Employee Recognition – July 2004

Congratulations to Jon Benson for being named RCTC's Best Bee of the month for July 2004!!!

Jon Benson works in the Goddard Library as an Information Systems Technician. Jon has worked for RCTC for 13 years. Jon is very always willing to help no matter how busy he is or whatever he is doing. Jon is dedicated and displays a positive attitude on a daily basis. He is an expert in his field.

Jon promotes diversity by helping international students and goes out of his way to help all students. When the library went to a new check-out system, Jon was very involved and very knowledgeable in training the other employees how to work with the new system.

In closing, Jon's nominator states, "I can only say, Jon Benson is a super person as well as a wonderful co-worker. RCTC is fortunate to have someone like Jon working in the UCR library." Thank you Jon and congratulations on being named the "Best Bee of the Month"! Jon will receive the "up front" parking space for the month of July at the UCR campus.

Welcome!

With the beginning of the fiscal year, we are delighted to welcome two new (permanent) vice presidents to the RCTC family.

Dr. Michael Bequette, Vice President of Teaching and Learning - Mike arrives at RCTC from Riverland Community College, previously serving as Vice President of Academic Affairs. He brings extensive two-year college administrative experience to the position and is familiar with both MnSCU and RCTC. In addition, Mike has AQIP and continuous improvement experience, a long-standing history of developing collaborative partnerships, and a network of local, regional and national colleagues.

Dr. Stanley Cram, Vice President of Student Development and Services - Stan comes to RCTC from Kankakee Community College (Illinois), where he served as Dean of Students. Stan brings a wealth of student service experience to the position, having held leadership positions at Kankakee Community College, Mount Senario College, Kirkwood Community College and Vennard College. His education, experience, and continuous improvement philosophy made him an excellent choice for this important position.
Congratulations!
We are delighted to announce Rose Conway has added another grandchild to her family. Paige Elizabeth Johnson arrived June 23, weighing in at 8 lbs. 14 oz, and 20 1/2 inches long. Congratulations, Rose on this new addition to your family!

Congratulations!
Congratulations are extended to RCTC Retiree, Gordon Meyers, and his wife, Mary Ellen Meyers, who observed their 50th wedding anniversary on June 26. Their children hosted a private celebration party in their honor.

Gordon was an instructor in biology from 1965-1991.

New Travel Regulations
RCTC owned vehicles/motor pool owned vehicles can no longer be taken out state. These vehicles are to be driven in Minnesota only. The Tort Claim Act cap does not apply outside of the state so there is a possibility of large losses in the event of an accident. If you are traveling to Wisconsin, Iowa, North Dakota, or South Dakota and choose to rent a vehicle, a State of MN contract has been created with Enterprise Rent-A-Car. According to the contract, State employee's are the only ones authorized to drive a vehicle from Enterprise. Students are not authorized. (See below for further contract information and procedures.) When traveling outside of the states listed above, if choosing to rent a vehicle, a general car rental company should be used because the contract with Enterprise will not apply. RCTC has used Kuehn Motors and Clements Chevrolet. You are not limited to these vendors. Please remember to waive the insurance provision because the institution's automobile policy thru the State of MN will provide insurance coverage. If you decide to use your personal vehicle for out state business, your personal insurance company will assume total liability for any occurrence. You will be able to receive the rate for "no state vehicle available".

When renting from Enterprise Rent-A-Car, please bring down or send me your approved travel request form which will need to indicate that you are renting a vehicle from Enterprise. I will then give you the purchase order number. This P.O. # must be given to Enterprise to reserve your vehicle. After receiving the P.O. #, you can call Enterprise to reserve your vehicle at either of the following two phone numbers: 282-9190 424 37th St NE, Ste #2 or 529-5505 1000 12th St SW. All rentals are to be made in the name of the State of Minnesota to ensure insurance coverage. If traveling to other states than what is listed above and you choose to rent a vehicle, please bring down or send me your approved travel request form which will need to indicate that you are going to be renting a vehicle. I will need to know what vendor you are using. I will then create a purchase order and get back to you with the P.O. #. This P.O. # must be given to the vendor at the time you are reserving your vehicle. Please verify with the vendor the age that a driver can be. It used to be 25. It could differ from vendor to vendor depending on their insurance coverage.

Please remember that we can no longer rent 12 or 15 passenger vans.

If you have questions, concerning these changes or procedures, please feel free to give Carol Naatz X-2880, Ruth Siefert X-7472 or myself X-7213 a call.
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WANTED: Used cartridges and cell phones...This year America's landfills will end up with laser, inkjet, fax and copier cartridges & cell phones which are recyclable. Help save the environment and raise funds for a local non-profit by sending your items for recycling to: Roxy Roadway-Box 3. Please be sure you do not send RCTC laser printer cartridges as the college currently recycle those. Thank you for your consideration and participation in this program.

FOR SALE: Immediate possession. One bedroom, full bath, 3rd floor, Valhalla Condo. Maintenance free living with indoor/outdoor pools, sauna and exercise room. Residents also have access to a party room, patio and gas grills. Home is equipped with a security system. Lots of storage, new carpet, new counters, new air conditioner, new linoleum and professionally painted. Cable TV and heat included in association.
All assessments are paid by seller and is FHA approved. Listing price $49,900. For information please contact Darci Prasser, 285-9824.

FOR SALE: white bedroom set -- chest of drawers, dresser, attached mirror with jewelry box base, desk, bookshelf hutch with light, chair, bedside table; sold only as a set; like-new condition; all wood; $350 or best offer; you haul; Julie.Rodakowski@roch.edu

Where Are They Now?

FROM THE RCTC FOUNDATION OFFICE: While working on tracking down alumni and learning more about the achievements of graduates of RCTC, information is stumbled on that highlights the quality of education available at RCTC and the caliber of many students that pass through these halls. When such stories are discovered they are worth sharing. Look for these stories intermittently, whenever a discovery of a former graduate of interest is found.

RICHARD M. CLUGSTON JR., Class of 1969
Rick Clugston is executive director of Center for Respect of Life and Environment (CRLE) and University Leaders for a Sustainable Future (ULSF), and publisher and editor of Earth Ethics. CRLE focuses on the following program areas: the Greening of Academia, Religion and Ecology, the Earth Charter Initiative, and Sustainable Livelihoods and Sustainable Communities.

Prior to coming to Washington, Dr. Clugston worked for the University of Minnesota for 11 years, first as a faculty member in the College of Human Ecology, and later as a strategic planner in Academic Affairs, Continuing Education and the Office of the President. He was a consultant to the State Department of Education, the Minnesota Business Partnership, and various colleges and school systems on educational improvement. Dr. Clugston has taught and published on human development, strategic planning, educational reform, and most recently on environmental ethics, spirituality and sustainability.

He received his doctorate in Higher Education from the University of Minnesota (1987), and his masters in Human Development from the University of Chicago (1977). After graduating from then RCC, he entered the University of Minnesota (1975) as an undergraduate psychology and biochemistry major. He received the Mayo Foundation Scholarship for Medicine and Medicine Related Fields. His doctoral thesis was selected as dissertation of the year by the American Association of University Administrators.
If you know of other graduates who have achieved success after leaving RCTC, please pass on their stories to Judy Bird and the RCTC Foundation.
Remaining Crossings Summer Publication Dates
August 16th

Please submit all items to be published to Jenee McGurren via e-mail by 3:00pm the preceding Thursday.

Condolences
It is with sorrow that we announce the passing away of Coler Eugene Peterson (retired Rochester Area Vocational Technical Institute instructor) on Monday, July 12. He was 74 years old. Coler was an auto mechanics instructor back in the 1970s, and later taught diesel mechanics for the college. Our thoughts are with the Peterson family.

Thank You
My family and I want to thank my colleagues at RCTC for all the cards and donations since the death of my mother. Your support is appreciated. Thank you.

Anne Benson