September 7, 2004
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FALL SEMESTER EDITION

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Event Schedule – see web
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Attachments
❖ Counseling Walk-in Schedule Fall 2004
❖ MN All-State/All-USA Academic Team

Meeting Minutes
Click below:
http://www.rctc.edu/intra/html/meeting_minutes.html

September Best Bee
Congratulations to Margie Barrows for being selected as the Best Bee of the Month for September. Here’s what Margie’s nominator had to say about her: "Margie is a valuable member of the RCTC team. With her positive attitude, she promotes RCTC. Margie performed excellently in answering the many questions that were asked of her as Information Desk Manager during the first week of classes." Margie will receive an upfront parking space at UCR for the month!

UCR Blood Drive Dates
Tuesday, September 28; Wednesday, October 27; Tuesday, November 30 at 301 (new location). Open to students, staff, faculty, and the public. Walk-in appointments are available. To schedule a specific time, call the Mayo Clinic Blood Bank at 284-4475

Flu Shots – Mark Your Calendar!
Flu shots will be available on campus on Wednesday, October 13th from 12:00 - 4:00p.m. Check your e-mail and future Crossings for details.

Minnesota All-State/ All-USA Academic Team
2005 Awards Competition
Nominations are now being sought.
Please see the attachment to this week’s Crossings for more information.
Weekly Funny

Mr. Thompson let go of the bike, and Bobby cycled freely into the new world, never to be seen again.

All-College Committees
The RCTC All-College Committees are still recruiting memberships for the 2004-2005 academic year. Please visit the RCTC Intranet Website at: http://www.rctc.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
  - Affirmative Action Task Force
  - Staff Development Task Force
  - Employee Recognition Task Force

Faculty/Academic Committees:
- Assessment/Institutional Effectiveness Committee
- Academic Standards Committee (faculty volunteers only)
- 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.

If you are interested:
1) Faculty members should submit their names through Gregg Wright.
2) Non-faculty members should contact me either at x7216 or via e-mail.

Yellowjacket News
Mark your calendar to attend RCTC’s first home football game (Parent’s Day) that will be played on the UCR campus on September 11th at 3:00pm. The Yellowjackets won their first game against Northland 35-6.

INTRAMURAL SPORTS: Staff input is requested on what sports to have for intramural athletics at RCTC. Send ideas to Brad LaPlante brad.laplante@roch.edu

Congratulations
Congratulations to Rebecca Kruetzfeldt who married Johnnie Bryant on Saturday, August 28th. We wish Rebecca and Johnnie the best as they begin their new lives together!
Supalla’s Scribblings

The positive comments related to the start of classes shared with me outnumbered suggestions for improvement 25 to 1. The first few weeks of every semester finds stakeholders complaining about a lack of convenient parking places. Although there never was a time when all the overflow lots were full, we are installing better parking lot signage, analyzing what kind of parking fee increase it would take to allow us to extend the west parking lot, encouraging the use of mass transit, and urging students/staff to car pool. On the positive side, there were very few room conflicts, staff assistance was ever-present, and the students I visited with all indicated that they’re off to a very good start. I had a parent seek me out to tell me how impressed she was with the very positive first-day of college experience her daughter had at RCTC. Working the State Fair on Sunday, the parents of a freshman stopped by the MnSCU booth to share that RCTC is their son’s third college experience…and the first two didn’t even come close to delivering the kind of personalized service Andy’s received from RCTC staff. Thanks for getting our students off to a great start!

Speaking of the State Fair…many thanks to Ruth and Chuck Siefert, Marilyn Hansmann and her daughter Laurel, Mike Bequette and Ellen Nelson who joined me last Sunday staffing the MnSCU booth. Thousands of fairgoers stopped by to visit the MnSCU booth in the Education Building, check out program opportunities, pick up application materials, and ask questions.

This week representatives from the College were invited to two meetings that might ultimately lead to new program opportunities. Members of the business community initiated both of these meetings. At the first meeting we discussed the potential for developing an Associate Degree program in Industrial Technology that would include credit for apprenticeship training and work experience. The second involves development of a training program that would prepare graduates for work in a number of broadcasting careers. Deans Lee and Mollberg will be following up.

MnSCU has selected six community projects to receive grants to participate in a Diversity and Anti-Racism Initiative with funding from the Otto Bremer Foundation. The projects bring together teams of college and university faculty, staff and students with representatives from communities of color, K-12 education, law enforcement, city and county government, and business and community organizations. RCTC’s proposal, written by Teresa Tolmie, was one of the proposals funded. This proposal addresses white privilege and the unearned advantage it gives white people. The Rochester Diversity Council will be a major collaborator with RCTC in developing curriculum to train participants to develop dialogue skills. It is expected this will bring about individual and institutional commitment to long-term systemic change in how people of color are treated within the college and the community. Congratulations, Teresa!

Each year, THE CHRONICLE OF HIGHER EDUCATION, summarizes the higher education highlights of the past year, state-by-state. Here’s a bit of what they had to say about Minnesota…When spring came to Minnesota in 2004, it failed to thaw the differences among lawmakers in the state capitol. By May, the Legislature had adjourned, leaving without passing legislation to issue state bonds for colleges and other public entities. The inaction disappointed state college officials, who had been hoping to receive some money for capital projects even as their operating budgets dwindled. In 2003 lawmakers had already cut funds for the two public-university systems’ operating budgets for the 2003-05 biennium. The University of Minnesota received a 15-percent, or $185-million cut, and the state-colleges system a 14.6 percent cut, or $191-million reduction. As appropriations dropped, tuition continued to rise at public institutions. Rates for in-state undergraduates for 2004-05 were set to go up by an average of about 14 percent at the University of Minnesota and 12.4 percent at the state-colleges system. In other news, Governor Tim Pawlenty, a Republican, asked a Minnesota public-interest group, the Citizens League, to conduct a study of the state’s higher-education policies and organization. The group is expected to release its report this fall.

Did you know…
➢ Coralie Fiegel and Tara Hammill authored new recently approved new program proposals. Congratulations!
Marlin Wacholz, former Minnesota Riverland Technical College President, received an Honorary Degree in Business Management from South Central Technical College – Faribault. “Mr. Wacholz dedicated his career to technical education of people in Minnesota. He spent a large part of his career as a vocational agriculture and Farm Business Management instructor and later was appointed president of Southwest Technical College. He concluded his professional career as the first President of Minnesota Riverland Technical College.”

Delores Fridge, MnSCU Associate Vice Chancellor for Equal Opportunity and Diversity, has announced her intention to leave the Office of the Chancellor to join the offices of a major Twin Cities biosciences/research firm. Renee Hogoboom has been named interim director until a search has been completed.

State residents make up 80% of all freshmen enrolled in Minnesota in fall 2000 who had graduated from high school in the previous year; 76% of all Minnesota residents who were freshmen attended college in their home state.

Governor Pawlenty is speaking to Rochester Rotarians in the Heintz Center Commons on Thursday, September 16.

Thought for the Week…

One of the greatest labor-saving inventions of today is tomorrow.

— Vincent T. Foss

I hope you had a relaxing weekend…I’m just back from an extended Labor Day weekend in Wisconsin.

Don

Crossings Classifieds

FOR SALE: Cybex Met 100 exercise bicycle system - high performance trainer, constant power, variable speed, variable resistance, built-in video console, networkable to VCR or other exercycle systems for racing other individual cyclists. Large number of pre-written programs, or manual options. $4,300 new, asking $1,000 OBO. Has low miles, in good condition. Shown by appt. call Colleen Landherr Maddox at 280-3113.

FOR SALE: 35 gallon aquarium with stand, rocks, filter and lots of misc. accessories. $75/OBO. Shelly Peterson 507-932-4290.

FOR SALE: 1997 Jeep Wrangler Sport, 4.0 Liter, 6 Cylinder, 5 Speed, Full Hard Doors, Stored Winters; No Rust, American Racing (brand) Wheels with 31" x 10.5" BF Goodrich Tires, Pioneer MP3 Player; Soundbar, Adult Driven; Well Maintained, Excellent Condition; Clean Inside and Out, Only 55,000 Miles. Asking $10,000 – Jennifer Haug  (507) 289-5595.
**RCTC Foundation Elects New Officers and Directors**

The Rochester Community and Technical College Foundation recently elected new officers as well as one new member to the board of directors.

Barbara Swisher Amundson is the newly elected president. Swisher Amundson is an attorney and partner with Patterson Ostrem Swisher. Fritz Banfield assumes the role of vice-president. He is a partner/agent at Heartman Insurance. Diane Osland continues in her role as secretary. Osland is employed at Gauthier Industries. Mike Malugani was elected as treasurer and is a C.P.A. at Smith Schafer and Associates.

Bob Groettum, Vice President and partner at Schmidt Goodman Office Supplies, has been elected to serve a three year term on the board. He is a 1972 graduate of then Rochester Community College.

Assuming his new role on the board, Groettum stated, “I am very happy to become involved with the foundation of RCTC. As an alumnus I am committed to the school and its mission.” President Swisher Amundson addressed the challenges and opportunities she sees in the upcoming year, “Ongoing funding cuts to higher education make the work of the Foundation even more critical; to provide scholarships for needy students as well enhance the programs at RCTC that have been impacted because of lack of resources. The Foundation is up to the challenge.”

Business and Economics instructor Darlene Voeltz is appointed ex officio representative for the first semester, with Julie Rodakowski will assume that role second semester. Deb Rogne has also been appointed and will serve the full year.

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**You’re invited!**

President Charles Hill presided over Rochester Junior College, Rochester State Junior College, and Rochester Community College from 1953-1982, and we are delighted to announce he will be turning 90 years old next month. To all those that know him, President Hill is extending an invitation to his 90th Birthday:

- **Open House** -
  
  Sunday, September 12, 2004
  
  1:00-3:00 p.m.
  
  Charter House - Cultural Arts Room (1st Floor)

Entertainment will be presented by *Les Fields and the Turkey River All-Stars*. Refreshments will be provided, but President Hill has requested no gifts.

*Please pass the word to others who know President Hill!*