The many concerns of our communities are addressed by the broad spectrum of charitable organizations participating in the 2000 campaign. Please take the time to read through the 2000-2001 Minnesota State Employees Combined Charities Campaign Calendar, distributed via the intercampus mail, and select a charity that carries some special meaning for you. If you haven’t received a packet yet, or have any questions about the Campaign, please contact Judy Kingsbury either by e-mail or telephone (x7216). Thanks for your support and investment. Listen to your heart, and consider making a contribution today.

RCTC Open Forums Are Back!  
The first Rumor Control Through Communication (RCTC) Open Forum for 2000-2001 has been scheduled for Thursday, October 5th. The forums will be held at 12:30pm in CF202 (UCR) and at 4:00pm in HB117 (Heintz Center).

There are a lot of exciting things happening at UCR in the upcoming year. Please join the RCTC Leadership Cabinet at the Open Forums and share your questions/concerns with them!!

Baldrige Banterings
All-college committees will be convening soon. You can still sign up – everyone is welcome to attend meetings and minutes will be posted on the Intranet. All-college committees are Teaching and Learning, Technology (joint committee with our UCR partners), Student and Stakeholder Relations, Employee Relations, and Innovative Designs.

Did you know that the city of Rochester has a quality council? In addition to monthly seminars at UCR, The Rochester Area Quality Council (RAQC) also hosts a Quality Day. This year’s date is October 3rd at the Heintz Center Auditorium. The mission of the RAQC is to promote awareness of the opportunities in quality and productivity through advocation, training, and the exchange of ideas and experiences. Guests are welcome at the 7:30 to 9:00 monthly breakfast seminars held on the first Tuesday of each month.
Weekly funny…

ROCHESTER COMMUNITY AND TECHNICAL COLLEGE INVITES YOU TO THE EXHIBITION

“Return To Prom” by Jim Prom from September 27 - November 1, 2000
UNIVERSITY CENTER ROCHESTER ART GALLERY - 2nd Floor, College Center
OPENING ART RECEPTION - Wednesday, September 27, 2000 from 6:30 p.m. — 8:00 p.m.
GALLERY TALK: 7:00 p.m.

Artist’s Statement
“I believe art has to be an exploration of the perimeters of perception, ones own or that of the culture we exist in. I think in some small ways, I try to do that…”

Be sure to check out the…
Retail Merchandising Program, Visual Merchandising Class displays:
EH206 window-J C Penney
Library glass case-Hunan Chinese Restaurant
Tunnel window-Tyrol Ski and Sports
Bookstore window-RCTC Bookstore
Commons 4th floor-Gap
Do let these merchants know that you saw their merchandise displayed at RCTC. Because of the business great cooperation, the retail students are much better prepared for the retail world.

VISITING SCHOLAR SERIES PRESENTS…
“Goodnight Mr. Poe” - A one man show by Scott Keely of Avatar Productions
Wednesday, September 27th - Noon - UCR Hill Theatre - 7:00 p.m. - Rochester Public Library Auditorium

This event is FREE and open to the public. A FLIER WITH MORE INFORMATION IS ATTACHED!!!
Call for Honors courses 2001-2002

Who? Any RCTC faculty or guest lecturer(s)

What? One-credit Honors PODs course

PODS?! Pursuing ODysseyS are courses which provide students with intellectual stimulation on the annual PTK (Phi Theta Kappa, national community college Honor Society) study topic. This topic could also tie into the RCTC Common Book, and Visiting Speakers program.

For 2001-2002 the topic is: "Customs, Traditions and Celebrations : The Human Drive for Community"

When? Fall '01 and Spring '02 (your choice; we need one course each semester.)

Why? Here's a chance to teach that more creative course which doesn't fit your normal list of course offerings. Students are highly motivated and do their assignments! The concept of Honors courses is that the students read fewer, primary source texts, rather than survey-type materials, with a focus on being challenged to think more in depth or differently about an issue, rather than memorize facts. An Honors student expects not more work, but different work. These courses often offer the opportunity to participate in different activities such as attend theater or book signings.

Who has gone before? For more information contact any of the faculty who have designed an Honors POD, among them: Lynette Reini-Grandell (English), Terry Richardson (Art), Julie Rodakowski (English), Karin Wilking (Speech), Lynn Guenette (Social Science), Jean Marconett (Health, Physical Education), and Meg Vogel (Nursing). All disciplines are encouraged to contribute.

Ideology to reality? Brainstorm ideas, talk to colleagues in your department as well as in other departments, then please contact me, Jeremy Hanson, Honors Curriculum coordinator via e-mail, phone (285-7253) or my office, CC-110 (9 am daily, plus). Check out the Phi Theta Kappa website: www.ptk.org. A sample syllabus will be available on the Honors web page of the RCTC home page.

Deadline? Of course! Please let me know by mid-October if you are considering teaching a POD, or if you know someone who might be stimulating. Instructors & courses need to be finalized by end of first semester.
Supalla’s Scribblings

If you’d have been there, you might have thought Tuesday was “RCTC Day” at the MnSCU Education Policy Committee meeting. Dave Weber, Tammy Lee and Judy Harris joined me in a 30-minute presentation sharing RCTC’s quality journey. The presentation got rave reviews from Board members, System Office staff and the audience. After our presentation, Warren Kemplin, Ivan Imm and Ellen Nelson shared the AS/400 story with the Committee. Jim Luoma, Committee Chair, remarked following the presentations, “I’ve been thinking it was Governor Ventura that was putting Minnesota on the map…now I realize that it’s really RCTC that’s making Minnesota famous.” He requested, on behalf of the Ed Policy Committee, that I convey the Board’s appreciation for the positive things happening now and their excitement about what’s still to come. Probably the highlight of Wednesday’s MnSCU Board meeting was signed paper balloting for Board officer positions. When the votes were tallied, Michael Vekich was re-elected Chair, besting Andy Boss on an 8-7 vote. It took two ballots before Andy Boss was elected Vice Chair and student representative Joann Splonskowski defeated Nancy Brataas for treasurer.

Below are portions of a letter received from Barbara Mehnert, Executive Director of the Council of North Central Two Year Colleges, regarding a presentation delivered by Anne Niccolai and Tammy Lee at the Summer Assessment Academy…

So many people at the CNCTYC Summer Assessment Academy enjoyed the excellent presentation you both gave. In reviewing the evaluations of the program, many participants when asked, “What did you like best about the program?” answered:

- “People having experienced what they were presenting, i.e. Rochester”
- “The Rochester program was outstanding”
- “Quality and caliber of the presenters. They had a lot to share.”
- “I enjoyed the quality and content of the presentation.”

People were impressed with the way Baldrige, Minnesota Quality Awards, and the MnSCU requirements have all become incorporated in your master academic planning. You gave the conference participants good, practical ideas as well as excellent handouts. I’m sure there will be many positive ramifications at numerous community colleges.

Suzanne Dinusson received special compliments from Janet Carspecken and Patty O’Hollearn…”We want to express how much we appreciated the morning that you had planned for our students. You knew exactly what we were looking for in information, interest and motivation for our students and their project. From the moment that someone met us at the bus to our departure, everyone at the College made us feel very welcome and special. The students in the College class did much for our students’ by treating them and their project with respect. Our students and we teachers were all exceptionally impressed with the attitudes and the facility that morning. Thank you so much!” Way to go, Suzanne. What a great recruitment tool.

Congratulations to Rosemary Hicks and the entire Financial Aid team who are doing a great job. On September 11 the Higher Education Services Office released its report on the RCTC’s financial aid operation. “In general, the auditor found financial aid operations to be capably managed and reliably administered. Due to your institution’s implementation of the auditor’s requirements…this audit is considered closed.”

Special thanks to Janell Holter and Anita Yu who recently retired from the Rochester International Association Board of Directors. We’re proud of Janell, Anita and all of our students and staff who volunteer to serve the community on numerous boards, commissions and committees.
Did you know that both the volleyball and football teams are ranked in the NJCAA Top Ten poll? Way to go, Yellowjackets! If you haven’t used that employee event pass yet, why not put it to work and support our teams. I encourage you to share the Yellowjacket spirit by wearing navy and gold threads, your denim shirts or other RCTC clothing every Friday.

**Thought for the Week…**
”People begin to become successful the minute they decide to be.” -- Harvey Mackay

With enrollment up by about ten percent, our immediate focus turns to retention. Getting them enrolled is important; keeping them enrolled is critical! Keep up the good work!

Don

### RCTC Foundation establishes 21st Century Society

*This article is the first in a series of articles about charitable giving and philanthropy that will run intermittently throughout the year sponsored by the RCTC Foundation.*

The Rochester Community and Technical College Foundation is pleased to announce the creation of the 21st Century Society to pay tribute and recognize benefactors who have left a planned or deferred gift to the Foundation. To date, twelve members have been identified.

Benefactors of the 21st Century Society will be honored at a special dinner each year. Plaques commemorating their commitment to RCTC Foundation are being designed now, and will be presented at the first annual dinner scheduled for early next year.

The popularity of charitable giving as a means of improving communities is increasing. That’s because estate giving is easy. It can be as simple as altering your will or changing the beneficiary on your IRA or insurance policy.

Once considered a tool of only the financially elite, charitable giving—as part of estate planning—is now embraced by people from every walk of life. You don’t have to be wealthy to be a philanthropist. You don’t need abundant resources to show you care. Even a modest gift can make a significant difference.

Charitable giving in wills and estate plans knows no age barrier. Using options like charitable remainder trusts and gift annuities, both young and old can save taxes, establish an income stream that includes a surviving spouse during both lifetimes, provide for heirs, and support a favorite charity— all at the same time.

**Reflect on the past. Commit to the future.**

There is no mystery to charitable giving in your estate. In its simplest form, it involves taking stock of what’s been important in your life, choosing an organization or cause that matches your priorities, and setting up a means to fund the cause, often through your will or other simple devises. If you choose to leave a gift to RCTC Foundation, you will be impacting students’ lives, helping them make a better life for themselves, their families and our communities.

If you would like more information on how you can join the 21st Century Society, or if you already have remembered RCTC in our estate plans, please contact Judy Bird at the RCTC Foundation, HC120 – Heintz Center or call – 281-7770

Additional information on these and other cultural diversity opportunities through MnSCU, may be found on the following website: [http://www.eod.mnscu.edu/](http://www.eod.mnscu.edu/)
Student Life news
To all advisors or club leaders:

We (The Student Senate) are in the process of updating are constitution folder for clubs on campus. As we page through the current constitutions, we notice that most of them are outdated. We are requesting that you update your constitutions to apply to our campus of today. If you don’t know where your old constitution is, you may come and get a copy from my office (CC404).

By doing this we accomplish three things: 1) We will have a current record of your constitution, 2) It gives us a chance to see which clubs are active and which clubs are not, and 3) If you want to be considered for budget purposes next year, we need to know if you are active. We would appreciate all of you in taking care of this matter, before the end of this semester. If you have any questions, you may call me at 7205, or e-mail me.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Tony Peyla

Menu of the Week
Taher, Inc.

This week’s panini – Vegetarian vegetable $3.50
This week’s wrap – Southwestern chicken $3.95

MONDAY – CLOSED – NO CLASSES

TUESDAY – Chicken noodle and beer/cheese soup
Baked lasagna with vegetable and garlic bread $4.25

WEDNESDAY – Cream of turkey and minestrone soup
Marinated beef brochette with vegetables, rice blend and roll $4.25

THURSDAY – Vegetable vegetarian and tomato florentine soup
Philly beef and Swiss with potato wedges and 20-oz. Fountain drink $4.25

FRIDAY – Chef’s choice of soup
Baked meatloaf with mashed potatoes, vegetable and a roll $4.25

Celebrate the diversity advantage!

Join us for GLOBAL CONNECTION WEEK AT RCTC
October 9, 12 and 13, 2000

Program begins Monday, Thursday and Friday at 11:00 a.m. – SHARP. Each day different cultures are explored!
Activities include: Language activities, crafts from around the world, games, international performers, performance by the RCTC jazz band, children’s day and panel discussions.

Watch for a flier in next week’s Crossings with more details.

On Friday, October 13 there will be a FREE PARTY with music and dancing and lots of FUN!!!!! The party is from 7:00 to 11:00 p.m.