WELCOME BACK!
College Crossings will begin its weekly publication beginning with this issue. Please feel free to submit items of interest to be shared with your colleagues including department news, campus happenings, training opportunities, etc. The deadline for submission is 3:00pm the preceeding Thursday. All items can be sent electronically to jenee.mcgurren@roch.edu. Crossings is also the official place to list your “for sale”, “for rent”, etc. classified listings. Please keep these items to 25 words or less and include a home phone number.

RCTC Policies
It is every RCTC employee's responsibility to familiarize themselves with, and adhere to, state, system, and college policies. All MnSCU and RCTC policies are available through the RCTC website.

Policies include information on, but not limited to:
- Acceptable Use of Computers and Information Technology Resources
- Fraudulent or Other Dishonest Acts
- Fundraising and Resource Development
- Gifts and Grants Acceptance
- Possession or Carry of Firearms
- Reports/Complaint of Discrimination/Harassment Investigation and Resolution
- Sexual Violence
- State Employee Ethical Obligations
- Student Data Practices
- Student Excused Absences
- Weather/Emergency Closings
- Zero Tolerance of Workplace Violence

To find a policy, go to http://www.rctc.edu/policies/, type a keyword to search or choose from the list of categories provides. The website is intended to function as a convenient reference. Although the site is updated regularly, it is impossible to guarantee complete accuracy at all times. In the event of any discrepancy between the policy documents formally approved and the policies listed on the website, the former shall be the governing version.

Academic Calendar
Attached to this week’s Crossings is a complete 2004/05 academic calendar. The calendar may also be accessed via the intranet site at: http://www.rctc.edu/intra/academic_calendar.html
Weekly Funny

www.4allfree.com

Help!!! Could somebody please press the escape key? I'm stuck in this program again!

All-College Committees
The RCTC All-College Committees are recruiting memberships for the 2004-2005 academic year. Memberships are determined annually and include faculty, staff, and student representatives. Please visit the RCTC Intranet web site at: http://www.rtc.edu/intra/all-college_committees.html for more information on each of the committees:

General College Committees:
- Facilities, Grounds, Safety, and Security Committee (although a contractual committee, membership is expanded to include representatives throughout UCR)
- Fiscal Committee
- Employee Relations Committee

Faculty/Academic Committees:
- Assessment/Institutional Effectiveness Committee
- Academic Standards Committee
- Technology/Distance Education Committee
- International Studies/ESL Committee

PARTICIPATION IN ALL-COLLEGE COMMITTEES: Non-faculty members interested in serving on one or more of these committees should contact Judy Kingsbury. Faculty members interested in serving on one or more of these committees should submit their names through Gregg Wright.

Years of Service Awards
As part of the Staff Development Day Agenda, Years of Service Awards were given to a large group of people this year. Congratulations on your achievements at RCTC! If you were not able to attend the day and your name is on the list attached to this week's Crossings, the awards will be distributed to you over the next few weeks.

New Article Databases have Arrived!
The Library has added new and revised additions of its collection as of July 1, 2004. Article Databases can be accessed on the Library's Homepage (http://www.roch.edu/library), by scrolling to the "Article Databases" link and clicking on "List by Title". Select a database to search by clicking on a database title. Further assistance is available in Goddard Library.

Greetings!
I wanted to say just how pleased I am to be here at RCTC. I am very much looking forward to working with all UCR staff in the next days and weeks. I believe in what we are trying to accomplish in teaching and learning: it is important work, today more than ever. Please let me know if there is anything I can do to be of assistance in your efforts to meet our mission.

Mike Bequette
Vice President of Teaching and Learning
mike.bequette@roch.edu

Acknowledgement of Significant Events
RCTC is a family, and throughout the year significant events occur in the lives of our family members. This may include the birth or adoption of a child, hospitalization of an employee, or the passing away of a loved one. The Office of the President, in accordance with MnSCU Expense Allowance Policies, wants to acknowledge these events and respectfully requests your assistance. Understanding the receiving of news or acknowledgments of significant events is a college-wide process, the Office of the President requests employee's receiving information of such events notify Judy Kingsbury either via telephone (x7216) or e-mail (judy.kingsbury@roch.edu), with logistical details (i.e. occasion, hospital, funeral home, etc.). Upon confirmation of the information, appropriate arrangements will be made to acknowledge the event.
Supalla’s Scribblings

Welcome Back! Many thanks to the Staff Development Task Force that put together an excellent two-day program. Please take a few minutes to respond to the electronic survey of the days’ activities so that planning reps can continue to deliver a program that meets your wants and needs. Finishing touches are being put on a number of projects around campus….Singley Hall lecture room seating, Art Hall windows, parking lot signage, parking lot painting…most of which will be completed prior to the arrival of students. Some final work on each of these projects as well as ongoing campus improvements will continue even after the semester commences. Please be patient and helpful with both students and colleagues as the new year begins.

It looks likely that when the final numbers are sorted out, fall semester enrollments will be up 4-6 percent. This significant increase in students will likely push RCTC headcount over the 6,000 mark. Since most students will drive individually during the first week, parking will most likely be a problem; especially after Winona State classes begin. Staff and Student Ambassadors will be stationed in the Atrium and at other entrances during the first few days and nights of the semester to help new students find classrooms and respond to questions. If you find a student or staff member looking lost or bewildered, please direct them (or better yet, take them) to their destination. Thanks for helping make RCTC a user-friendly, student-centered, customer-driven college.

RCTC has received a second round of funding for our diversity and anti-racism initiative on white privilege. The $7500 grant comes from the Otto Bremer Foundation through the MnSCU Equal Opportunity and Diversity Division. The title of the grant, “White Privilege and Social Justice: Awareness to Action,” is a collaboration with the Rochester Diversity Council. The project will involve workshops, presentations, and a special publication of the Yellowjacket Review that addresses racism, privilege and social justice projects. Specifically involved parties include Rochester Law Enforcement, Olmsted County Social Services, Mayo High School, Upward Bound, and RCTC Student Ambassadors and Senators. Special thanks to Teresa Tolmie for making this grant possible.

Did you know Minnesota is prosperous? Here’s how we stack up against other states…

- #1 Women labor force participation
- #2 Lowest poverty rate among the 50 states
- #2 Home ownership
- #2 Percent with at least a high school diploma
- #4 Men labor force participation
- #4 Percent with health insurance
- #8 Family median income
- #9 Percent with college diploma
- #15 Family median income more than $150,000

(All facts from the 2002 Census, current revisions, the Department of Homeland Security, with special recognition to the State Demographer’s Office)

With the start of classes, we often experience a rash of fender-benders on campus. A recent report by the Quality Planning Corp. noted the number of auto accidents per year for every 1,000 people in each occupation and how they rank in a study of 40 occupations:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>#1</th>
<th>Student (152)</th>
<th>#2</th>
<th>Physician (109)</th>
<th>#3</th>
<th>Lawyer (106)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>#4</td>
<td>Architect (105)</td>
<td>#5</td>
<td>Real Estate Broker (102)</td>
<td>#6</td>
<td>Enlisted Military (99)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#7</td>
<td>Social Worker (98)</td>
<td>#8</td>
<td>Manual Laborer (96)</td>
<td>#9</td>
<td>Systems Analyst (95)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#10</td>
<td>Engineer (94)</td>
<td>#11</td>
<td>Consultant (94)</td>
<td>#12</td>
<td>Sales</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Others:</td>
<td></td>
<td>#14</td>
<td>Nurse (90)</td>
<td>#15</td>
<td>School Administrator (90)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>#26</td>
<td>Dentist (86)</td>
<td>#29</td>
<td>Teacher/Professor (84)</td>
<td>#40</td>
<td>Farmer (43)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Thought for the Week…

“Americans are incredibly impatient. Someone once said that the shortest period of time in America is the time between when the light turns green and when you hear the first horn honk.” — Jim Rohn

Please be patient with our new enrollees and each other as we embark on the new year. Thanks! 

Don
Scholarship Fundraiser

Former Minnesota State Colleges and Universities trustee, Robert Erickson, will embark on his third scholarship fundraiser armed with donation pledge cards, one change of clothes and a strong message about the need to change Minnesota's financial aid program. Erickson will begin a bicycle tour to all 53 of the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities on Monday, August 23, to raise money and build public support for making more financial aid available to Minnesota's part-time college students, many of whom balance college with family and full-time work. Erickson is expected to be arriving at RCTC on Tuesday, September 21 around 11:00 a.m. If you are interested in making a pledge, you may complete the pledge form attached and mail it to the MnSCU Foundation at 30 East Seventh Street, 500 Wells Fargo Place, St. Paul, 55101. Please note pledges may be designated to either the MnSCU Foundation, or to a local college/university foundation.