Heintz Center Commons.

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**Scholarship announcement**

*Attention: Students planning to attend the University of Minnesota Twin Cities.* You may be eligible for the Rochester Area Alumni and Friends of the University of Minnesota (RAAFUM Scholarship).

This scholarship is awarded to a student who has completed an Associate Degree at RCTC and will be completing a Bachelors Degree at the University of Minnesota-Twin Cities Campus. The Scholarship amount is $2000/year for up to two years.

Applications and additional information are available at the UCR Counseling Office or the RCTC Foundation Office – Heintz Center 120. Completed applications must be submitted to the above offices by March 14, 2002.
Supalla’s Scribblings

On the opening day of the legislative session I had the pleasure of attending the annual meeting of the Minnesota Chamber of Commerce. Based on the lively presentation by Governor Ventura and an interesting panel discussion including the majority and minority leadership of both the House and the Senate, we can anticipate a most interesting (and probably long) session. Both chambers have hit the ground running, having already completed a large number of committee hearings. MnSCU Chancellor McCormick and Uof M President Yudof have testified on the negative impact of the governor’s recommendation on higher education budgets. As you know, if Governor Ventura’s proposed budget cut for MnSCU was implemented (and based strictly on RCTC’s share of the system budget) we would be looking at expenditure reductions and revenue generation options totaling almost $750,000. In addition to dealing with the budget deficit, legislators will also have to grapple with redistricting, bonding, stadiums and a host of other issues. RCTC is included in MnSCU’s $100 million HEAPR (Higher Education Asset Preservation and Replacement) request with $1.3 million earmarked for replacement of the East Building roof and skylights, Art Building windows, tuck-pointing and ADA compliance projects. Although not on the MnSCU list of construction or renovation priorities, Senator Kiscaden and Representative Bishop have indicated they will be authoring legislation requesting funds for a $10.6 million health sciences building. Please keep in touch with our area legislators, letting them know how important it is that MnSCU’s budget be protected so that Minnesota’s economic engine continues to be fueled by a skilled workforce. I’m hope that faculty will accommodate the requests of students who desire to attend the Minnesota State Colleges Student Association Advocacy Day scheduled at the Capitol on February 13.

Last week, Jay Lee, RCTC Dean, was honored and thanked by the Peace Officers Standards & Training (POST) Board for his four years of service to the organization. Jay was one of two higher education representatives on the 15-person Board, appointed by the Governor, and responsible for the licensing of approximately 9,000 active peace officers and approximately 550 active part-time peace officers. The Vision of the POST Board is to enhance the profession of law enforcement in the State of Minnesota through the selection, education, and licensing standards of peace officers. The Mission of the POST Board is to develop, maintain, and enforce selection, education, and licensing standards. Thanks for your contributions, Jay!

Although the final enrollment numbers for spring semester won’t be known for a few weeks, the tenth day numbers are in and show another semester of healthy growth. Spring semester 2002 student headcount is up 195 students (4.3%) over 2001 and full-time equivalent students are up 224 (7.2%) over last year. This continues several semesters of steady enrollment growth. Thanks to all who helped admit and enroll our students. Now it’s up to all of us to do what we can to bolster retention rates by accommodating student needs.

Dan Thompson has started sharing interesting “RCTC Fast Facts” at each Foundation Board meeting. This month’s information shed light on “Average Age 25 – Telling or Misleading?” The numbers indicate that although the average age of our student body hovers at 25, 66% of our students are between the ages of 17-24. High schools remain one of the only places where we find a concentrated group of potential students. The data also reveals that these traditional aged students take more credits than non-traditional students. Given the lack of a common place for congregating, the best methods for promoting our educational offerings to non-traditional students are probably through direct mail and mass media.

Did you know… Minnesota’s high school graduation rate has been slipping and currently stands at 79 percent. Participation in in-state post-secondary education one year after graduation has dropped to just 43 percent. Minnesota’s workforce faces a threat because of a chronic shortage of educated people in the next two decades. The reasons: the projected number of college graduates will not be enough to replace retiring workers; and, the economy is expected to expand, creating new jobs for educated workers. If Minnesota is to meet the challenges, the state must change its strategies for investing in education, and we must better prepare more people to be successful in college. --MINNESOTA PRIVATE COLLEGE REVIEW, 1/02

Thoughts for the Week (taken from actual comments on job applications)…

- “My best subject in school was spilling.”
- “I would like to start at the top and work my way down to a comfortable job.”
- “I don’t mind stress ‘cause I never worry about nothin’.”
- “If the pay is good enough, I’ll do anything for a while.”
- “When it comes to work, I can take it or leave it, depending on how I feel.”

How do you feel?

Don
New student policy
Rochester Community and Technical College has recently implemented a new Student Conduct and Academic Dishonesty Policy. The following link will take you directly to this new policy.
http://www.roch.edu/rctc/policies/html/educational_policies.html#STUDENTCONDUCT

Students and Employees are responsible for familiarizing themselves with, and adhering to state, system, and college policies. All RCTC policies may be accessed through the RCTC Website or by going directly to the following web address: http://www.roch.edu/rctc/policies

RCTC staffing update

Administrative
• Director of Nursing (MnSCU Administrator). Position being re-posted/re-advertised nationally.
• Director of Finance and Facilities (MnSCU Administrator). Position being posted/advertised nationally.

Faculty
• Instructor of Biology (UFT MSCF). Position being posted/advertised nationally.
• Instructor of Chemistry (UFT MSCF). Position being posted/advertised nationally.
• Instructor of Economics (UFT MSCF). Position being posted/advertised nationally.
• Instructor of English (Composition) (2 UFT; 1 TFT MSCF). Position being posted/advertised nationally.
• Instructor of English (Developmental Writing/Reading) (UFT MSCF). Position being posted/advertised nationally.
• Instructor of ESL (UFT MSCF). Position being posted/advertised nationally.
• Instructor of Mathematics (UFT MSCF). Position being posted.
• Instructor of Physics (UFT MSCF). Position being posted/advertised nationally.
• Instructor of Speech (UFT MSCF). Position being posted/advertised nationally.
• Counselor (FT for fall semester). Position will be posted/locally advertised.

Unclassified Professional (MAPE)
• Multicultural Grant Coordinator (TFT unclassified MnSCU Program Director 1 – MAPE). Position is temporary for period of the grant through 2/28/03. Position posted/advertised locally.
• Job Coach – Healthcare and Human Services Grant (TPT unclassified MnSCU Program Director 1 – MAPE). Position is temporary for period of the grant through 2/28/03. Position posted/advertised locally.
• Academic Advisor – Upward Bound (grant-funded unclassified MnSCU Program Director 1 – MAPE). Position posted.

Classified Professional (MAPE)

Classified AFSCME
• General Maint. Worker (Intermittents). Applications accepted ongoing.
• Electronics Technician (TFT; minimum of 4 months). Jonathan Wetenkamp and Jeremy Sell have been hired.

For information on any of the above openings, contact the human resources office at x7125 or visit our website at http://www.roch.edu/rctc/hr/