Building from Within

The strength of any institution lies with the people who work for it. In higher education, this is an understatement. For example, where would we be without Microsoft or IBM? Certainly the world would be technologically inferior, but it was working well before computers, word processing, e-mail or the internet. But, let’s ask ourselves where the world would be without education? Pretty scary, huh?

The RCTC Foundation’s mission is to “Promote Excellence in Education Through Philanthropy.” Board members’ responsibility is to attract financial resources to support our college. We work to maintain relationships with current donors, trying to ensure ongoing support. In order to grow and increase scholarship and program support it is important to attract new donors.

Throughout this academic year, the RCTC Foundation is targeting the growth of staff and faculty support as one of its goals. We currently have a wonderful and loyal group of employees who target their philanthropic dollars to the Foundation. We want EVERYONE who works for RCTC to do so. Our goal is to have 100% participation.

We all recognize the importance of the work we do, educating students so they can become successful contributing members of their communities. Our trained and educated students impact local economies and become better citizens. They are not a drain on society, but rather enhance it.

If you already know this, you should be convinced to support the RCTC Foundation. Join with many other staff who already know the importance of such support. Payroll deduction of your contribution makes your gift unnoticed. An hour’s pay per month is almost negligible, but will make a difference. Forms are available in the Foundation office, C120 Heintz Center or the Human Resources Office.

Throughout the year, you will continue to hear messages about how you can make a difference by supporting the RCTC Foundation. Please, consider doing so now and support programs that make a difference to our students.

Food service hours
Yellow Jacket Cafe (UCR Main) 8:00 to 2:00
Heintz Center Cafe 8:00 to 1:00
Cafe Express (By Rockenbach Gym) 11:00 to 2:00 Mon - Thur.
Opening Sept 3rd.
Weekly funny…

"I want to start appealing to a younger demographic. So, from here on out, all sentences will start out with the word 'dude.'"

Thank you notes

Thank you for the lovely plant. Thank you, everyone, for all your kind words, cards and support during and following our loss. A special thank you to the Financial Aid Office for all your wonderful kindness during this very difficult time. We are very grateful.

Linda Kline, Mike and Brenda Janvrin and family

Thank you for 12 1/2 great years of working with RCTC. The support for me and the CHOICES program from so many wonderful people will be a treasured memory!

Maureen Hart

Student Satisfaction Inventory - 2002 Highlights

This past spring RCTC administered the fifth annual Student Satisfaction Inventory (SSI) to measure student satisfaction. The instrument measures satisfaction on a category and item level. Data is disaggregated to analyze results by various demographic groups or by other student characteristics to provide segment level results. To read more about this survey, see the attachment to this week’s Crossings.

Polyester Alert! Polyester Alert! Polyester Alert! Polyester Alert!

A Polyester King and Queen will be crowned on September 17th at the grand opening of “That 70’s Room”

Get out those leisure suits and those plaid slacks.
Students raid your parents or grandparents closets.
Prizes will be awarded.

What is “That 70’s Room?”
A quiet student lounge decorated with furniture right out of the 70’s.
Actually the furniture was purchased in the 70’s and is making a comeback.

“That 70’s Room” is located right next door to health services across from the old gym.

RCTC business cards

RCTC business cards are available to all faculty and staff at RCTC. Effective September 2001, re-orders and new requests will be processed and sent for cutting on the 16th of each month and available the next month. This allows us to take advantage of a cost savings by having a larger grouping of cards cut by our off-campus vendor. Requests that are received after the 13th (must allow time for duplicating) of the current month will not be submitted until the following month’s grouping so please plan accordingly if your supply is getting low. A convenient on-line business card request form has been established on our website at http://www.roch.edu/rctc/marketing/php/sendform2.php. When your finished cards are received, we will deliver them to your mailbox in the mailroom.
Supalla’s Scribblings
Thanks to everyone who contributed and participated in last week’s staff development activities. I heard some very positive comments…and a few suggestions on things we could do to improve future staff development days. This is where you come in! If you haven’t taken a few minutes to complete the paper or electronic evaluation form (link below), please do it now and return it to the Human Resources Office. If you have some concerns about this year’s program and some ideas on how to improve future programs, contact Susanne Sheehan and find out how you can become a member of the planning task force.

http://www.zoomerang.com/survey.zgi?EJ7TVRP1BT38VH69PCK9CMSX

We’re off to a great start. Troy Tynsky reports that we started school with 5,328 students enrolled in credit courses, generated 3,845 FTE, and welcomed 2,085 new students to RCTC. We’re up about 7 percent over last year. Wow! A more detailed follow-up report will be distributed after the drop-add period. Please do what you can to accommodate the needs of our students as we shift from recruitment to retention.

The governmental relations staff from the Office of the Chancellor has just published, 2002 MANDATES AND CURIOSITIES, the annual MnSCU legislative session recap. In short, they wrote…

As difficult as the 2001 Legislative Session was, the Session for 2002 became even more problematic. The events following the September 11, 2001 attack and subsequent economic pressures made it necessary for legislators to consider budgetary changes they had not even anticipated just a few months earlier. With a state projected deficit of more than $2 billion, the net result was a loss of $22.7 million in the appropriation to the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities for the remainder of the biennium. As in every even-numbered year, 2002 was a bonding cycle year. In fact, it seemed that the Legislature would welcome the economic stimulus that could be provided by new construction and other capital projects. The MnSCU bonding request of $250.9 million eventually yielded a package of nearly $209.6 million, the largest amount ever for the system. After vetoes by the governor in response to the state’s budget problems, the system had a solid bonding package of $158.8 million for repair, replacement and capital projects that reflected top priorities.

November’s election results and a new economic forecast will impact 2003 legislation. Stay tuned for updates.

At the start of each academic year, Beloit College drafts a list of events that help employees relate to incoming freshmen, especially those starting college right out of high school. This year’s freshmen remember only Southerners as presidents, have grown up with Fox television, and never experienced AT&T’s telephone monopoly. These are just a few of the reminders on Beloit College’s annual “mind-set list” to help college faculty members, staff, and administrators understand their new students. Most freshmen enrolling straight from high school this year were born in 1984. Based on their birth year, Beloit offers the following tips about freshmen:

- A Southerner has always been president of the United States.
- Richard Burton, Ricky Nelson and Truman Capote have always been dead.
- Cars have always had air bags, CD players, and eye-level rear brake lights.
- Weather reports have always been available 24-hours a day on television.
- Cyberspace has always existed.
- Bruce Springsteen’s "Born in the USA," which hit the airwaves that year, could have been played to celebrate their birth.
- George Foreman has always been a barbecue grill salesman.
- Peter Jennings, Dan Rather, and Tom Brokaw have always anchored the evening news.
- The GM Saturn has always been on the road.
Fox has always been a choice as a television network.  
Women have always had tattoos.  
Cherry Coke has always come in cans.  
A "hotline" is a consumer service rather than a phone used to avoid accidental nuclear war.  
Hip-hop and rap have always been popular musical forms.  
They grew up in minivans.  
Is feeling old really just a “state of mind?”

**Thought for the Week…**

*Better to say nothing and be thought a fool than to open your mouth and remove all doubt.*  
– Mark Twain

Enjoy a safe and relaxing Labor Day weekend.

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**Evening Cookout**

*Wednesday, September 4, 2002*  
*5:00 pm till gone - Outside East Entrance*  
*FREE - Sponsored by CAB*

**Other Upcoming Student Life Events**

911 Commemorative:  
TO BE ANNOUNCED

Concert, Gilligan Loves MaryAnn:  
Wed., September 18, 11am-1pm – South Room

Coffeehouse Concert, Doug Wood:  
Tues., Sept. 25, 11am-1pm, Quite Lounge

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**Celebrating and Appreciating Diversity**

A personal quest to acknowledge and appreciate diversity will be occurring at UCR throughout the academic year.  
Alison Sandberg is a second year student at RCTC, also taking classes on campus though WSU-Rochester Center.  
Earlier this spring, Alison received the first Mike Klampe Memorial Scholarship.

Before he died, Mike requested that the scholarship in his memory not only financially reward a student, but also impact the student more profoundly.  The criteria require the recipient to personally select the next recipient.  The person selected must be of a different culture and opposite sex.

During this academic year, Alison will be searching for a worthy successor.  Someone with the character and ideals that Mike envisioned.  He should be friendly and outgoing, possessing leadership skills and confidence.  Alison is excited about her task, stating, “I think it will be a great year, allowing me to meet a variety of people as well as challenge my observation skills and ability to judge other peoples merits.”  “It will be a growing and learning experience for me,” she added.

If Alison crosses your path during the year, encourage her on this endeavor and if you know of worthy candidates to carry on the assignment, try to make the connection.  Mike Klampe was a unique and forward-thinking individual as his scholarship attests.  By involving the entire campus in his vision, we will build community.
Rochester Community & Technical College  
851 30th Ave SE  
Rochester MN 55904

YELLOWJACKET HOMECOMING
Come Celebrate at the new  
UCR REGIONAL SPORTS COMPLEX  
851 30th Ave SE  
UCR COLLEGE CAMPUS

Saturday, September 21, 2002

Pre-Game Get Together  
UCR REGIONAL SPORTS COMPLEX  
12 noon—1:30 p.m.  
(Tours of sports complex available)

2 p.m. Homecoming Game Kickoff  
Mayo High School Field  
RCTC vs. Central Lakes

Cost is $25.00 and includes

- Lunch and Beverages
  - Door Prizes
  - Game Ticket
- Donation to Champa/Kereakos or Swisher Scholarships
- Drink Ticket to Post-Game Celebration at McMurphy’s  
  (Beer, Wine, Bar Pour or Pop available with ticket)  Hors d’oeuvres will be served

Call Today for Reservations (507) 281-7771!!!!