May 21, 2001
Volume 6, Issue 34
SUMMER EDITION

Inside this Issue
Summer Crossings – Pg 2
Publication dates
Goddard Library News – Pg 2
Supalla Scribblings – Pg 3
Event Schedule – see web
http://www.roch.edu/rctc/about/html/weeklyschedule.htm

Attachments
❖ Basketball Camp
For guys and girls in grades 4-12

HAVE A GREAT SUMMER!

College Crossings

Recipients for vacation donation program
Listed below are the new individuals who have been approved as recipients 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 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.

Bruce Lattu - Transportation
William Ruhl - Economic Security

Happy Anniversary!
Help recognize the employees who’s “anniversary” with the College occurs in May. Congratulations to…..

May
Vern Bushlack, Instructor of Horticulture 5/14/1971
Jack Denny, Building Services Supervisor 5/25/1977
Lori Halverson-Wente, Instructor of Speech 5/26/1999
Robert Patnaude, Instructor of Carpentry 5/30/1973
Roxanne Roadway, Assistant to the Dean of Continuing Education and Workforce Development 5/26/1987
Scott Sahs, Faculty Instructional Technical and Support 5/7/1996
David Stephenson, Instructor of Networking Specialist 5/13/1998
Donald Supalla, President 5/27/1972
Joan Young, Instructor of Administrative Information Systems 5/27/1970

Thank you
Thank you to all who participated in the 2001 Commencement Ceremony on Friday, May 11, 2001. A lot of time and effort is put into organizing the evening for our students, and the attendance by the faculty, staff, and administration is greatly appreciated by those students. We were very pleased to have almost 400 of the eligible 950+ candidates participate in the ceremony. A record number for RCTC. We were also pleased to have 46 of those students eligible for a 4.0 grade-point average, also another record! Special thanks to the Office of the Interim Vice President of Student Affairs (Bonnie Mercer and Audrey Clausen), along with the other members of the commencement task force, for another outstanding job of ensuring a successful evening for our graduates!

Evening Administration
June 4-7 - Tim Gilsrud
June 11-14 - Judy Harris
They can be reached at x7262.
Summer food service program
RCTC Upward Bound is participating in the Summer Food Service Program. Meals will be provided to all program participants without charge. Acceptance and participation requirements for the program and all activities are the same for all regardless of race, color, national origin, gender, age or disability, and there will be no discrimination in the course of the meal service. Lunch will be provided at Rochester Community and Technical College from June 11 through July 13, 2001. Any person who believes he or she has been discriminated against in any USDA-related activity should write immediately to: USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326-W, Whitten Building, 14th Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410.

Summer Crossings
As follows are the summer publication dates for the College Crossings. The deadline will be 3:00pm the preceding Thursday. June 18, 2001; July 16, 2001; August 13, 2001.

Regular issues for Fall Semester begin August 23, 2001.

Goddard Library reminder

Summer hours begin June 4. Enter via the temporary entrance across from the RCTC president's office.

Monday - Thursday: 8:00 am - 8:00 pm
Friday: 8:00 am - 4:00 pm
Saturday: 10:00 am - 2:00 pm
Sunday: Closed

Yellowjacket Golf Outing
Don’t forget to sign up for the Yellowjacket Golf Outing on Friday, June 8 at the Willow Creek Golf Course. Registration forms and more information available from Carol Nurmi.
Supalla’s Scribblings

Commencement 2001 was RCTC’s biggest and best ever. More than 350 of this year’s 950 candidates for graduation crossed the Mayo Civic Center Arena stage on May 11 to accept their certificates, diplomas or degrees. Jermaine Davis delivered a motivational message urging students to pursue careers for the love of the work rather than for the potential paycheck. A big THANK YOU to the Commencement Planning Task Force, Admissions and Records staff, and all employees who participated in this important celebration. Special thanks for remarks shared by students Mark Edwards and Vanessa Reuter, GRAUC/Foundation representative John Wade, and Trustee Brataas. Although the date of next year’s Commencement stays the same, the venue will likely switch to UCR’s new Sports Center. See you there.

RCTC’s FY02 budget remains in limbo while the legislature struggles to wrap up the biennial budget work by the May 20 deadline. The Higher Education Conference Committee has been meeting almost daily but still hasn’t been able to agree on a budget target. With the prospect of a special session becoming more likely with each passing day, it could be sometime before the System Office will be able to project our state appropriation for the upcoming academic year. The MnSCU Board of Trustees will discuss tuition and fee proposals at May 30 committee meetings, will likely conduct its “first reading” at the May 31 Board of Trustees meeting, and will set tuition and fees at the June meeting. RCTC has proposed raising tuition by 10 percent and increasing the technology fee from the current $5/credit to MnSCU’s maximum allowable $8/credit. Until the Legislature and Governor reach resolution on MnSCU’s appropriation and the Trustee’s establish tuition rates, RCTC’s FY02 budget situation remains unclear. Expect updates throughout the summer as funding levels are finalized.

Retiree Tom Ostrom continues to write a dynamite column for the Post-Bulletin. And, every once in a while he finds a way to weasel in a tidbit or two of information about his former employer. Such was the case last week in this column, Creativity the rule with RCTC staff, when he took time to recognize the talents of his retired and still teaching social science colleagues. We are indeed fortunate to have a quality faculty and staff who make RCTC a great place to learn and work. Thanks, Tom!

Vern Bushlack and Robin Fruth-Dugstad were all smiles last week following the opening of construction bids for the new Horticulture Technology Center. The architect had budgeted construction costs at $3,177,000 but when the final bid was opened, all six bids came in under budget. The contract of just under $3 million has been awarded to Schroeder-Leverington. MnSCU facility rep Barry Schaub was also smiling after the bid opening as Schroeder-Leverington has been contracted for all three major RCTC projects. The Sports Center work continues on schedule, technology center renovation is moving full-speed ahead, and the groundbreaking ceremony for the Horticulture Technology Center is scheduled for June 6.

Congratulations to Tim Gilsrud, Kathy Miller, Deb Rogne and Anita Yu whose faces graced the photo of this year’s Leadership Greater Rochester Class of 2001. Any RCTC staff member interested in participating in the 2002 class of Leadership Greater Rochester is urged to immediately contact the Chamber of Commerce at 288-1122 or chamber@rochestermchnchamber.com to receive an application. RCTC picks up the cost of this leadership training opportunity that includes a two-day retreat and eight full-day sessions. Check it out!

Market Data Retrieval’s annual survey on the use of technology in colleges reveals the Internet has become ubiquitous. In 2000, 100% of colleges reported that they provide Internet access to students in the library, followed closely by the computer lab, at 94%. Also, 41% offer Internet access in student centers and nearly two-thirds (64%) of colleges now offer access in classrooms (up from 49% in 1999).
Art and Science Group, a higher ed consulting firm, and Embark, an online resource for students, conducted a “Sources of Influence Over Students Final College Choice” survey that found students’ choice of college were influenced by:

- Visit to Campus 69%
- Parents/Family 46%
- Current Students 32%
- College Web Site 31%
- Admissions Staff 31%
- Catalogs/Viewbooks 30%
- Graduates 24%
- Friends 23%
- Rankings 17%
- Guidance Counselor 16%
- WWW/Internet 5%

**Thought for the summer…**

*Change is not an easy thing for human beings.*

*Change agents are not necessarily always your favorite person.*

– Bob Herbold, Microsoft

May the Memorial Day weekend be restful, relaxing and refreshing. Until the next Scribblings, stay safe!  

*Don*