Recipients for Vacation Donation Program

Listed below are the new individuals who have been approved as a recipient for the vacation donation to the sick leave account program. These individuals may have already or will be exhausting all paid leave time and will be losing health insurance coverages. State employees may donate up to 12 hours (per recipient) per fiscal year to one of these individuals or any other recipients on the sick leave account. More details regarding these individuals and forms to donate leave are available from the human resources office.

Kathryn Aslakson - Department of Commerce
Jan Larson - Central Lakes College
Stephen Frank Sr. - Ridgewater College
Patricia Emich - EMSOCS
Julie Fasching - EMSOCS

Mike Klampe Memorial Scholarship available

The Mike Klampe Memorial Scholarship is a newly created scholarship this year. Eligible applicants should be students who will be starting their second year of studies at RCTC in the fall of 2002. The recipient should possess confidence and high ethical standards with a sincere belief in the celebration of cultural diversity. Submission of a one-page essay is also required addressing the following topic: “How is this community a better place to live because of the cultural diversity of its residents?” The scholarship award amount is $500.

Mike Klampe grew up in Rochester and graduated from RCTC in 1967. He continued with his education, ultimately earning his law degree. Mike was a tireless community activist, volunteering numerous hours on a variety of issues such as cultural diversity, juvenile justice, higher education and the arts to name a few. He died in last October after a heroic struggle with pancreatic cancer. We miss Mike and his passion to make Rochester a better place to work and live, but his legacy will live on in this scholarship. For more information and an application form, contact the RCTC Foundation – Heintz Center C124 or UCR Counseling Office – SS150.

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.
Weekly funny…

"He came in for a job interview 3 hours ago, and I made the mistake of telling him to make himself comfortable."

**RCTC Chiropractic Clinic**

**LOCATION: HC211**

Appointments available on Monday and Thursdays from 2-6pm
To set up an appointment, please call 529-2736

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

*Christopher Carter, Mentalist, Thursday, February 14 - 12:00 pm– 1:00 pm, South Room*

Enter a new realm. Mind reading? ESP? Beyond your imagination! In his show, “Theatre of Thoughts,” Christopher shows audiences why he is recognized as one of the world’s most skilled, creative and original thought readers. He can cause a light bulb to explode purely through his powers of concentration, astound audience members with personal facts that they have never before revealed – to anyone, and, make audience members believe that they are experiencing touches and taps from invisible hands. Amazing.

*Alexis Antes, Coffeehouse, Tuesday, February 19 - 11:00 am – 1:00 pm, Art Gallery/Quiet Lounge*

In the past few years, singer/songwriter Alexis Antes has performed on the bill with renowned artists such as Sarah McLachlan, Paula Cole, Sheryl Crow, Melissa Etheridge, Chantal Kreviazuk, Jonathan Brooke, Dan Fogelberg and Three Dog Night plus others. The music, the mood, the strength and the sensitivity of Alexis shows that she is in control of her own destiny, comfortable in the spotlight at center stage.

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**Rochester Community and Technical College**

Invites you to the twig and photography exhibition

*“The Place Where I live” by Judy Smithson*

University Center Rochester Art Gallery - 2nd Floor College Center
Opening and Reception - Wednesday, February 12, 2002 - 6:30pm to 8:00pm - Gallery Talk at 7:00pm
The exhibition runs February 13 through March 13, 2002

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**Postsecondary Enrollment Options Program**

PSEOP enrollment is at an all-time high with 403 students enrolled this semester. For more information on program figures, please see the two attachments to this week’s *College Crossings*. 
Supalla’s Scribblings

Have you been following the higher education happenings at the Legislature? If not, now’s a good time to get in the habit of finding out what’s happening in St. Paul by checking out the MnSCU web site. Every Friday afternoon during the session, the Office of the Chancellor legislative staff posts an update on legislative happenings of interest to MnSCU constituents. Last week’s initial edition focused on House testimony regarding the Governor’s proposed $32 million reduction in the MnSCU appropriation and the Senate’s proposal to reduce MnSCU funding by $24.5 million. Senate action on bonding is moving very quickly with the Higher Education Committee expected to draft its proposal and send it on to the Capital Investment Committee yet this week. Get in the habit of checking out the latest legislative news every Friday afternoon under “Legislative Updates” on the “MnSCU System” page at web site (http://www.mnscu.edu).

The State University and the Minnesota State College Student Associations are collaborating to conduct Student Advocacy Day at the Capitol on February 13. This is an opportunity for thousands of MnSCU students to gather in St. Paul and educate legislators and the governor on what the proposed budget rescission will mean to students, programs and colleges. Politicians are much more likely to be moved by what students have to say than to listen to state employees. Last year, RCTC had the largest delegation of two-year students in St. Paul for Advocacy Day. I encourage faculty to make, whenever possible, accommodations that encourage students to participate in this year’s event.

Kudos are in order…

➢ Congratulations to Bill Herrald (Member of the Governor’s Council on Developmental Disabilities), Susanne Sheehan and the entire RCTC support team who were recognized by the Disabilities Council with certificates signed by the Governor and a plaque that reads…In recognition of the commitment and success of Rochester Community and Technical College as the first employer to participate and test a new career directed employment system. The Minnesota Governor’s Council on Developmental Disabilities expresses its gratitude for your efforts to recognize the abilities of all people to contribute to a productive workforce in your community. February 5, 2002

The RCTC program was highlighted at this week’s meeting of the Rochester Quality Council and participants were recognized for an innovative program aimed at employing people with developmental disabilities. Thanks to all who’ve made the program a great success and a model for other state agencies. Contact Susanne Sheehan if you’d like more information about the RCTC program.

➢ Rosemary Hicks, Financial Aid Director, has been making the circuit of area high schools sharing financial assistance information with prospective students, parents, and K-12 staff. This year, Rosemary, with the help of technical support staffer Jamie Prasser, dazzled 514 eager listeners with a financial aid Power Point presentation. These sessions are another great way of building RCTC name recognition with potential students. Thanks, Rosemary and Jamie!

➢ Thanks to ViAnn Olson, Dana Piens, David Atwood, Don Baldus, John Buchl, Kathy Peak and Marilyn Treder who gave up precious weekend time to help with last Saturday’s Mathcounts competition. Top quality math students from all over southeast Minnesota came to UCR/RCTC to show off their talent and earn a spot to compete in upcoming state competition. Thanks to all who helped make this a very successful event. RCTC will host Mathcounts again next February 1.

➢ In an effort to reward chapters that implement successful recruitment strategies, PTK launched a Pinnacle Scholarship Award Program. Congratulations to Barb Mollberg and the PTK student leaders who increased membership by more than 10% this year and earned a $100 scholarship check. Way to go!
Representative Tom Pugh conducted a survey regarding the condition of public post-secondary institutions. While all respondents anticipate an increase in enrollment over the next two academic years, they also projected a number of strong trends in student behavior…

- 92% predicted increased student debt
- 83% predicted fewer under-educated people coming back to upgrade skills and more students stopping/dropping out
- 75% predicted an increase in students enrolling part-time
- contrary to state policy on funding instructional costs, 58% of colleges and universities believe they get more than 33% of their instructional revenue from tuition
- 100% of college presidents identified multiple examples of changes in strategic and academic planning due to the reduction in state funding. 92% indicated they will cut programs/services, 88% said they will delay implementation of quality initiatives, 83% said they will increase class size, and 80% indicate the reduced level of funding will limit their ability to address targeted worker shortages
- the most frequent offered suggestion on how the Legislature can improve the quality of public higher education was to provide adequate, stable funding
- other themes included an acknowledgment that investments in higher education are investments in Minnesota’s future, government should provide campuses with rewards and incentives for demonstrating quality and developing partnerships, and expect accountability from campuses in return for funding

**Thought for the Week…**

"Keep asking yourself, ‘What kind of organization would this be if everyone in it was just like me?’"

– Brian Tracy

Don

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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.