College Crossings
Rochester Community and Technical College

May 5, 2003
Volume 8, Issue 34
SPRING SEMESTER EDITION

Inside this Issue
Kiln Opening – Pg 2
Golf Outing – Pg 4
UCR TV Program – Pg 5
Scholarship Night – Pg 7

Event Schedule – see web http://www.roch.edu/rctc/about/html/weeklyschedule.htm

Attachments
✦ Champa/Kereakos Golf Outing
✦ Scholarship Night Program

Staff Development Day – May 14, 2003
8:30-9:00 Welcome
5-10 min Don; 10 min Year in Review; 10 min Recognition

9:00-10:00 Showcase Departments
Student Ambassadors
Supervisory Management Program
Bio-Feed Back
Electronic Marketing

10:00-10:15 Break

10:15 –11:00 Team Building Activities

11:00-11:30 Chuck Blattner and Jazz Band – Lunch (Outside atrium)
Cookout May 14th - 11:00 to 1:00pm

Hamburger - $2.00
Grilled Chicken Breast - $2.00
(Lettuce and Tomato with above items)
Brat w/kraut - $2.00
Potato Chips - 1.00
12 oz Soda - $.50
Ice Cream Novelties - $.50

12:00-1:00 Departmental Meetings

Retirement Reception
You are cordially invited to a reception on Wednesday, May 7, 2003 from 2:00 to 4:00pm in CF 206/208 for Rochester Community and Technical College's 2002-2003 retirees. A brief program will be held at 2:30pm. Please join us as we recognize our retirees’ many years of dedication to RCTC and our students!

Jacquie Connelly - Terry Dennis - Jan Dicke
Hubert Jertson - Carol Kamper
Dorene Ness - Kathy Peak - Susanne Sheehan

Evening Administration
April 26-May 1 – Don Supalla
May 3-8 – Barb Mollberg
May 10-13 – Dave Weber

The evening administrator can be reached at 285-7262.
Weekly Funny

"That's the trouble with these chatrooms. All this time I thought I was speaking to an expensive Persian cat. As it turns out, I was speaking to a cheap alley cat."

Spring Plant Sale Hours
Horticulture Technology Center
Greenhouse Located at Heintz Center

Monday May 5: 4pm – 6pm
Tuesday May 6: 11am – 2pm
Wednesday May 7: 9am – 11am
Thursday May 8: CLOSED
Friday May 9: 9am – 11am

Please remember that our sale hours are determined by student availability and our class schedule. When we are not in the greenhouse we are in class.

Kiln opening
After months of preparation, three days firing, and four days cooling, students and friends gathered on Wednesday, April 30, to unload "Phil", RCTC's new wood-fired anagama kiln.

Student Excused Absences Policy (RCTC Policy 2.8.4)
The RCTC Student Excused Absences Policy was recently modified to excuse students from classes for college approved activities. To review the complete policy, please visit: http://www.rctc.edu/policies/html/student_policies.html#Excused

Thank You Card
Thank you so much for the beautiful green plant and balloon. It was a wonderful surprise. We appreciate your continuous support. Go Jackets!

Brian, Kristin, Sean and Kendall LaPlante
Supalla’s Scribblings

The Minnesota Legislature continues to debate higher education budget targets and it appears they might reach a compromise that would restore between $50-100 million of the Governor’s $204 million reduction. Conceding that hefty tuition increases are on the way, House members passed a bill that props up student aid but comes down hard on MnSCU and the University of Minnesota. Under the House proposal, the two systems would suffer combined cuts of almost $370 million during the biennium. The House reductions aren’t as great as the Governor’s recommendation but are significantly greater than those already approved by the Senate. Now, a conference committee will have to resolve the differences as they solve the more than $4 billion state deficit. A final higher education appropriation isn’t expected until shortly before the scheduled May 19 adjournment. In the meantime, Governor Pawlenty didn’t waste any time and quickly signed into law the conceal carry legislation. MnSCU staff and others are reviewing the language in an effort to interpret exactly what impact the new law will have on campus operations. Preliminary indications are that higher education institutions will have the opportunity to implement policy that will forbid students and staff from bringing guns into campus buildings. But, permit holders will be allowed to transfer handguns from inside the car to the trunk while on college property. What isn’t clear is whether or not colleges can forbid visitors and guests who possess a valid carry permit from bringing guns into buildings. For those staff leaving campus prior to legislative adjournment, I encourage you to stay tuned to proceedings that impact higher education by logging on to the MnSCU web site or clicking on http://www.mnscu.edu/Legislative/LegislativeUpdates/CurrentYear.html.

The RCTC music makers delighted audiences with some wonderful end-of-the-year entertainment. If you missed these concerts, you’ll have another chance to hear our talented students when they provide luncheon entertainment at the May 14 Staff Development Day. As usual, they’ll also be showcasing their talents at the May 13 Commencement. Many thanks to Chuck Blattner, Margaret Bowman and the music faculty who bring out the best in our talented students. The last staff social event of this academic year will be held in the All-American Room of the UCR Sports Center just prior to graduation. Drop in to reminisce with colleagues and enjoy some appetizers courtesy of Taher Food Service.

I encourage every faculty and staff member to salute our graduates by making an appearance at graduation. Our students often comment how great it is to see employees in attendance at Student Life activities, sporting events, recognition celebrations and commencement. Did you take stop in the Quiet Lounge and check out the wonderful work of our talented art students? I hope you found that special painting, drawing, photo or ceramic piece…the price was right! And be sure to stop by CF206/208 the afternoon of May 7 to thank this year’s retirees. These dedicated employees have touched hundreds of lives during their tenure.

Get your golfing buddies together and plan to play in the Champa-Kereakos Golf Tournament. The best-shot format makes for a fun day, the food is good, conversation lively and the proceeds support student scholarships. The event is scheduled for Willow Creek Golf Course, June 6. Contact Judy Bird for more information or to register. Then, continue to get some exercise while you’re having fun at the Tenth Annual Olmsted County American Cancer Society Relay for Life all night party. Once again, the Relay will be held right here on the UCR campus, 6 p.m. – 10 a.m., July 11 and 12. If you’d like to join “Team RCTC” please contact Ruth Siefert. Just after sunset, hundreds of luminaries line the walking path in front of the Atrium…what a beautiful sight and the proceeds support a great cause.
Looking for something to do this Saturday? The Groundbreaking Celebration for the Highway 52 Reconstruction Project will be held in the north lot of the Miracle Mile Shopping Center (near TGI Fridays) between 11 a.m. – 2 p.m. There’ll be dignitary presentations, prizes, music, project information and free commemorative items (while they last). The multi-year renovation project will definitely impact the ability of our students and staff to access University Center Rochester.

Congratulations to Don Baldus and Chad Israelson…RCTC Teachers of the Year! If you were unable to make the reception honoring these two talented guys, please take a minute to drop by their offices or send them an e-mail. Judy Harris shared with me a note signed by 20 Retail Merchandising students complimenting Suzanne Dinusson for being a wonderful teacher. Thanks to all our talented faculty who do a great job in classrooms, labs and clinicals.

**Thought for the Week…**

"Failure is only the opportunity to begin again more intelligently."

– Henry Ford

Enjoy these last few days of spring semester…the end’s in sight.

---

**A Benefit for the Champa/Kereakos Endowment Scholarship**

**Friday, June 6, 2003**

Willow Creek Golf Course, 1700 48th Street SW, Rochester MN 55902

Join your friends at the 9th Annual Yellowjacket Golf Outing and Buffet (Burgers and Brats). This event is a family outing to benefit the Champa/Kereakos Scholarship Endowment which, to date, has issued 18 scholarships!

So start putting together your foursomes or we will assign you to a group. If you don’t care to golf, then join us for the social hour, buffet, and fellowship. See the attachment to this week’s Crossings for more information and a registration form.

---

**RCTC's Music and Digital Arts Departments Presents: Circuits and Skin Concert**

Come hear and see the RCTC World Drum Ensemble, original electronic music compositions by RCTC students, and see original video/multimedia creation by Digital Arts students. **Monday, May 5th, 2003 at 7:00 PM at Rochester Community and Technical College in the Hill Theatre**

The World Drum Ensemble is under the direction of Denny McGuire and will feature many percussion instruments from around the world.

The original electronic music is created by Digital Arts majors taking the Electronic Music courses and will be played live, as well as via the new 5.1 surround-sound system in Hill Theatre. You are also invited to the free refreshments "meet the artists" reception immediately following the concert.

---

**College For Kids**

Registration for College For Kids 2003 is May 5-9. Catalog can be accessed through our web site: [http://www.rctclearn.net](http://www.rctclearn.net) For questions, contact Colleen Landherr, Community & Youth Program Coordinator at 280-3113 or colleen.landherr@roch.edu
UCR TV Program
This summer the University Center Rochester will launch a new Community Affairs Program called "UCR Spectrum." This show will be produced monthly by a local news and production team. The show will air numerous times monthly on public access channel 20 on the Charter Cable System in Rochester. The objective is to showcase the institutions, people, programs, students and alumni of the three institutions. The show will also focus on coming events and UCR in the community. We are exploring several options for on air talent as "Spectrum" will be produced in a news-styled format. If you are interested in being considered as on-air talent please contact Michelle Messenger at 280-3178. We are beginning to assemble story ideas for programs produced this summer. If you have an idea that you would like to submit for consideration please forward it to any of the following News Team Members:

Dave Weber, RCTC
Michelle Messenger, RCTC
Jay Hesley, UMR
Joe O'Keefe, WSU
Russ Lohmann, WSU
Jan Stephenson, WSU

We are fortunate to have Ryan O'Donnell on the News Team as an advisor. Ryan is the Rochester Bureau Chief for KAAL-TV6 and previously was a reporter for KTTC. Guy Hamernik will produce the community affairs program with the News Team.

Please submit story ideas by May 9.

We are excited about this new venture. UCR Spectrum will provide the partner institutions with a tool to broaden community awareness and deepen understanding of the availability of educational opportunities at UCR. The News Team will also look at the broader programming use of cable access channel 20. The first show is scheduled to broadcast this summer. Broadcast dates will be publicized when finalized.

The News Team

Asian Student Organization Wins Grant
The RCTC Asian Student Organization, a sanctioned club at RCTC, has received a grant from Rochester Area Foundation in the amount of $7,500. A letter notifying the students of their award was sent by Steve Thornton, Executive Director of Rochester Area Foundation. The students plan to use the funds to create a mentoring program for high school Asian students. A pilot program has just been started at John Marshall High School. “The grant reviewers were very impressed with the dedication and enthusiasm that the students showed when discussing their plans.” Thornton said.

According to Jim Bowe, assistant principal at JM, Asian students, especially male students, have a much higher degree of dropping out, being truant and being referred to the juvenile justice system. “The statistics are alarming and the need to take action is critical,” said Bowe.

RCTC’s Asian students can be role models to the high schoolers, and can identify with the challenges they face. Cultural barriers and lack of understanding the role education plays in life’s success are two areas that RCTC’s Asian college students understand. Kim Sin, a group member and driving force behind the mentorship program is committed to supporting Asian youth and pointing them in the right direction where they can become successful and contributing members of our community, a role he plays very well.
**Classrooms of the Future** – [http://www.cotf@associatedcolleges-tc.org](http://www.cotf@associatedcolleges-tc.org)

It's not too late to learn what's going on in the Classrooms of the Future! You can still register for COTF, "Learner-Centered Architecture" being held on Tuesday, May 20, at Augsburg College. This year's conference features two inspiring keynote speakers as well as a multitude of conference sessions to choose from.

Our morning keynote speaker, Professor Brad Hokanson from the University of Minnesota, will share insights, experiences, and opportunities for examining the context (location and place of learning), cognition (the mental structures and processes of learning), and curriculum (the structure and logic of learning processes) that create the architecture of learning. As one of the first University of Minnesota Media Center's Faculty Fellows in technology enhanced learning, Professor Hokanson will discuss how electronic technology has affected each of these three areas and the potential opportunities created for enhancing student learning. Brad started his love of architectures as a registered Minnesota architect, but moved into conceptual architectures with his Ph.D. work in Instructional Systems Technology at the University of Minnesota. His research in the use of technology to aid cognition has been published in Educational Technology, Computers in Human Behavior, and Tech Trends, as well as being awarded numerous grants.

For our afternoon keynote, Myron Lowe, Director of External Technology Initiatives at the University of Minnesota, will share exciting information about Internet2 and its availability in Minnesota. Internet2 is a consortium of universities working in partnerships to develop and deploy advanced network technologies and applications for research and education. Internet2 is enabling rapid changes in education by expanding the capabilities of classroom technology. It creates a new frontier by infusing innovation on multiple dimensions, enabling new functionality and advances in classroom instruction. For two years, the University of Minnesota has been rolling out a program that makes the Internet 2 resource available to Minnesota schools. Myron is responsible for statewide and national-level technology projects that support research, education, and economic development. He holds a M.S. degree in Educational Psychology from Southern Illinois University.

To register for COTF IX, go to [http://www.associatedcolleges-tc.org/cotf/](http://www.associatedcolleges-tc.org/cotf/)

If one day isn't enough, consider a half-day pre-conference workshop on Monday, May 19. These hands-on workshops require separate registration and fee payment to attend. For more information on pre-conference offerings still open and to register, go to [http://www.augsburg.edu/it/cotf/regpreconf.htm](http://www.augsburg.edu/it/cotf/regpreconf.htm)

---

**Cinco de Mayo Fiesta- May 5th, 2003**

Come and celebrate "Cinco de Mayo" on May 5th in the Atrium from 11:00 am to 12:30 pm. Learn the true meaning of Cinco de Mayo! Free popcorn! Free punch! Free movie passes! Piñata breaking for students and faculty!! Don't miss this fun event and celebrate with us Cinco de Mayo fiesta! Sponsored by International Students Club
Scholarship
American Business Women's Association, Stephen Bufton Memorial Educational Scholarship available to students who will be a Junior the fall of 2003, attending an accredited college or university with a 2.5 GPA. Application available: UCR Counseling Center or RCTC Foundation Office, HC 110

Scholarship Awards Night Celebration
On Thursday April 24, the RCTC Foundation celebrated the achievements and accomplishments of almost 130 students who received scholarships for the upcoming academic year. Over $100,000 was awarded to incoming, returning and graduating students from RCTC.

Hill Theater was full of friends and family members as the student’s name was announced and they took to the stage to receive their award certificate. Sixty-three presenters were seated on stage to wait their turn to announce the scholarship and name the recipient.

Rochester Mayor and RCTC Foundation board member, Ardell Brede again kept the program moving by acting as master of ceremony. Vice-President Dan Thompson executed the Salute to Scholars and Foundation board member Barbara Swisher made closing comments.

Afterwards, everyone adjourned to the College Center for coffee, punch and cookies and a chance for recipients and scholarship donors to meet each other. Information on how to create a scholarship or apply for one is available at the RCTC Foundation Office. A listing of this year’s scholarship awards is attached.

Travel to Berlin, Munich, Prague and the Alps!
Travel to Berlin, Dresden, Prague, Nuremburg, Munich (& Dachau), Innsbruck and Lucerne during Spring break 2004 (approximately March 5-15). Approximate cost is: $1,513 for people under 25 years old and $1,818 for people 25 years old and over (insures you a double room). Price includes flight to Europe and back, all transportation in Europe, 8 overnight stays in good hotels with private bathrooms, (really good) breakfasts and dinners every day, all sightseeing tours and special attractions. You can choose to pay a bit more for trips to Potsdam & Mt. Pilatus, and a Swiss Folklore Evening. The trip can be taken for college credit under Speech 2210: Field Experience in Intercultural Communications in Europe (3 credits). The cost of those credits are extra. The prices listed above are good through June 2003. If we get enough registrants early enough, we will be able to insure a lower cost. **Warning:** The trip may change depending on other registrants with the tour company. Our second choice excursion is similar to above, but is an 11-day excursion, adding Budapest, and is about $180 more. Please tell students and friends from the community about the trip!
Contact: Gary Dreier (285-7555) gary.dreier@roch.edu.