Classes in the library
Goddard librarians encourage faculty to bring their classes to the library for research and instruction. The librarians offer general and individualized instruction sessions, tailored to meet the needs and goals of UCR faculty, staff and students. Currently it is difficult to accommodate large groups of students at the public access terminals in the library. Contacting the library in advance provides the most effective means of accomplishing the faculty member’s goals and ensuring library availability. To schedule a class session, please call 7233 or email library.ucrli@roch.edu. We look forward to working with you and your students in Goddard Library.

UCR to host Mayo Clinic Blood Drive
A Mayo Clinic Blood Drive will be held on campus April 23 and 24 in the old fitness center area of Rockenbach Gym. Whether you are a previous donor at Mayo Clinic's Blood Bank, or would like to donate to the Mayo Clinic for the first time, please consider participating in this worthwhile cause.

Katie Swegarden (Nurse, Health Services Office) will be scheduling donor appointments. Please contact her at 285-7261 by Friday, April 19th to schedule an appointment.

Mark Your Calendars NOW for the Eighth Annual Yellowjacket Golf Outing
Friday, June 14, 2002
Willow Creek Golf Course
1700 48 Street SW – Rochester, MN 55902

- Put together your own foursome, or let us pair you up with a group.
- Join old teammates and friends for a fun outing.
- If you’re not a golfer, join us for the buffet and fellowship.
- Registration forms will be coming soon.
- Spread the word! For information, call 507-285-7204

All proceeds support the Champa/Kereakos Scholarship Endowment Fund
Go Yellowjackets!!
Weekly funny…

"Dude, you spend more than 90 hours a week on that computer, so as your best friend, I feel it's my responsibility to say to you-- GET A LIFE!"

Staff Development Day Feedback– March 28th
The student learning assessment committee would like to thank everyone for participating in the student learning assessment sessions. Listed below is a summary of the feedback we received. The entire list of comments will be posted on our future web site.

Why is outcomes assessment so important?
- To better facilitate learning
- We need to know how successful our teaching methods affect the learning outcomes of our students.
- Important to quality education and learner success

What is your greatest concern about the assessment process?
- Discovering new ways to incorporate in class time, which is very limited.
- To see how change can be made in the classroom to improve learning.
- Time and consistency in keeping it going, we need a research department to handle the busywork of this plan.
- Where will planning and assessing time come from?

What is the one thing you learned about assessment?
- It is important to participate in assessment as an on-going process
- That I am doing a lot right
- How institutional and program assessment is different
- It is not as difficult as I expected to implement in class more frequently
- It is time consuming but not difficult, the value of collected data is valuable in regard to driving continuous improvement
- There are many ways to assess and no perfect way for all programs

What would you still like to know about?
- How do grades fit into the assessment models?
- Need commitment of the department to carry through on assessment process to help us all be individually better instructors?
- How to measure our core abilities across courses.
- How can the process be streamlined so as not to be so time consuming?
- How do counselors best involve themselves in assessment?

Student Learning Assessment Committee Members
Judy Harris, Ivonne Tjoa Fat, Jane Kruger, Virginia Wright-Peterson, Tammy Lee, Anne Niccolai
Supalla’s Scribblings
Stalemate continues in St. Paul where House and Senate conferees have been unable to reach a compromise on most major issues, including those impacting MnSCU and RCTC. The discussions continue, mostly behind closed doors, in hopes of finding common ground and then sending legislation on to the Governor. With all legislators up for election in the fall, most seem eager to get out of town to hit the campaign trail. On a related note, legislators have been unable to resolve their differences on the contract moratorium. Although some blanket waivers have been granted to ease the disruption, the Department of Administration continues to approve waivers, mostly on a case-by-case basis. Please continue to be patient with the Business Office as they submit the required paperwork and attempt to get permission to execute contracts.

This and That
- Thanks very much to students from RCTC’s Volunteer Club who allowed me to join them last Saturday to serve a delicious homemade dinner to guests at Ronald McDonald House. The guests, who found themselves away from home under very stressful circumstances, really enjoyed the meal and conversation. If you’d like to support the work of these students, please consider joining them as they serve dinner at the Gift of Life House on Saturday, April 20. Students usually begin arriving at the facility around 5:30 p.m., with dinner served at 6 p.m. Clean-up is often wrapped up by 7:30 p.m. You’ll find working with these students fun and their acts of charity bring recognition and goodwill for RCTC!

- Thanks to Nirmala Kotagal who was pictured in the Salvation Army’s recent newsletter as one of the drivers behind the development of Good Samaritan Dental Clinic. In October 2001 a partnership of Olmsted County Public Health, Zumbro Valley Dental Society, The Salvation Army, RCTC, Olmsted County Community Services, United Way, Construction Partnership and Mayo Clinic began discussions about the potential of developing a community dental clinic. If renovation goes as planned, on July 1 2002, The Good Samaritan Dental Clinic will open to serve children and adults unable to access essential dental services due to financial constraints. We’re delighted that Nirmala and students and staff from our Dental Assisting and Dental Hygiene programs will be an essential part of this community effort.

- If you haven’t taken a few minutes to complete the MnSCU ITS Customer Satisfaction Survey, please do so today. The Office of the Chancellor’s Information Technology Services division is seeking your assistance by asking you to tell them about your satisfaction with their products and services. Please go to the ITS home page http://www.its.mnscu.edu and click on the “ITS Customer Satisfaction Survey” to begin the survey. Thanks!

- Both internal and external stakeholders are invited to provide testimony on the higher education budget, tuition and fees at one of two public hearings being conducted by the MnSCU Board of Trustees. The first hearing is scheduled from 11 a.m. – 3:30 p.m., Wednesday, May 1 in Heritage Hall on the Inver Hills Community College campus. A second hearing will be conducted on Thursday, May 2, 1-5 p.m., in the Large Community Outreach Room on the Willmar Campus of Ridgewater Community and Technical College.

Even though the last few weeks of every academic year get very hectic, I invite you to participate in several exciting upcoming events….

- April 16 11 a.m.–1 p.m. Technology Center (TelePro) Grand Opening Atrium
- April 16 5–7 p.m. UCR Chamber of Commerce Business After Hours Atrium
- April 30 2–4 p.m. Retirement Recognition Reception CF206/208
- May 10 7–10 p.m. Commencement Sports Center
- May 11 9:30 a.m.–2:30 p.m. Sports Center Grand Opening Sports Center
Several media reports have recently highlighted reports of increased use of alcohol, especially binge drinking, on college campuses. A new study by the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism reported in the April 9 CHRONICLE OF HIGHER EDUCATION that “roughly 40 percent of college students are binge drinkers. According to the study, students are most likely to drink if they are first-year students, males, whites, members of Greek societies, athletes, attending college in the Northeast, or attending a college with prominent athletic teams. Students are least likely to drink if they attend two-year institutions, religious schools, commuter schools, or historically black colleges and universities. The study details a number of consequences of intoxication—including death, injury, assault, unprotected sex, drunken driving, vandalism, suicide, and academic problems.” Still another of many good reasons for students to attend RCTC!

**Thought for the Week (from Kathy Olson)…**

“Cultivate good habits...the bad ones all grow wild!”

_Don_

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**Campus Events**

**RCTC’S WORLD DRUM ENSEMBLE Tuesday, April 23**

*South Room (3rd Floor Cafeteria)*

*12:15 pm – approx. 12:45 pm*

Enjoy a return engagement by the RCTC World Drum Ensemble, MUSC 1340 students, directed by Denny McGuire. You’ll hear authentic ethnic percussion music styles of Samba, Salsa, West African, Caribbean and South American.