Congratulations!!!

Congratulations to Kim Sin, Communications Technician, who received the Yellow Jacket compliment for his tremendous help planning for Career Day last fall. He was nominated by three nursing instructors who appreciated his assistance, ideas, and enthusiasm on that busy day. Kim helped them put together a great video for students. Kim always has a smile and is willing to help out. Thank you, Kim!

Baldrige Banterings

Note: The NCA self-study will be online beginning next week. The committee formed to continue the work of the Futures Task Force Committee has been focusing on developing the strategic priorities of the college. The priorities are listed below with a brief description of each.

Teaching and Learning Excellence

Providing world-class technical, liberal arts and lifelong learning educational opportunities is central to RCTC vision and mission. The pursuit of academic excellence will be achieved through diverse strategies focuses.

Student Success and Satisfaction

Students deserve a respectful, safe and caring learning environment that supports personal growth and diversity. Valuing students requires the college to listen and understand their needs and expectations to support the building of relationships fostering learning, improving satisfaction and is driven by student success.

Leading-Edge Technology

The use of innovative and diverse instructional and institutional technologies supports the design and delivery of teaching and learning and services to students and other stakeholders. Updated and innovative technologies enhance access and increase the effectiveness and efficiency of systems and key processes allowing the college to respond to changing market and competitive forces.

Strategic Partnerships

The dramatic pace of technological and marketplace changes creates the need to move from competitive to collaborative partnerships. The building of business partnerships, strategic alliances and community collaborations which extend RCTC’s resources and capacity to continuously improve and respond to the needs of diverse students and communities is essential to college advancement and accountability for the public investment in higher education.

Leadership and Organization Quality

To achieve our vision of being a world class provider the college must focus on the needs and satisfaction of its faculty and staff. Future-focused and visionary leadership driven by continuous improvement and innovative climate are essential to organization quality and excellence.
Weekly funny…

"Honestly, dad. I can't keep coming in here every 5 minutes to help you with your computer. From now on I'll be charging you $3.00 per minute."

Concert of new music
35 students taking the Electronic Music Synthesis Class will be giving an informal concert of their original compositions in Hill Theatre, on Monday February 26 at 6:00. The second part of the presentation will be compositions by the Twin Cities World/Electronic Music Group "Metaphor". Tickets are FREE... come hear RCTC students and Twin Cities musicians share some exciting new music!

Read Across America
What kind of animal was Horton?
What is the name of the Grinch’s dog?
Who asks, “Do you like green eggs and ham?”
What are the names of the Cat in the Hat’s helpers?

Do you know the answers to these questions? If not, Friday is the perfect day to reacquaint yourself with the wonderful stories by Dr. Seuss as we celebrate his 97th birthday. To mark this occasion, the National Education Association is again celebrating "Read Across America". As part of RCTC’s pledge, Bonnie Mercer and Gregg Wright will be reading Dr. Seuss books to the children in the Civic League Day Care. If you would like to show support for the "Read Across America" Program, stop in the President’s Office, Room: SS202, and pick up a "Read Across America" sticker. You can also find an interactive learning environment, guided by your favorite Seuss characters, by going to: http://www.randomhouse.com/seussville/

The “Read Across America” program sends a message to children that reading is important. Join us and help rekindle a passion for reading among our children.

Recipient for vacation donation program
Listed below is the new individual who has been approved as a 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 these individuals 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.

Larry Rust - Department of Human Services
Supalla’s Scribblings

Special thanks to Tyler Despins, Nancy Brataas, and John Wade who joined me at the “Friends of MnSCU” legislative dinner held at St. Paul Technical College on Wednesday evening. The annual event is held to encourage legislators to support the MnSCU legislative request. This year’s lively program and a delicious dinner prepared by St. Paul Tech culinary arts students drew more than 80 legislators and 200 business and industry reps, college/university staff and MnSCU students. Senators Sheila Kiscaden and Kenric Scheevel and Representatives Fran Bradley and Bill Kuise showed their support for higher education by joining us for dinner. In addition to pleas for funding from MnSCU Board member Joann Splonskowski and Chancellor Anderson, the legislators were treated with songs written especially for Higher Education Chairs, Senator Deanna Wiener and Representative Peggy Leppik. The program ended with the audience joining in a rousing rendition of “The Gambler” which was modified to drive home the message that the MnSCU request deserves funding. Why not join in the chorus…

- You got to know when to hold ‘em
- You shouldn’t hold back money
- Know when to fold ‘em
- From Higher Education
- Know when to walk away and
- The time is right for funding
- Know when to fund.
- Now let’s get it done!

If you’re not reviewing the weekly legislative updates provided on the MnSCU web site, check it out today at www.mnscu.edu. Then, take a few minutes to write, e-mail or call your legislator and let them know that funding higher education is an investment in Minnesota’s future.

A UCR leprechaun told me that Jen Boone went out of her way to help a couple of students who came into the library looking for information about the limestone silo located on campus. Librarian Boone spent considerable time calling several different people and tracking down information about this important campus landmark. In case you didn’t know, this hand-built silo stands as one of the finest limestone silos in Minnesota. Jen’s assistance in tracking down information so two students could complete an extra-credit assignment is a great example of what it means to “delight” your customer.

Representatives from the Legislative Auditor’s Office were on campus this week to introduce themselves and provide a brief orientation to the upcoming audit. A team of four auditors will begin their 3-4 week campus visit on March 5. Please welcome them when they arrive and do your best to provide any information they request. Also on campus this week was a team of MnSCU faculty staff and a consultant who has been contracted by the System Office to assess the condition of science labs. Overall, the team was very impressed with the entire facility, thoroughly reviewed labs at both UCR and Heintz Center, and will release their findings and recommendations in several months. The information being gleaned during campus visits will be used as MnSCU develops future capital investment requests.

Several weeks ago you received a copy of “How you treat others is a reflection of how you want to be treated…Look and learn about the changing face of Rochester.” This very informative booklet, furnished and produced by the Diversity Council and distributed by our Human Resources office, provides important information about the immigrants who have come to Rochester seeking peace, freedom and opportunity. I hope you’ve spent a few minutes reading about our new neighbors. Don’t hesitate to contact the Human Resources office if you need another copy.

With the possibility of another snowstorm on the way this weekend, it seems like a good time to extend a special “THANK YOU!” to our grounds crew and general maintenance workers. These guys and gals have done a super job keeping our campus open and the snow and sand tracked in on thousands of feet vacuumed up. Just make a visit to another campus, like several of us did to University of Wisconsin-Stout this week, and you’ll return very appreciative of what a great job our GMWs do. Speaking of Stout, thanks to Bonnie Mercer, Judy Harris, Tammy Lee, Anne Niccolai and Dave Weber who gave up a Presidents Day holiday to join me in Wisconsin to hear about Stout’s quality journey. Stout is the first higher education institution in the country to get selected for a national Baldrige visit. The entire RCTC delegation came away impressed with Stout’s initiative and feeling very good about the progress we’ve made on our quality journey.

Rosemary Hicks shared with me this week’s “Thought.” “Never mind what others do; do better than yourself, beat your own record from day to day, and you are a success.” – William J. H. Boettcker

Stay warm and safe… Don
RCTC staffing update

Administrative
- **Dean of Health Sciences** (MnSCU Administrator). Semi-finalists identified; interviews and open forums have been scheduled.
- **Director of Nursing** (MnSCU Administrator). Position posted/advertised nationally. Re-posting/advertising position.
- **Vice President for Academic Affairs** (MnSCU Administrator). Position posted/advertised nationally. Review of applications has begun.
- **Vice President for Student Affairs/Institutional Advancement** (MnSCU Administrator). Review of applications has begun.

Faculty
- **Instructor of Health and/or Physical Education and Head Football Coach** (UFT MCCFA). Appointment pending.
- **Instructor of Health and/or Physical Education** (UFT MCCFA). Position being posted/advertised.
- **Instructor of English (Composition)** (UFT MCCFA, 2 positions). Positions being posted/advertised.
- **Instructor of Speech and/or Theatre** (UFT MCCFA). Position being posted/advertised.
- **Instructor of English (Composition)** (TFT MCCFA, 2 positions). Positions being posted/advertised.
- **Instructor of Nursing (Medical-Surgical)** (TFT MCCFA, 2 positions). Positions being posted/advertised.
- **Instructor of ESL** (TFT MCCFA). Position being posted/advertised.
- **Instructor of Mathematics** (TFT MCCFA). Position being posted/advertised.

Unclassified Professional (MAPE)
- **Project Team Leader** (FT grant-funded unclassified MAPE position). Bill Schmitt appointed.
- **Community Outreach Coordinator** (FT unclassified MnSCU Program Dir. 1). Position posted/advertised. Search team appointed; meeting this week.
- **SSSP Academic/Transfer Advisor** (FT unclassified MnSCU Program Dir. 1). Review of applications has begun.
- **International/Special Needs Advisor** (FT unclassified MnSCU Program Dir. 2). Position posted/advertised.

Unclassified Supervisory (MMA)
- **Director of Continuing Education and Grant Development** (FT unclassified MnSCU Program Supv. 1). Position posted/advertised. Additional recruitment/advertising in process; search team is being formed.

Classified AFSCME
- **General Maint. Worker** (Intermittents). Applications accepted ongoing.
- **Customer Service Specialist** (Temporary full-time; Academic Affairs work area; CE/Workforce Development department).

For information on any of the above openings, contact the human resources office at x7125.

### Sufficient Grounds Coffeehouse Concert

**Michael Walsh**

Wednesday, March 7; 12:00–1:00 pm; Quiet Lounge
See the attached flier for more details!
Staff development opportunities…

*The Basics of Knock-Your-Socks-Off Customer Service* – one-day seminar on April 24 – Comfort Inn Rochester - $169. Instant registration and information about the seminar can be accessed at [www.ptseminars.com](http://www.ptseminars.com) or from the RCTC human resources office.

*Introduction to Consensus Building: Beyond Conflict to Consensus* – 8 am-4 pm – two-day seminar - March 22 and March 23 – Assisi Community Center Rochester - $175. Registration and information about the workshop can be accessed at [www.wickreconsulting.com](http://www.wickreconsulting.com) or from the RCTC human resources office.

*Dealing with Power and Change* – 8 am-4 pm – one-day seminar – April 20 – Assisi Community Center Rochester - $100. Registration and information about the workshop can be accessed at [www.wickreconsulting.com](http://www.wickreconsulting.com) or from the RCTC human resources office.

$250 registration fee for each person who registers for both workshops. Special Offer: Register two people for both workshops and get a third registration for $150.

*How to Balance Priorities & Manage Multiple Projects* - 9 am-4 pm – one-day seminar – April 5 – Comft Inn Rochester - $149. Registration and information about the seminar can be accessed at [www.etrain.com](http://www.etrain.com) or from the RCTC human resources office.

*How to Discipline Employees and Develop Performers* – 9 am-4 pm – one-day seminar – March 22 – Comfort Inn Rochester - $179. Registration and information about the seminar can be accessed at [www.careertrack.com](http://www.careertrack.com) or from the RCTC human resources office.

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**Menu of the Week**

**Taher, Inc.**

This week’s panini – Roast beef and Swiss…………………………………………………………$3.50
This week’s stir fry – Pork Lo-Mein………………………………………………Two sizes: $3.25 & $4.25
This week’s specialty sandwich – Chicken Cordon Bleu……………………………………$2.95

**MONDAY** – Potato chowder or beef barley soup
Fettuccine Alfredo with grilled chicken and a breadstick…………………………………………………………$4.25

**TUESDAY** – Chicken noodle or cream of broccoli soup
Roast beef with mashed potatoes, vegetable and roll……………………………………………………………………$4.25

**WEDNESDAY** – Szechwan hot and sour or Minestrone soup
Southwest fried chicken wrap……………………………………………………………………………………………………$3.95

**THURSDAY** – Vegetarian vegetable or cream of cauliflower soup
Chicken or beef fajitas………………………………………………………………………………………………………………$4.25

**FRIDAY** – Chef’s Choice soup
Delta fried fish with hash brown potatoes, cole slaw and a roll……………………………………………………………………$4.25
Elaine Fladeland Wilbur Scholarship
Available to a high school graduate or older adult who demonstrates a desire, commitment, and ability in spite of significant obstacles or difficult circumstances in their life to attend a higher education college.

Criteria:
1. Student must have financial need
2. Student must be divorced or a child of divorce
3. The student must have attended Pine Island Elementary or High School
4. Adults, several years after high school graduation, are encouraged to apply
5. The amount of the scholarship will be recommended by the committee and more than one student is eligible per year
6. Recipients may also obtain additional scholarship funds in later years
7. Application must be made by May 1 for the following academic year

***** ATTENTION GRADUATING STUDENTS *****

Please relay to your students: If you plan to continue your studies after graduating this spring from RCTC, check out the scholarships available for you! The RCTC Foundation has several new scholarships available for graduating students. Don’t miss this opportunity to help fund your upcoming studies. Pick up information and applications at the Counseling Office SS130 or at the RCTC Foundation Office C120 Heintz Center. DEADLINE MARCH 9!

RCTC scholarship honors Rochester retailer
A local group recently formed to pay tribute and remember long-time community volunteer and businessman, Lloyd Welty. Mr. Welty died on December 25th at the age of 91. Welty began his retail career in Rochester in 1932 at Stevenson’s, a women’s wear store. In 1976 he retired from Stevenson’s and began a career with the Chamber of Commerce. He worked 12 years with the Minnesota Chamber of Commerce and then worked from 1988 to 1999 with the Rochester Area Chamber of Commerce. He was a founding member of the Rochester SCORE office, a volunteer organization for retired and active executives and served 12 years as its chairman. The idea for the scholarship came from Nate Johnson, RCTC alumnus and former co-worker with Welty at the Rochester Chamber of Commerce. “Lloyd made such an impact on so many persons over the years, I felt such a legacy should continue.” Johnson said. “His business background of course, was in retail, which is why this scholarship is so fitting a tribute,” Johnson continued. Johnson, currently is general manager of Rochester Shopper. He called on other individuals who had been touched by the kindness of Lloyd; Julie Timmerman of Leiders Employment Services, Barb Arens with the Chamber of Commerce and long-time community activist Don Sudor, to form a committee to make the scholarship idea a reality. Scholarship recipients will be students in their second year of retail merchandising. Candidates will be committed to the field of retail merchandising, demonstrate enthusiasm, ambition, initiative and active participation in work and community affairs and show good academic standing. Preference will be given to students with financial need. To apply for the scholarship, contact RCTC Foundation for an application. The deadline to apply is March 9, 2001. The first scholarship will be awarded this spring. For more information, contact Judy Bird at the RCTC Foundation office at 281-7770. Donations for the scholarship fund may be sent to the RCTC Foundation, Box 56, 851 30th Ave SE, Rochester, MN 55904. The goal is to raise $10,000 to guarantee an annual $500 scholarship to assist a student each year in the retail merchandising field.
PHI THETA KAPPA
Spring Induction Ceremony for New Members

New members of Phi Theta Kappa will be honored during the Spring Induction Ceremony on Thursday, March 8th at 7:00 pm. The program will be held in the South Room/3rd Floor College Center.

The hour long program will focus on celebrating the academic achievements of our newest members. Lori Halvorson-Wente and Jeremy Hanson, Coordinators for the Honors Program, will also present a short program on honors opportunities available at RCTC. In addition, special music will be provided by Susan Laessig, Kevin Carey, and Margaret Bowman.

Faculty, staff, and friends of new Phi Theta Kappans are welcome to join us for the program. We hope to see you there!