Congratulations!
The Yellow Jacket has been presented to Scott Sahs, TeachNet Faculty Instructional Technician. Scott received a compliment from a faculty member who appreciated his assistance with purchasing a computer for her personal use. Scott not only ordered the computer, had it delivered to RCTC, put it together, but even loaded it into her car. All of this with his famous smile!

Thank you Scott for the good work you do for RCTC students and staff!

Baldrige Banterings
RCTC has become an international leader in accreditation, quality, and strategic planning processes. This month we were able to share our journey with groups from Polytechnic of Namibia and Northwest Technical College located in NW Minnesota. We are planning to continue benchmarking with other institutions. Specifically, RCTC is looking into forming a group of about six Minnesota educational institutions to support each other through these processes. In Monday’s Staff Development meetings a concern was raised about referring to our students as ‘customers’ because the ‘customer is always right’. For this reason, RCTC is no longer using the term ‘customer’ but instead uses the word ‘stakeholder’. A stakeholder is “any person or group that has an interest in the success of the organization or institution including parents, communities, past graduates, staff and faculty, administrators, students, employers, social service organizations, governing boards, legislatures, and other schools.” For example, in the dental hygiene program, the stakeholders are not only the instructors and students in the program but also the dentists who hire these students as well as you and I when we get our teeth cleaned. The program has high standards to ensure that the needs of all stakeholders are met. The Minnesota Council for Quality will conduct their RCTC site visit on October 24th through the 26th. The eight-member team has representatives from business and education.

DID YOU KNOW?
Chiropractic is the 3rd largest primary healthcare provider. It takes 14 muscles to smile and 43 muscles to frown.

RCTC Chiropractic Clinic Hours: Mon-Thurs 2-6 pm - Suite HC211
Phone: 507-529-2736 or 1-800-247-1296
Weekly funny…

"Just put that in my 'to do' pile."

Don’t forget to attend…

The first Rumor Control Through Communication (RCTC) Open Forum for 2000 is Thursday, October 5th. The forums will be held at 12:30pm in CF202 (UCR) and at 4:00pm in HB117 (Heintz Center).

2000 Minnesota State Employee Combined Charities Campaign
September 25-October 6, 2000

“It’s easy to make a buck. It’s a lot tougher to make a difference.”
- Tom Brokaw

The 2000 Minnesota State Employees Combined Charities Campaign is underway.

You should have already received a 2000-2001 Calendar, official pledge form, and sample pledge form in your mailbox. If you have not, please contact Judy Kingsbury at extension 7216 or by e-mail at judy.kingsbury@roch.edu

Frequently Asked Questions & Answers

If I am already giving, is it necessary to fill out a new pledge form?

Yes – a pledge form is good for one calendar year.

Can you donate to a specific charity under United Way?

Yes – A listing for Olmsted County can be found near the back of the 2000-2001 Calendar.

Can I receive acknowledgement of my gift from the charitable organizations?

Yes, if you designate on the form that you want an acknowledgement. We have experienced delays and difficulties in the past, but if you haven’t received an acknowledgement by the end of January, 2001, please contact Judy Kingsbury.

Can I donate to an organization which is NOT part of one of the campaign approved charities?

Yes, United Way of Olmsted County will accept your designated pledge and forward it to any 501(c)(3) organization of your choice.
RCTC staffing update

Unclassified Professional/Supervisory

- **Math Specialist - SSSP** (UFT - MnSCU Program Director 1). Position posted/advertised.

Classified AFSCME

- **General Maint. Worker** (Intermittents). Applications accepted ongoing.
- **General Maint. Worker** – Work Area C (UFT 2nd shift position). Position posted; bids accepted through 9/28/00.
- **Office and Administrative Assistant** – Student Affairs Work Area (Admissions & Records Office) (UFT). Appointment from list pending.
- **Customer Service Specialist** – Academic Affairs Work Area (Healthcare Workforce Development Grant). UFT. Heather Lawrence appointed temporary.
- **Office and Administrative Specialist Intermediate** – Academic Affairs Work Area (UFT - UCR Scheduler). Position posted.
- **Stores Clerk** – Institutional Services Work Area (UFT). Position posted.

For information on any of the above openings, contact the human resources office at x7125.

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Staff development day…

*Thanks to all who contributed to making our September 25 All-College Staff Development Day a success!* Your hard work, involvement, contributions and attendance were appreciated. We learned about Square Wheels, Caterpillars, Butterflies, Managing and Leading Change, Motivating Performance Improvement and Quality, Team Building, Improved Leadership and Communication, Searching for Gold, Planning, Interdepartmental Collaboration (which some of us discovered we weren’t very good at!), Measuring Student Achievement, College Vision and Design Criteria, Managing Course Enrollments, Accessing ISRS Reports, Blackboard Course Management Software. That’s a lot to learn in one day!

Don’t forget to turn in your evaluation forms – these are really helpful to the Staff Development Task Force in future planning. Copies have been distributed in employee mailboxes or are available from the HR office.

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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.

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.
Supalla’s Scribblings

Come join the Leadership Cabinet for this year’s first RCTC (Rumor Control Through Communications) Forum. The forums will be held on Thursday, October 5, 12:30 p.m. in CF202 (UCR) and 4 p.m. in HB117 (Heintz Center). In addition to sharing late breaking news on campus happenings, RCTC’s leadership team is seeking your input on filling the current interim academic and student affairs vice presidential positions.

Dear President Supalla:
On behalf of the MnSCU Center for Teaching and Learning, I would like to express my appreciation for Karin Wilking for her participation in our recent conference, “Teaching and Learning: Where Rivers Meet.” In addition, members of TeachNet attended. Their engagement and excitement helped make the conference a memorable experience. We would like to acknowledge presentations by TeachNet: “Programs that Offer Technology Integration Support for Faculty” and “Technology Showcase.” Their presentations made an excellent contribution to the conference theme. We appreciate their willingness to share their ideas and experience. Participant evaluations were overwhelmingly positive. As one attendee commented, “You’ve all created a magnificent venue for teachers to connect and/or introspect. Thank you again for your support of outstanding college teaching and learning. Our best wishes as you begin a new school year.

Jane Lindsay Miller

Once again, this year’s Post Secondary Enrollment Option Program (PSEOP) continued a trend started at the program’s inception...increased participation. The program, started in 1985, has grown from 51 students to this year’s 361. This fall’s PSEOP enrollees top last fall’s enrollment by ten students. If the trends of previous years continue spring semester, RCTC should enroll nearly 400 PSEOP students in January, 2001.

Did you know…

- For the first time, international-education statistics show that three countries—Norway, Britain, and the Netherlands—surpass the United States in the proportion of young people who graduate from college.
- 77% of CEOs had mentors. 73% of CEO serve as mentors. Less than 35% of CEOs surveyed have employee mentor programs at their colleges, yet 90% of those employee mentor programs are reported to have a moderate to highly positive influence on employee retention and effectiveness. 43% of CEOs surveyed have student mentor programs at their colleges and 95% of these programs are reported to have a moderate to highly positive influence on student success. [League for Innovation in the Community College Survey]
- A congressionally appointed panel issued a report this summer that calls for “deeper partnerships between businesses and educators to solve the labor shortage.” The report, entitled “A Nation of Opportunity,” encourages communities to foster early-childhood education programs and to take advantage of opportunities for adult learning, such as community colleges and regional training programs. The Commission shied away from recommending a particular set of skills for fear they would soon become irrelevant in the rapidly changing marketplace. Instead, the panel urged “a new level of literacy—21st Century Literacy—that includes strong academic skills, thinking, reasoning, teamwork skills and proficiency in using technology.”
- U.S. workers value general skills over specific ones. Most American workers surveyed about their educational preparation for the work force rate general skills, such as the ability to communicate and think critically, as being more important than computer or other job-specific skills. In a survey of 1,015 adult workers conducted last spring, 87% of the respondents rated communications skills as being “very important” for performing their jobs, and 81% also said critical thinking and basic literacy skills were “very important.” That compares with 50% who rated computer skills as being “very important.”
- Nearly 3.7 million tons of copy paper is used annually in the United States. That equals over 700 trillion (700,000,000,000) sheets of paper! Reduce your paper use by using email instead of faxes or hard copy, adjusting fonts, margins and spacing to fit more on a page, and editing documents on-screen instead of printing out drafts.

Thought for the Week…”If opportunity doesn’t knock, build a door.” – Milton Berle
Start constructing those doors and opportunity is bound to knock. Have a great week.

Don
Visiting Scholar Series presents…
Polarized Politics and the Rise of the Independent Voter - A discussion by Former Congressman Tim Penny - October 12, 2000, 11:00 a.m. – UCR Hill Theater

Tim Penny is a senior fellow at the Hubert H. Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs. Last spring, on the brink of announcing his run for the U.S. Senate, Penny instead announced his intention not to run, citing his desire to put his family first. From 1976 until 1982, Penny was a member of the Minnesota State Senate, representing a legislative district in south-central Minnesota. From 1982 to 1994, Penny represented southeastern Minnesota’s First Congressional District in Congress. Widely respected for his moderate political views and practical approach to governance, Mr. Penny also holds the position of Senior Counselor to the Minnesota-based public relations firm, Himle-Horner.

Penny is a board member and policy chair for the budget watchdog group, the Concord Coalition. He co-chairs the Committee for a Responsible Federal Government and is an advisory member for the clean campaign project, the Minnesota Compact.

Among other activities, Penny serves on the Board of Trustees for Wells Fargo Funds. He is associated with two think-tanks, serving as a policy fellow with the Washington-based CATO institute and the Minnesota-based Center for the American Experiment.

A co-author of three books, his latest book is titled, The Fifteen Biggest Lies in Politics.

Menu of the Week
Taher, Inc.
This week’s panini – Smoked ham with honey dijon mustard….. …… …………………….$3.50
This week’s wrap – BBQ beef and smoked gouda cheese………………………………………$3.95

MONDAY – Bean with ham and chicken noodle soup
Peppered roast beef, scalloped potatoes, vegetable and roll………………………………………….$4.25

TUESDAY – Chicken wild rice and cream of asparagus soup
Cranberry and sage dressing, stuffed turkey breast with rice pilaf, vegetable and roll…………………….. $4.25

WEDNESDAY – Cream of broccoli and lumberjack vegetable soup
Beef stew in a sour dough bread bowl………………………………………………………………………. $4.25

THURSDAY – Cauliflower cheese and southwestern chicken soup
Chicken stir fry with egg roll and oriental rice ………………………………………………………………….. $4.25

FRIDAY – Chef’s choice of soup
Shrimp basket with potato wedges and 20 ounce fountain drink ……………………………………………………. $4.25

NEW ITEMS AT TAHER, INC.!!!
Now available in our deli: lean pastrami and corn beef…
AND…for breakfast…low fat turkey sausage!
**Staff development opportunities…**

*Professional Development for Women Conference* – Tuesday, October 24, 2000 – Hyatt Regency Minneapolis. Network with your peers, learn career-building ideas, hear powerful women on topics that concern you. Fee: $175 ($155 each for 3 or more).

The 3rd Annual *Open Door Conference* (Community Education About Sexual Orientation and Gender Identify) will be held at RCTC on Saturday, October 14, 2000. The conference is limited to 300 participants; conference fee is $30 after 9/15/00. Details and registration information are available on the web at [http://members.aol.com/opendc](http://members.aol.com/opendc)

The Minnesota Safety Council has published the Fall and Winter 2000 *Safety & Health Course* schedule. You may access the course schedule via their website at [www.mnsafetycouncil.org](http://www.mnsafetycouncil.org)

**The Diversity Advantage: Staying Relevant in a Changing Community – 2000 Diversity Video Conference.**
Thursday, October 12, 2000 – 9:00 am – 12:45 p.m. in rooms CF202, 206, 208. Since MnSCU is partnering with the Minnesota Cultural Diversity Center to sponsor the 7th annual national diversity conference, there is **NO cost to RCTC staff or students.** Students, faculty and staff are encouraged to attend this video conference and become fully engaged in the challenging issues of diversity within community. Faculty members may be interested in incorporating this video conference into their academic programs and/or classroom discussions.

For more information about the above staff development opportunities, contact the RCTC human resources office.

**Up to Speed**

Feedback about the Stinger Café session on Sept. 25 has been fun to hear. Tammy Lee and Anne Niccolai did a great job. Our three triangles (NCA Accreditation, Baldrige, and Innovative Designs/Futures Planning) are starting to make sense to more and more of us. In the next few “Up to Speed” columns, I will try to continue to the way I see the triangles fitting together. Remember back to Aug. 21—our opening Staff Development Day. Don Supalla in a wizard costume, Don Baldus in a Batman costume, Troy Tynsky and Tim Gilsrud planning the football season, etc. Six mini presentations altogether, each one identifying one of the Minnesota Quality Award/Baldrige Criteria helped us understand what is included in the self-study. The six criteria are: Leadership, Strategic Planning, Student and Stakeholder Focus, Information and Analysis, Faculty and Staff Focus, and Process Management. The seventh criterion is school results. Once we understood of the six criteria, the opportunity to review copies of the self-assessment document to be submitted to the Minnesota Quality Council was made available to faculty and staff. On September 1, 2000, the self-assessment was submitted. It is currently under review by the Minnesota Quality Council. On October 24, 25, and 26, eight evaluators visitors from Minnesota Quality will be on campus interviewing faculty and staff and offering us feedback on our report. The completed self-assessment will be revised based on the feedback we receive, rewritten, and then submitted to NCA as the major portion of our self-study. A few more pieces need to be added. One is a presentation of our vision to the MnSCU Board of Trustees. Finally, NCA has requested that we add a two-page summary of each of the five NCA criteria. In the next few weeks, I will elaborate on each of the five criteria. They are:

1. The institution has clear and publicly stated purposes consistent with its mission and appropriate to an institution of higher learning.
2. The institution has effectively organized the human, financial, and physical resources necessary to accomplish its purposes.
3. The institution is accomplishing its educational and other purposes.
4. The institution can continue to accomplish its purposes and strengthen its educational effectiveness.
5. The institution demonstrates integrity in its practices and relationships.

More on these next time.

Judy Harris
Now available from Goddard Library --- more on-line databases!!

We currently have trial subscriptions to over 24 databases in the areas of business, Spanish-language information, law, sociology, science, psychology, and literature. Some of the databases contain citations and abstracts while others include full-text articles. To access these databases, click on the red “Trials” link on the Library’s homepage (http://www.roch.edu/library), then click on the “InfoTrac” link. Please let us know if you like any of these databases or not.

The Library also has a subscription to the online database, National Newspapers (5). This subscription is part of a statewide contract that was paid for by the legislature. The database contains full-text articles from the Los Angeles Times, Minneapolis Star Tribune, New York Times, Wall Street Journal, and Washington Post. In order for you to see the difference in coverage between this database and our Lexis-Nexis database, the titles are presented in table format below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Newspaper</th>
<th>National Newspapers (5) Coverage</th>
<th>Lexis-Nexis Coverage</th>
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<tr>
<td>Los Angeles Times</td>
<td>1988 to present</td>
<td>June 1980 to present</td>
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<tr>
<td>Minneapolis Star Tribune</td>
<td>1987 to present</td>
<td>1991 to present</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New York Times</td>
<td>Current 90 days only</td>
<td>June 1980 to present</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wall Street Journal</td>
<td>1984 to present</td>
<td>Citations/Abstracts only</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Washington Post</td>
<td>1997 to present</td>
<td>1977 to present</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

To access the National Newspapers (5) database, click on “Article Indexes” from the Library’s homepage, then the “National Newspapers (5)” link.

Students excused
Please excuse the following students for a field trip to the Small Business Assistant Center in Minneapolis on Friday, October 13th. We will leave campus at 9:00 a.m. and return around 2:00 p.m.

Melissa Bjerke, Kristina Boline, Jesse Carsten, David Dirksen, Michael Dixon, Amber Epps, Barry Keopaseuth, Paul King, Justin Schwirtz, Bruce Tesmer

FREE CAB OFFERING…

"The Misconceptions Continue: How the Media Represents People with Disabilities"
Friday, October 6, 2000, 10:30 am - 12:00 pm, Hill Theatre

"Attitudes are the Real Disability" - Henry Holden

The population of the United States gets its perception of people with disabilities from family, friends, environment and the media. This slide/lecture presentation focuses on how images in the media mold and distort this perception. His lecture is not only dynamic in content, his delivery evokes humble laughter. He is helping his audiences understand the misconceptions of persons with disabilities, and at the same time, help to reshape misperceptions portrayed by the mass media.

Sponsored by: CAB -- FREE
TeachNet offerings for October 2000

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Class Description</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>October 5</td>
<td>MS Excel 2000</td>
<td>2 PM-4 PM</td>
<td>AT 210</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 11</td>
<td>Fireworks</td>
<td>3 PM-5 PM</td>
<td>AT 210</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 12</td>
<td>Web Enhanced Classes w/Blackboard</td>
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<tr>
<td>October 16</td>
<td>Dreamweaver 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>October 25</td>
<td>MS Word 2000</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 26</td>
<td>Open Lab</td>
<td>2 PM-4 PM</td>
<td>AT 210</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

If interested in any of the following classes, please contact Sarah Prigge (sarah.prigge@roch.edu) Class sizes will be limited.

Judy Euller, TeachNet's Instructional Designer will be presenting the following classes this fall:

October 4, 10-11 AM: SH 101--Topic: Creating Effective Visual Aids
(Useful for online pages, PowerPoint or overhead transparencies)

October 25, 10-11 AM: SH 101 --Topic: Creating Interaction Online:
Bulletin Boards, Chat Rooms, and Listservs

November 8, 10-11 AM: SH 101--Topic: Academic Web Page Creation:
Tips and Tools for Web Design

December 6, 10-11 AM: SH 101--Topic: Guiding Principles for Distance
Teaching and Learning

Any questions, contact Sarah Prigge at ext 2924.