Combining Charities Campaign

The Combined Charities Campaign concludes on November 16, 2001. We are in our final week of the 2001 Minnesota State Employee Combined Charities Campaign. Please take the time to read through the materials 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).

Please listen to your heart, and consider making a contribution today.

Visiting Scholar Series

“Fact & Fiction: Award-winning Stories and Memoirs of Life with AIDS”

Minnesota authors Emily Carter and Jan Zita Grove will share their stories, writings and experiences, each presenting her own unique perspectives on living with AIDS, transplanting to Minnesota from the coasts and their careers as writers. Emily Carter is HIV positive, contracting the disease as a drug addict in New York City. She fictionalizes her experiences in the cover story of her highly acclaimed collection of writings, Glory Goes and Gets Some. Like the main character, Glory, who exists in most of the twenty-one stories in the collection, author Emily Carter moved to Minnesota, which she labels in her new book as the "land of Ten Thousand Treatment Centers," for drug rehab. Turning her focus and energy to writing, Carter’s sardonic take on life illuminates as well as entertains. Author Jan Zita Grover spent the late 1980s working with AIDS patients in a San Francisco hospital, which left her feeling depressed, anxious, and guilt-ridden. Grover took up rural life in the north woods of Minnesota. She is the author of North Enough: Aids and Other Clear Cuts. Her most recent book, Northern Waters is a collection of 22 stories offering reflections on the art of fishing and the boundaries between nature and modern life. "Northern Waters is one of those magical books that pretends to be about something perfectly ordinary, like fishing, and then turns out to be about everything under the sun that matters. It is wise and exhilarating, and it makes you care about things you never knew you cared about.” says reviewer Paul Gruchow. Emily Carter and Jan Zita Grover will both be speaking on December 5, 2001 at 11:00 in the UCR Hill Theatre and at 4:30pm in Leighton Auditorium, Siebens Building, Mayo Clinic.
Weekly funny…

"Anne has allowed me one last creamstick before going on my diet-- big mistake!"

Christmas Anonymous coat drive
Several coats/jackets have already been donated to the Christmas Anonymous coat drive. Last year RCTC/CHOICES collected more than 75 coats as well as snow pants, mittens and hats. Donations may be left at the Information Desks at UCR and the Heintz Center from 7:30 - 4:00 Monday through Friday or call CHOICES at 280-5510 to arrange for pick-up. There is a huge need especially for infants, toddlers, children and teens. LET’S BEAT YEARS donations and set a new record. Your donation truly makes a difference.

Visiting Scholar Series Update
Still interested in reading and learning about John Shelby Spong?

John Shelby Spong appeared at UCR last spring as part of the Visiting Scholar Series. His lectures were well attended and provoked a great deal of thought and discussion. If you care to learn more about Bishop Spong and his theological writings please consider joining a study group being formed in the community.

New Adventures in Theology will be studying Bishop Spong’s new book, “A New Christianity for a New World” beginning November 12 at Christ United Methodist Church in Rochester. The class, led by Dr. Val Webb, meets from 3:30 – 5:00 p.m. in the Fireside Room. The study group does not set a limit on number of sessions but meets until the book has been satisfactorily studied. The book is available at B.Dalton and can be purchased at a discount by mentioning Val Webb’s name. For further information, please give Dr. Webb a call. 281-8048

Thank you notes
Thank you for the beautiful floral arrangement and for thinking of us during this difficult time. Your kind expression of sympathy is deeply appreciated and gratefully acknowledged by the family of Mike Klampe

Thanks to all of you who have remembered me during this difficult time of losing my father. The floral arrangements at the funeral were beautiful and all of your cards and memorials are so appreciated by my family and me. Your hugs and special words of kindness have especially brought me great comfort and will always be remembered. Thanks so much!

Audrey Clausen & family
Supalla’s Scribblings

Thanks to all of you that took time to attend the Chancellor’s “Listening to the Voices of Minnesota” open forum. The issues raised and opinions expressed will help Dr. McCormick, Office of the Chancellor staff and the Board of Trustees formulate a long-range strategic business plan. I gleaned some great input on campus concerns that we can begin to address immediately. Chancellor McCormick was very pleased with the great turnout for all three forums. But, if you’d like to share thoughts or suggestions relative to the Work Plan, please feel free to e-mail them to chancellor@so.mnscu.edu.

Please take a few moments to recognize some of your colleagues who were recently recognized by others…

- **Wow…** John Murray, Director of MnSCU Management Programs, was recently honored with a “45 Year Award” (yes, 45 years of service) by the Minnesota Association of Agricultural Educators!
- **Brian Watters** for providing role players for the Rochester Police Department’s Emergency Response Unit training. The Department’s Emergency Response Unit indicated that “the response was tremendous and more than hoped for.” Nice job, Brian and role players.
- **Jerry Casper, Gary Schattsneider and the cast** of “Antigone” for direction, set design and performance! If you didn’t take enjoy the work of colleagues and students in this extraordinary, and very timely, play…shame on you.
- Congratulations to the soccer, volleyball and football players and coaches who provided us with many days and nights of quality spectator sports. Did you know that Deb Hare and the soccer team traveled to Illinois and represented RCTC well in the regional tournament? Coach Musgjerd and the volleyball team had an excellent season. And, the football team is heading west for a bowl game in St. George, Utah with Dixie State College!
- **Jean Marconett** and John Grabko (Rochester Amateur Sports Commission) co-chaired a wonderful National Junior College Athletic Association Division III Women’s Volleyball Tournament. A terrific Tournament Committee that included RCTC’s own Jean Musgjerd, M. J. Wagenson and Paula Carlsen and a tournament supporting cast of students and colleagues. Jim Williams, RCTC athletic trainer, does a great job tending to health/fitness needs of our athletes and those from around the country that come to Rochester for state, regional and national tournaments. If you didn’t take in a few volleyball tournament matches this year, don’t miss the opportunity in 2002 when it will be held in the new UCR Regional Sports Center. If you don’t want to wait a year to watch some national tournament action, why not plan to take in the NJCAA wrestling tournament, directed by Chuck Siefert, and scheduled for Rochester in February. NJCAA Division III representatives had nothing but praise for the efforts of our staff. Way to go!
- At MnSCU’s request, RCTC’s Continuing Education and Workforce Development Department submitted two success stories for an upcoming annual review publication. The first story detailed development of a continuing education program for Minnesota’s home health care workers. Using RCTC instructional designers, programmers and system analysts, a series of web-based training modules are being developed. A second story focused on use of a Minnesota Job Skills Partnership Grant to address workforce shortages at Schmidt Printing, Crenlo, Gauthier and PEMSTAR. A quote from Gauthier Industries sums up the feeling of many CE/WD clients…”The education and training received from RCTC through the MJSP grant has been phenomenal. We were able to customize the training so specifically it truly increased the value to our company as well as impacting our employees and how they feel about their jobs.”

Troy Tynsky has compiled data that indicates the number of Rochester high school graduates enrolling in RCTC is on the rise. Last year, 185 Rochester graduates enrolled in RCTC programs; this fall, 268 graduates enrolled. That’s a trend line we hope continues. Please welcome our Rochester and area high school Career Day participants to UCR on Tuesday. Many thanks to Deb Rogne, the planning committee and faculty/staff presenters. Recruitment research indicates that getting prospective students on campus has a tremendous influence in their enrollment decisions.

USA TODAY Education has introduced a new collegiate web site…www.usatodaycollege.com. The collegiate Web site provides a variety of resources to support instruction, using USA TODAY in college classrooms. The Web site showcases examples of USA TODAY news features, which offer faculty useful, credible materials targeted for specific curricula.

**Fast fact…**One in every three registered nurses in the United States under 30 who were surveyed plans to leave his or her job within the next year as a result of burnout. **Thought for the week…**Most folks are about as happy as they make their minds up to be. – Abe Lincoln

**Be happy! Don**
A Wonderful Night to Share

Upward Bound Students and Staff are now selling tickets to “A Wonderful Night to Share”, a private evening of holiday shopping at Apache Mall, which will take place on Sunday, November 18, 2001 from 7:00 to 10:00 p.m.

This special event for ticket-holders only will feature special offers and discounts from Apache Mall merchants as well as beverages and hors d’oeuvres, door prizes, free gift wrap, and live holiday entertainment!

Tickets for “A Wonderful Night to Share” are $5.00 in the form of a donation. Proceeds will benefit the Upward Bound Scholarship fund. Tickets may be purchased at the Upward Bound Office (SS #150).

Purchase tickets today, help Upward Bound raise money, and get a jump-start on your holiday shopping!

You're Invited

Rochester SAM'S CLUB - Special Shopping/Appreciation Event
Friday, November 23, 2001 from 7am to 9am

Beat the holiday crowds and lines
Free continental breakfast provided
Door prize drawings every 20 minutes *
Come early for more chances to win
$2.50 coupon to Rochester SAM'S CLUB Cafe for first 60 attendees
Grand prize drawing of $100 SAM'S CLUB shopping card
Non-members can purchase during this even with cash or Discover Card

* For attendees present and age 18 and over

Please present a school district or college staff ID, business card or name-tag for entrance
No RSVP is necessary.

CHOICES/Carson Community Day Sale

Would you like to win a trip for two to beautiful Puerto Rico, enjoy special holiday savings and delicious refreshments and support the CHOICES of SE MN client services fund all at the same time? CHOICES is once again participating in the Carson's Community Day Sale on November 17. Event packets are available for $5.00 each and CHOICES receives 100% of the proceeds from the packet sales. CHOICES provides career and life-planning services to displaced homemakers and women in transition throughout the 11 counties of SE MN. The program is funded under grant from the MN Dept. of Economic Security and delivered by RCTC. Many clients become students of RCTC, U of M and WSU. The client services fund helps individual clients with books and education assistance, uniforms, clothing and other special needs. Call 280-5510 or stop in the CHOICES office, Room A-125 at the Heintz Center for your packet. We appreciate your support.
Rochester Community and Technical College  
Minnesota State College Faculty (MSCF) Meet and Confer  
Minutes for Tuesday, October 23, 2001 – 2:00 p.m. – Presidents’ Room

Present: Administration Harris, Supalla, Thompson  
Faculty Shafer, Hill, Israelson, Watters, Wright  
Recorder: Judy Kingsbury

ITEM 2 (F) Field Trips – Hill shared concerns that student excused absences don’t count against total absence allowances for a course (specifically labs). Harris reiterated the spirit of the policy is to encourage students to participate in activities without penalty, however it is the student’s responsibility to approach the instructor prior to their absence to make arrangements to make-up the work. Harris noted the policy states students do not have to make-up identical work missed, but it should be something similar. ACTION: The faculty will review the policy/procedures outlined in the handbook and bring back specific points of concern.

ITEM 1 (A) Assessment Update – Harris announced several individuals just returned from a national assessment conference regarding measuring student learning. Plans are underway to incorporate assessment in an upcoming staff development day activity. ACTION: Information Only.

ITEM 2 (A) General Education Task Force – Harris presented an update on the General Education Task Force, noting the outcome of the first meeting generated two issues (1) concern about whether general education and Minnesota transfer curriculum are the same; and (2) if they are not the same, then the need to define general education. ACTION: Information Only.

ITEM 3 (F) Chair Replacements – As a follow-up from the last meeting, Shafer indicated there are 17 rooms in need of adequate seating accommodations for students. ACTION: The faculty will prioritize the rooms and forward their recommendation to Administration.

ITEM 4 (F) Retirees as Volunteers – As a follow-up from the last meeting, Shafer indicated the faculty association had no concerns with the bicycle proposal, however the faculty association does have strong concerns about volunteers doing work that might be assigned to a union member. ACTION: Information Only.

ITEM 5 (F) Sick/Personal Leave Data – Shafer reminded administration that the sick/personal leave data has not yet been received. Supalla has visited with the Human Resources Department, and the information should be forthcoming shortly. ACTION: Information Only.

ITEM 6 (F) Computer Availability in Faculty Offices – Shafer announced several new faculty were still having computer problems, and, although the help desk had been contacted, no response has been received. ACTION: Supalla will forward the concern to Tim Gilsrud for follow-up.

ITEM 3 (A) Student/Staff Satisfaction Survey Results – Supalla highlighted the results of the recent satisfaction surveys, announcing the results reflected continued improvement over the last year. ACTION: Information Only.

ITEM 7 (F) Scheduling for Semester – Shafer shared concerns with the accuracy of the spring semester schedule. With the satisfaction survey reflecting our student’s number one priority, the ability to register for classes with few conflicts, the college is undercutting that priority. Harris agreed the schedule has major problems and will follow-up to ensure the best version of the schedule is printed and the inaccurate versions are destroyed. Supalla added funds are being spent to upgrade the current room scheduling software, which should improve the process. Wright requested when changes are made, that only one document be created reflecting the continuous changes. Shafer also requested a flow chart be shared to reflect the process to be followed in submitting changes to the schedule. ACTION: Harris and Thompson will meet to determine necessary steps to alleviate spring schedule concerns.
ITEM 4 (A) Fall Semester Final Exam Schedule – Harris requested input from the faculty on the process to follow during final exams should severe weather require the cancellation of classes or closing of the campus. Shafer suggested faculty could complete their instruction earlier allowing for an extra day if exams need to be rescheduled. Harris also suggested a group final exam period be available for “make-up” tests. Wright added the final exams could be scheduled over five days, with the fifth day being the “make-up” testing day. ACTION: Harris will take all suggestions under consideration.

ITEM 5 (A) Fifth Tuesday (October 30, 2001) – Harris reminded everyone that October 30th is a fifth Tuesday, and the 2:00-4:00pm time slot will be used to conduct general education discussions with the entire college. Shafer agreed, as long as no votes are taken and the time is used only for an exchange of ideas. ACTION: Information Only.

ITEM 8 (F) Committee Structure – Shafer reminded everyone that the current committee structure for 2001-2002 was approved last summer with the understanding modification could be made after the faculty had an opportunity to review. Shafer distributed the faculty’s proposal for the committee structure, which included a flow-chart outlining the focus of faculty within the structure. Shafer clarified some of the groups could be classified as task forces, while others need to be identified as faculty committees. ACTION: Both administration and faculty will review the committee names and identify whether the group is exclusive to faculty, all-college, or include representatives from all three UCR partners.

ITEM 1 (F) Use of Physical Education Offices – Shafer shared concerns with the solicitation of ideas for the use of the physical education offices, noting the issue is a meet and confer item and ideas should be shared through the faculty association first. Shafer also announced the faculty association passed a resolution to request the physical education offices be used by the physical education department until the new facility is completely available. Upon the move, the faculty association further requests the offices continue to be used as RCTC faculty offices. Supalla questioned if the faculty would be willing to move to the new location if the only portion of the complex remaining under construction was the field house. Shafer responded that would be acceptable. Wright noted another issue of concern is the process of UCR decision making, noting as faculty in the facilities, the contract assures faculty involvement prior to decision making and Wright suggested maybe another level of meet and confer was necessary to include the UCR partners. ACTION: Administration will take the faculty proposal for use of the space under consideration.

ITEM 9 (F) Impasse in Curriculum Council – Shafer announced there may be an impasse on a curriculum item, and questioned if the three presidents could meet to resolve. Harris responded the issue in question related to articulation and did not affect curriculum, hence no impasse decision was needed. Supalla agreed articulations are handled between institutional presidents, vice presidents and deans and an impasse would not be appropriate if it did not deal with changes in curriculum. A further discussion was held on the necessity for future impasse decisions by the presidents following the transitional period of the merger of the two faculty unions. ACTION: The faculty association will discuss amongst themselves before further pursuit of the issue.

ITEM 6 (A) Student Conduct Policy (1st Reading) – Thompson shared the first reading of a new student conduct policy, and requested the faculty review and return with comments at the next meeting. ACTION: Thompson will share an electronic version of the policy with Wright and Shafer. The policy will have a second reading at the November meeting.

Adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

Next Meeting: November 27, 2001 – 2:00pm – Presidents’ Room