WELCOME to a new academic year of College Crossings!!

RCTC policies
It is every RCTC employee’s responsibility to familiarize themselves with, and adhere to, state, system, and college policies. All RCTC policies may be accessed through the RCTC website or by going directly to the following web address: http://www.rctc.edu/policies/. To find a policy, type a keyword to search or choose from the list of categories provided.

The website is intended to function as a convenient reference for all members of the Rochester Community and Technical College community. 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 policy listed on this website, the former shall be the governing version.

The following policies were recently modified and adopted with implementation beginning Fall Semester, 2002. A full version of the policies may be accessed via the web address noted above:

Student Excused Absences (Policy 2.8.4)
Student Stipends (Policy 2.8.5)
Student Activities and Clubs (Policy 2.8.2)
Campus Activity Board (Policy 2.8.1)
Student Conduct (Policy 3.6)

RCTC Open Forums
Mark your calendars now for the RCTC Open Forums scheduled for 2002-2003: October 23, 2002; December 12, 2002; February 27, 2003; April 9, 2003

These forums provide an opportunity for all employees to discuss concerns and share ideas and information with the RCTC Leadership Cabinet in an informal setting. More details on the times and room location will be published in future Crossings.

Evening Administration
August 26-29 – Don Supalla
September 3-5 – Tim Gilsrud

The evening administrator can be reached at x7262.
Weekly funny…

"Try not to watch the clock. It only makes your day seem to go slower."

CORRECTION
Apologies to Alex and Amy Kromminga for the misspelling of their baby’s name in last week’s Crossings. The baby’s name is Zack!

Thank you
Thanks to all faculty and staff for cards, memorials and other acts of sympathy shown to me when my sister, LaVonne, passed away. It will long be remembered.

Bill Knutson and Family

Fall in . . . To fun!

Fall Fest – Wednesday, August 28, 2002
10:00 am to 1:00 pm – Atrium

FREE GRILLED PICNIC LUNCH; Walk Around Performer; Caricatures; Music on Wheels; Face/hand painting; Tarot Card Readers; Student Club Events; Sports Cage; Velcro Wall; First & Goal; Flip Your Lid; Boxing; Bungee Run; Dunk Tank AND MORE!!! See attachment to this week’s Crossings for a complete dunk tank schedule!

Important dates to remember

When are the RCTC Open Forums scheduled?
When will the Holiday Reception be held?
When does Curriculum Council meet?

Information on these and other important dates throughout the year may be obtained by accessing the Employee Calendar through the RCTC Faculty/Staff website. Additional information/dates will be added to the calendar throughout the year, so please utilize this website for Important Dates to Remember!

Farewell Reception for Maureen Hart
Maureen Hart, Director of the CHOICES Displaced Homemaker Program for the past 12 1/2 years will be retiring on August 30th. Please join us for a reception to wish her well on Wednesday, August 28th between 2:30 and 5:00 p.m. at Heintz Center in room C-109. If you have not already done so, this will also be an opportunity to meet our new director, Sue Swanson.
Supalla’s Scribblings

We’re off and running…and very glad you’re in the race. An excited and eager group of new faculty and staff (young, too!) arrived on campus Tuesday for orientation. Based on their comments and the number who returned to continue the orientation on Wednesday, they’re pleased to have joined the RCTC team. New and returning employees are gearing up for Monday’s return of students by engaging in some interesting and educational staff development activities. As a new academic year begins, it seems appropriate to share an article by Nancy Kracke, MSBA JOURNAL editor. Although it’s a story about a high school sophomore, it could just have easily a college sophomore (but never an RCTC student).

A long-time friend invited us to dinner and as we munched appetizers she started to talk about her daughter’s sophomore year in high school. This is a family with high expectations for their daughters, both very dedicated to making sure their children receive a good education. Their first daughter struggled with the realities of a large high school and they moved her to a smaller private school where she blossomed. Their younger daughter remained in the public school, but my friend was not sure that was wise decision. She was watching her daughter drop out of the two things that had meant so much to her in years past: volleyball and cello.

The music teacher had told her daughter that she would never be an excellent cellist. This prediction seemed to deflate Lizzie and she decided to quit orchestra. “Where does he get off telling her that?” my friend fumed. “She’s not going to be excellent? So what? She doesn’t need to be an excellent player. We just want her to learn as much as possible and be able to appreciate music as an adult. I wasn’t an excellent clarinetist in school, but I enjoyed the experience of playing in the orchestra. I learned a lot about music and performance.”

Lizzie’s volleyball dreams faded when she was not selected for the varsity team but her long-time teammates were. Playing for fun seemed out of the question because now she felt inadequate. My friend grieved this loss of confidence in her daughter. “When did volleyball become such a big deal in school?”

I share this story as a cautionary tale…something to think about as 2002 begins. Certainly Lizzie’s attitudes and her reactions are her own and not the responsibility of the school. But I think it’s important to reaffirm that even as schools are committed to excellence, there also needs to be room for the “pretty good.” This isn’t really Lake Wobegon; all of our kids are not above average. Learners of all abilities need to find encouragement in our schools. All of us understand that. We’re committed to that. But sometimes you hear a story about a specific student getting a different message and you just sort of cringe. Leave room for the “pretty good.” We still have work to do.

For nearly 10 years, research from the Harvard School of Public Health College Alcohol Study has consistently shown the damage a drink can do. Binge drinking is defined as five drinks in a row for a man, four for a woman. At the center for binge drinking are the fraternities, sororities and intercollegiate sports. Here are some startling statistics from our latest survey of 10,000 students at 119 colleges:

- 57 percent of male and 48 percent of female athletes are binge drinkers
- 54 percent of college students living off campus without their parents were binge drinker
- 48 percent of all alcohol college students drink is consumed by those below the legal drinking age

Some would have you believe that the problem isn’t widespread and that there have been major successes in curbing it. However, the overall binge-drinking rate has remained at 44 percent for eight years running. For more information on college binge drinking, visit [www.hsph.harvard.edu/cas](http://www.hsph.harvard.edu/cas).

A recent report, Meeting Needs and Making Profits: The Rise of For-Profit Degree-Granting Institutions, is available on the ECS Web site at [www.ecs.org](http://www.ecs.org). Click on the Education Issues button on the home page, and then go to the For-Profit/Proprietary Issue Site. The report sites the following Conditions Affecting All Sectors of Higher Education:

- Relative growth in minority population
- Growth in the traditional college-age population
Increased college-going rates
Increased adult participation rates
Increased economic value of college degrees
Increased number of jobs requiring post-secondary preparation
Rapid changes in job skills
Advances in technology-driven instruction

The report also lists the Common Strengths of For-Profit Degree-Granting Institutions:
Customer orientation
Academic and personal support services
Accelerated programs
Convenient locations and schedules
Technology-delivered or enhance curriculum
Career-oriented degree programs
Hands-on approaches to instruction
Short program development cycle
Availability of capital for program development and technology

Although these are listed as strengths of for-profit providers…aren’t these the same strengths that make RCTC the first choice for occupational training, liberal arts transfer course work, and retraining and upgrading offerings?

Thought for the Week…
"The mediocre teacher tells. The good teacher explains. The superior teacher demonstrates. The great teacher inspires."
--William Arthur Ward

May you inspire all you come in contact with this week and in the weeks ahead. Have a great year!

Upcoming Student Life events

Brian Brushwood, Entertainer, Bizarre Magic!: Tues., Aug. 27, 11:30-1 pm, South Room
Fall Fest: Wed., August 28, 10am-1pm - Outside Atrium
911 Commemorative: TO BE ANNOUNCED
Evening Cook-Out: Wed., Sept. 4, 5p m till gone – East Entrance
Concert, Gilligan Loves MaryAnn: Wed., September 18, 11am-1pm – South Room
Coffeehouse Concert, Doug Wood: Tues., Sept. 25, 11am-1pm, Quite Lounge

- REMINDER -

Employees and students should watch their belongings during the first few weeks of school?
There's always a rash of thefts of purses, backpacks and textbooks the first month of school, and we need to remind everyone to be careful.
RCTC Upward Bound Silent Auction
Please plan to stop by the Upward Bound silent auction display during fall fest and make a bid on one or more of the following items available:

- *Suede and mink baby booties*
- “For Girls Only” basket
- Minnesota State Lottery sweatshirt, tote bag & poncho
- Framed, autographed, picture of Douglas Fairbanks Jr.
- “Dog Lovers” gift toe of goodies
- “Naughty Thoughts” pot and two other ceramic pots
- *Halloween goodies in a Trick or Treat Bag*
- Rochester Art Center Family Membership
- Handmade glass kaleidoscope

Bids accepted from 10 a.m. – 1 p.m. only.

Student Health Services is open for 2002-2003.
Services provided to available to students:
- First aid/illness care including strep throat tests, mononucleosis tests, pregnancy tests, and simple urinary tract infections
- Over-the-counter medications such as Tylenol, ibuprofen, and Sudafed
- Health Screenings (physical examinations, tuberculosis testing, blood pressure screenings)
- Health education and information
- Special parking permits
- More…

Staff: Katie Swegarden, RN, BSN is here Monday - Friday - appointments are requested, but walk-ins are accepted. Dr. Mike Mesick is here Thursday afternoons - appointments are required.
Cost: Most services are free. A minimal fee is charged for certain services.
Hours: Monday - Friday 7:30 - 3:30
Location: First floor Rockenbach Gym (RG115)
Phone: 285-7261
E-mail: RCTC.healthservices@roch.edu

Condolences
We are sorry to announce that David MacLeod's father (Donald MacLeod) passed away of Alzheimer's disease on Friday (August 23) at the Charter House Health Care Center. Our thoughts go out to David and his family.

GODDARD LIBRARY AND LIBRARY TECHNOLOGY CENTER HOURS
FALL SEMESTER 2002
August 26-December 20, 2002

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<tr>
<th>Day</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday-Thursday</td>
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<td>Friday</td>
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<td>Saturday</td>
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<td>Sunday</td>
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(Breaks and Holidays Hours Subject to Change)
CLOSED: September 2, November 28 & 29
Educational Technology Services Faculty Development Sessions

Tue 9/3/02 - 10-11:50am: What is WebCT?
Thu 9/5/02 - 2-3:50pm: What is WebCT?
Tue 9/10/02 - 10-11:50am: On-line grade books and syllabus
Thu 9/12/02 - 2-3:50pm: Groupwise Beginner
Tue 9/17/02 - 10-11:50am: Groupwise Beginner
Thu 9/19/02 - 2-3:50pm: On-line grade books and syllabus
Thu 9/24/02 - 11-12:50am: Projects Open Lab
Thu 9/26/02 - 2-3:50pm: Projects Open Lab

Wed 10/2/02 - 11-12:50am: Respondus and WebCT
Thu 10/3/02 - 2-3:50pm: Excel Beg/Int
Wed 10/9/02 - 11-12:50am: Excel Beg/Int
Thu 10/10/02 - 2-3:50pm: Respondus and WebCT
Wed 10/16/02 - 11-12:50am: Scanning and Digital Cameras
Thu 10/17/02 - 2-3:50pm: Scanning and Digital Cameras
Wed 10/23/02 - 11-12:50am: Powerpoint Basics
Thu 10/24/02 - 2-3:50pm: Projects Open Lab
Wed 10/30/02 - 10-11:50am: Projects Open Lab
Thu 10/31/02 - 2-3:50pm: Powerpoint Basics

Mon 11/4/02 - 10-11:50am: DreamWeaver Website creation
Thu 11/7/02 - 2-3:50pm: Access Databases
Mon 11/11/02 - 10-11:50am: Access Databases
Thu 11/14/02 - 2-3:50pm: DreamWeaver Website creation
Mon 11/18/02 - 10-11:50am: Projects Open Lab
Thu 11/21/02 - 2-3:50pm: Projects Open Lab

Tues 12/3/02 - 10-11:50am: WebCT Advanced
Thu 12/5/02 - 2-3:50pm: WebCT Advanced
Tues 12/10/02 - 10-11:50am: Projects Open Lab
Thu 12/12/02 - 2-3:50pm: Projects Open Lab

Call 529-2785 or email scott.sahs@roch.edu to pre-register

Cafeteria Hours for Fall Semester:

8:00 am - 2:00 pm, 3rd floor cafeteria and
8:00 am - 1:00 pm Heintz Center

In addition, watch the grand opening of Cafe Express, near Rockenbach gym.

Sign-Up to Participate in an All-College Committee:
The RCTC All-College Committees are recruiting memberships for the 2002-2003 academic year. Memberships are determined annually and include faculty, staff, and student representatives. Please visit the RCTC Intranet website at http://www.adm.roch.edu/rctc/html/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 AN ALL-COLLEGE COMMITTEE: Non-faculty members interested in serving on one or more of these committees should contact Judy Kingsbury either by e-mail or at extension 7216.

Faculty members interested in serving on one or more of these committees should submit their names through either Gregg Wright or Ed Shafer.