Facilities Master Plan Follow Up

Thank you to those who took time out of their busy schedules to attend one of the three UCR Open Forums yesterday. Several individuals requested the powerpoint presentation be posted on the web for more careful viewing; hence it has been placed on the RCTC Intranet Site. Please go to: http://www.rctc.edu/intra/ and click on "Facilities Master Planning." The presentation is best if viewed in Internet Explorer.

Marilyn Hansmann and Don Supalla look forward to receiving your comments/concerns over the next few days. Your input is very important in the process of completing the UCR Facilities Master Plan.

Art Gallery Opening Reception

You’re invited to attend the Opening Reception of “Battle Red Lipstick” with paintings by Odell Portz on Wednesday, September 22, 2004 from 6:30pm to 8:00pm in the RCTC Art Gallery (2nd floor College Center Building). The exhibit of paintings will be up through October 20th.

RCTC Homecoming Game

Make plans now to attend RCTC’s Yellowjacket Football Homecoming Game against Mesabi on September 25th at 3:00pm played right here on the UCR Campus! Staff/faculty are welcome to come out after the game to celebrate at Buffalo Wild Wings! Upcoming home football games:

- October 2 – RCTC vs. Ridgewater
- October 20 – RCTC vs. Central Lakes

New Program Planning Meetings

**AA Online**

Monday, Sept 27 from 10-10:50 am in the Charter Room

**AFA - Art, Music, Theatre, Photography**

Wednesday, September 29 from 10-10:50 am in the President's Room

**Database Administration**

Tuesday, September 28 from 1:00-2:00 pm in the Alumni Room

Join Barb Mollberg to begin discussion about potential new programs in these areas. Bring your enthusiasm and ideas. All are welcome!
**Marketing Fact**
Increasingly over time RCTC has had greater unaided top of mind awareness as reported in the annual Knowledge and Awareness Survey conducted by SNG Research. In 2002, 68% of citizen’s surveyed when asked ”When you think of higher education in this area, which institutions come to mind?” identified RCTC. In 2003, this number jumped to 71% and most recently in 2004 it increased yet again to 74%.

**PHI THETA KAPPA**
- Membership Deadline -
October 11, 2004

Please encourage your students to apply to join PTK!

A flier with more details on PTK and the deadline is attached to this week’s Crossings.

**Crossings Classifieds**

**FOR SALE:** 22 cubic foot Amana refrigerator, freezer on bottom. Textured white finish, very good condition, VERY clean. Simply will not fit into our down-scaled new home. $250 or best offer. Mike Bequette - home (285-1945) - work (285-7256).


**Book Published**
We are delighted to announce our very own Thomas P. Ostrom's book "USCG 1790 to the Present" has been published and is available in softcover through amazon.com (ISBN is 1932762159). Tom taught history, anthropology and geography at RCC from 1967-1999.

Congratulations, Tom! We're very proud of you!
Supalla’s Scribblings

As I write this, Park and Rec is busy making plans for President Bush’s visit. I did have a call a couple of weeks ago from Bush visit planners wondering if UCR would be willing to host a second presidential visit. Since they were looking for an outside venue and the event was scheduled for a day classes are in session, the UCR site was eliminated early on. Many of us who had the privilege of planning for the first Bush visit can only imagine what City employees are struggling with in these final hours before the Thursday visit. Rochester certainly has become a magnet for politicians…Kerry, Mrs. Edwards, Carol King for Kerry, and now President Bush. And, I bet we haven’t seen the last of the campaigners yet.

According to the U.S. census, in 2002, only 17.1 percent of 18 to 24 year olds voted. Compare this to the more than 63 percent of 65 to 74 year olds who voted. In the 2000 election, 32.3 percent of young people voted…compared to 70 percent of people receiving Medicare and Social Security. If young people, including our students, voted in significant numbers, politicians would quickly realize there is a voting demographic that could be wooed with support for educational benefits and programs. I hope that you’ll consider encouraging your students to get actively involved in the political process and urge them to vote in the upcoming election. As a faculty or staff member, your influence can change the way education is treated by our political leaders. Please let your students know that voting is important not only for them but for the future of RCTC.

I bet you didn’t know that…

RCTC’s financial aid office processed and business office staff distributed $3,704,619.25 in financial aid to 1772 students on the first day of disbursement. Compare these numbers to last year’s first day of disbursement…1608 students got $3,125,526.17.

On September 2, the Minnesota State Approving Agency made a routine inspection visit to RCTC for the purpose of ensuring continued compliance with Veterans Administration regulations. The files of 17 veterans were examined and our record keeping was found to be in good order. No discrepancies were noted. In a follow-up letter, Doug Larson, Approving Agency for Veterans’ Education, wrote…Chris Wolf does a very good job of US Department of Veterans Affairs record keeping. Thanks for a clean audit and the great service you provide Vets, Chris.

Armed with donation pledge cards, one change of clothes, and a strong message about the need to change Minnesota’s financial aid program, former MnSCU Trustee Robert O. Erickson, will bicycle onto the UCR campus on Tuesday, September 22. Erickson expects to pedal more than 2200 miles, over 30 days, to raise money and build public support for making more financial aid available to Minnesota’s part-time college students. Contributions to Bob’s campaign can be earmarked specifically for RCTC students and cash donations are being collected at various offices (including the President’s Office) around UCR. Please give generously to this important cause.

Fan Shen’s GANG OF ONE book is receiving great reviews from national press. If you haven’t picked up a copy of Fan’s book, I encourage you to do it today. Once you start reading it, you’ll have a hard time putting it down. Faculty members are encouraged to innovate and find productive ways to meet one-on-one with students or present short workshops between 9 a.m. and Noon on September 29, Student Success Day. Then, faculty will meet from 1-3 p.m. to plan the spring semester Success Day. Please contact Jim Stegge if you have questions or are planning to present a workshop.

The U.S. leads developed countries in sending young people to college, but not in keeping them there. In the United States nearly two of every three young people enter higher education, compared with one of two young people among the world’s most developed nations, according to a new report by the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, but the American dropout rate exceeds the average for the same group.

Larger than expected crowds attended Rochester’s 150th birthday party September 10-12 at Mayo Civic Center. The hall was laid out in the four quadrants of the city with extra-special landmarks…the Plummer building built from Legos, a twirling tornado, a corn cob water tower built with milk cartons, Assisi Heights courtyard and the old fire station. RCTC was well represented with a display featuring historic events from our 89-year history. Many thanks to Dave Weber and the
marketing staff who designed and set-up the display. And to Marilyn Hansmann who looked like one of our first faculty members as she greeted visitors in a 1903 dress passed down by family.

RCTC is one of a few select MnSCU sites that will host the October 7 MultiCultural Development Center Eleventh Annual Diversity Conference, “Achieving Success in Challenging Times: Reaching the Leader Within.” Registration ($35) begins at 12:30 p.m. for the interactive teleconference scheduled from 1 – 3 p.m. in ST118.

Thought for the Week…

"Discovery of a solution consists of looking at the same thing as everyone else and thinking something different."

Albert Szent-Gyorgyi

Keep looking…keep thinking! Have a great week.  Don