Service Learning Opportunities
We have had requests from some community organizations for student help. Please consider spending some of your time for these worthwhile projects!

Catholic Charities - helps more than 9.5 million people every year in the U.S. Of local concern is working with a Somali family in tutoring English and adapting to U.S. society. The contact person is Dynee Stetzler, 287-2047 and it best to call her in the mornings.

Ronald McDonald House - provides temporary residence for children and their families who are receiving care at the Mayo Clinic. They need students to assist two nights/week with activities such as arts and crafts and games. The contact person is Linda Bonow at 252-2162.

Stewartville High School is looking for tutors, especially in math and science. The contact person is Eileen Sobolik at 533-1617.

The Learning by Doing program has helped to place over 500 students at over 100 organizations so far this year! THANK YOU for being involved in your communities!

Check out the RMDS window displays
Please observe the window displays recently created by the retail merchandising students as a requirement in the Visual Merchandising Class utilizing merchandise from area retailers.

   Marshall Field's-tunnel window
   Bed, Bath and Beyond-Eh206 window
   Ashley's Hallmark-4th floor Commons
   Barnes & Noble Bookseller-library glass case
   RCTC Bookstore-Athletic Department
   Nordic Gym-20 Third St SW

UCR Beach Party
You’re invited to the UCR Beach Bash, February 28, 2002 from 1:00-3:00pm on the 3rd floor Atrium. See the attached flier for more details!
*Weekly funny…*

"Duz my bosy wanty the Johnson file? Duz hee? Yes he duz!"

"He's a new father."

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**RCTC Chiropractic Clinic**

**LOCATION: HC211**

The RCTC Chiropractic Clinic will be closed on Monday February 18th. We will re open on Thursday February 21st. We are accepting massage patients on Wednesday for 2-6 pm.

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

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**Upcoming Spring Semester CAB events**

**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.

**MISSION IMPROVable, Wed., February 27, 11:00 am – 12:00 pm, South Room**

Fast paced and exciting! The MI performance itself is themed around the old TV show, Mission Impossible, with the audience members as the co-agents, the games are the missions, wit and high jinks are the weapons, and the six members of Mission IMPROVable are the agents.

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**Recipient for vacation donation program**

Listed below is the new individual who has been approved as recipient for the vacation donation to the sick leave account program. This individual 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 this individual or any other recipients on the sick leave account. More details regarding this individual and forms to donate leave are available from the human resources office.

*David Quant - Department of Transportation*

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**MEDIA CENTER AND DUPLICATING HOURS**

**Monday, February 18, 2002**

Duplicating 10:00am - 6:30pm
Media Services 7:30am - 6:30pm

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**Transfer reps on campus**

On Wednesday, February 20, 2002, the following representatives will be on campus in the Atrium to help with Transfer or careers: Jodi Nelson, Mayo Health Related Sciences; Chuck Abbott, Northwestern Health Sciences School of Chiropractic; Dan Tomhave, University of Minnesota-Duluth. All will be here between 10:00-1:00 on that date. If you cannot be there and have transfer questions, please route those questions to Audrey Lidke and I will visit with the folks and get back to you.
Supalla’s Scribblings

Legislators in St. Paul continue to move bills through committees at a blistering pace. The Senate Higher Education Budget Division heard both MnSCU and University of Minnesota bonding requests and moved the entire list of project requests forward to the Capital Investment Committee. Included in the bill is $100 million for HEAPR projects that would provide funding for roof and skylight replacement for the East Building and new windows/skylights for the Art Building. Still in question is the House recommendation on MnSCU budget reduction, hopefully something less than the Governor’s $32 million and the Senate’s $24.5 million recommendation. Rumor has it that the House plans to cut $50 million from higher education ($10 million from student financial aid and then the balance from MnSCU and the University of Minnesota). It’s almost certain that, once the final biennial budget legislation is approved, MnSCU colleges and universities will be dealing with the cut through a combination of reserve reductions, expenditure cuts, and tuition increases. Please keep in mind that this legislation proposes to cut base funding, so using reserves is a one-time, short-term fix. Stay in touch with weekly legislative updates available on the MnSCU web site.

Feedback indicates that the Middle School Career Fair went very smoothly. These prospective students were well behaved and both teachers and business partners were impressed with the programs. More than 450 students had an opportunity to learn about 12 different programs. Special thanks to Deb Rogne for coordinating the event and to the faculty who did a terrific job sharing our spectrum of learning opportunities. Pam Randall, John Adams counselor, wrote…”Thank you so much for inviting us to the Career Fair last week! It was a great experience for our students. Thank you for the hours of work that I know it took to make it work. We are all very appreciative of your willingness to do this for our students. I know it takes initiative on your part to stick your necks out and do this, it certainly is not expected. But it is awesome! I just wish we could come every year! Thanks again so much!!”

This week RCTC received a complimentary copy of STRICTLY BUSINESS…PLANING STRATEGIES FOR PRIVATELY OWNED BUSINESSES. The book is expected to have a major impact on the way owners of private businesses plan for their futures. Authors include David K. Cahoone, Larry W. Gibbs, with Sandra Heusinkveld. Ms. Heusinkveld has an Associate Degree in Marketing and Liberal Arts from RCTC and was also on the faculty. Sandra is currently president and owner of Financial Planning Perspectives, LLC based in Columbus, Ohio. STRICTLY BUSINESS will be available soon in Goddard Library. Another RCTC success story!

Mark Your Calendars…

- The next RCTC (Rumor Control Through Communication) Forums are scheduled for 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Thursday, March 14 in CF202 and 3:30-4:30 p.m. in HC 105. Come and hear a brief “What’s Happening” update and share rumors.
- The reception to honor our retirees will be held from 2-4 p.m., Tuesday, April 30 in CF206/208. Come and enjoy some good food, interesting conversation, and say thanks to several employees who have made a positive difference.

Soon the class of 2002 will be leaving high school and venturing forth toward colleges and jobs. The U.S. Department of Education projects that two-year college enrollment will swell during the next decade. Here are some two-year enrollment projections…2000 – 5,602,000; 2005 – 5,741,000; and 2009 – 5,986,000. In a recent survey of these prospective students, the American Council on Education and UCLA Higher Education Research Institute found the following matter most to the next crop of young adults. Here are the percentages of college freshmen who said that following objectives are “essential” or “very important” to their futures…Being very well-off financially – 74%; Raising a family – 73%; Being an authority in my field – 60%; Developing a meaningful philosophy of life – 41%; Becoming successful in a business of my own – 39%; Becoming a community leader – 30%.

Many Americans worry that cutbacks in spending on public colleges could diminish the quality of higher education in their states, and they continue to overestimate the cost of a postsecondary education. This year’s version of “Attitudes Toward Public Higher Education” published by the American Council on Education found that the proportion of Americans who believe that the nation’s colleges provide a high-quality education and serve as an economic engine continues to rise. Seventy-seven percent of those surveyed believe that a college education is more important today than it was ten years ago. Although four in ten respondents said they knew a lot about college prices, most Americans estimate tuition at public institutions at more than three times the actual average price.

Thought for the week…

”My mentor said, ‘Let’s go do it,’ not ‘You go do it.’ How powerful when someone says, ‘Let’s!’” – Jim Rohn

Let’s have a great week…enjoy the long weekend! Don
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 Bachelor's 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.

Taher – Menu for the week
Mon. Closed, Presidents Day

Tues. Bacon, Lettuce and Tomato Sandwich with Chips and a Pickle Spear.
     Cream of Broccoli Soup

Wed. Meatloaf with Mashed Potatoes, Vegetable and a Roll.
     Chicken Rice Soup

Thur. Vegetarian Linguine with Garlic Bread
     Minestrone Soup

Fri. Fried Fish with Baked Potato, Cole Slaw and a Roll.

Featured Panini: Ham and Three Cheese with Honey Dijon Mustard.
Featured Wrap: Italian
Stir Fry: Sweet and Sour Chicken

- Minutes on next pages -
Rochester Community and Technical College

Minnesota State College Faculty (MSCF) Meet and Confer
Minutes for Tuesday, January 29, 2002 – 2:00 p.m. – Presidents’ Room

Present: Administration Harris, Supalla, Thompson
Faculty Shafer, Helmers, Hill, Israelson, Wright (Chair)
Guest: Susanne Sheehan
Recorder: Judy Kingsbury

ITEM 5 (F) Summer Sick Leave – Sheehan apologized for the delay, and assured the faculty that the summer sick leave accruals will be reviewed and corrected before the next meeting. Sheehan explained the accruals are not always automatically calculated through the system for summer session leave, hence her department is running an up-date in the system. ACTION: Sheehan assured the faculty the issue would be resolved in the next two weeks.

ITEM 2 (A) Staffing Update – Sheehan reported the faculty postings (with the exception of the Counseling sabbatical) have been advertised through MnSCU, Minneapolis Star and Tribune, Rochester Post Bulletin, and Chronicle of Higher Education. Depending on retirement announcements, a second round of postings and searches will be conducted at a later date. Sheehan also requested Wright and Shafer review the search team memberships and confirm the faculty members serving on the committees. ACTION: Thompson will provide Sheehan with a brief job-posting announcement for the Counseling sabbatical position.

ITEM 1 (F) 2002-2003 Calendar – Israelson announced the faculty proposal was created to align with Winona State University’s calendar, thus better serving students attending both colleges. Supalla responded he was concerned with the calendar proposal, noting: (1) it may require a number of alternative calendars for occupational programs; (2) it could affect accreditation requirements for programs; and (3) two administrative days would not allow appropriate coverage of harassment training, general education and assessment discussions, and the implementation of other initiatives being planned. Supalla also shared concerns about defending such a proposal with the legislature, system office, and ultimately the public. Shafer and Wright will revisit the faculty proposal and conduct a survey with occupational program leaders to determine the number of alternative calendars that may need to be requested along with the faculty proposal. ACTION: Shafer and Wright will revisit and resubmit the faculty proposal within the next week. Administration and faculty will visit prior to the next meeting and the calendar will be brought back to the next meeting.

ITEM 2 (F) Chiropractic Space and Equipment – With University of Minnesota Rochester staff “scouting out” the Heintz Center chiropractic area, Wright questioned if the chiropractic program was suspended, or if it was the intent to close the program. Harris responded there has been no talk about closure at this time, and the “scouting out” of the facilities was being conducted because of additional baccalaureate programs being added at UMR in the fall. No final decision has been made on the utilization of the space, but all options are being kept open, noting any remodeling of the facilities would be minor (i.e. widening doors, removal of non-load bearing walls). Harris added the equipment was being inventoried for storage and will be handled appropriately upon a final decision of the continuation of the program. ACTION: Information Only.
ITEM 1 (A) Faculty Evaluations – Harris shared the second reading of the proposed Faculty Evaluation Policy/Procedures, adding the process would also be conducted for on-line courses. Harris noted if the evaluations are only conducted one course/once a year at the choice of the faculty, then the results may not provide a broad base of students. Harris questioned the use of the word “qualified” student, which implies a student enrolled in a course, but not considered “qualified” by the faculty member, could not share his/her opinions as every other student has the right to do. Shafer responded “qualified students” reflects only those students who are keeping up in the work for the class, but agreed to drop the word for the spring pilot program. ACTION: Harris will implement the Faculty Evaluation Process as a pilot during Spring Semester, 2002. The pilot will be re-evaluated at Meet and Confer next fall before final implementation.

ITEM 7 (F) Assessment/Evaluation – Wright and Shafer shared concerns that the faculty evaluations would be used as a disciplinary tool, hence requesting a statement be made that the assessment policies will not be used as part of the individual faculty evaluation. Harris agreed. ACTION: Harris will prepare a statement and share with Wright and Shafer.

ITEM 3 (F) and ITEM 3 (A) Committee Structure – Shafer requested the flowchart be flipped (reflecting the committees at the top, and flowing downward) and arrows be added in both directions for communication purposes. ACTION: Kingsbury will add arrows and reorganize the flowchart, and Administration will identify administrative liaisons to each group.

ITEM 4 (F) Vending Dollars – Shafer questioned the status of pouring contracts on campus. Thompson responded the MnSCU’s General Council Office was reviewing the Request for Proposal (RFP). Wright questioned how the generated funds would be spent and Thompson noted it wasn’t uncommon for proposals to be submitted with conditions. ACTION: Information Only.

ITEM 4 (A) Student Excused Absence Policy (3rd Reading) – Thompson announced he was going to revise the policy to be more inclusive with non-school absences (i.e. jury duty, subpoenas for court appearances, and other legal required absences.) ACTION: Thompson will revise the policy proposal and forward a copy to Wright and Shafer the first week of February. The policy will be brought back to the February meeting, with an anticipated Fall Semester, 2002 implementation date.

ITEM 6 (F) Scheduling – Shafer shared numerous concerns and complaints with regard to both the schedule and room assignments for Spring Semester, 2002. Harris added she also had concerns, noting many were caused by construction/remodeling of classrooms and the utilization of an out-of-date software program. Harris announced a new software program for room scheduling would be installed within the week. Shafer also shared concerns that a course schedule template was being imposed, requiring faculty to follow past schedules for future semester (times, rooms etc.). Harris and Supalla noted there was a “roll-over” capability in the software program for future semester scheduling, but that it was going to be used for the basic schedule. Harris also stated consideration is being given to adding more classes during “under utilized space” hours (after 2:00 p.m.), adding it will mostly affect adjunct faculty, and not unlimited full-time faculty. ACTION: Information Only.

ITEM 8 (F) Classrooms – Hill shared her concerns with the unacceptable chairs in MH223 and SH110 (removal of permanent chairs, lack of writing tables to some seats, etc.). ACTION: Hill will forward an e-mail to Swenson outlining the specific rooms and problems, and will copy Supalla on the message.

Adjourned at 3:09 p.m.

Next Meeting: February 26, 2002 – 3:00pm – Presidents’ Room