Baldrige Banterings

On October 24-26 we hosted a site evaluation team from the Minnesota Council for Quality (MCQ) as part of our application process for a Minnesota Quality Award. Jean Bronk of the MCQ and Trish Snyder, co-leader of that team, will present their findings in CF206 from 10-2:00 on Tuesday, November 28. All faculty and staff are invited to attend this feedback presentation. Please feel free to come and go as your schedule permits. This feedback report will be incorporated into the self-study document that we must submit to the North Central Association (NCA) on December 31 of this year. The NCA site visit is in April, 2001.

Three issues that have been identified in our student satisfaction survey as having large ‘student expectation versus satisfaction’ gaps are parking (too little), the run-around (too much), and warning on grades (too late.) All three have been discussed by faculty/staff rapid response teams and are now the focus of ad hoc committees. Much of the run-around is due to our unique 3-2-1 (three institutions, two systems, one campus) situation so a joint U of M/WSU/RCTC committee has been established to study this. Students have been asked to join all three committees to ensure that their views are represented. Making the effort to respond to stakeholder wishes is a true indicator of an institution’s commitment to quality.

You’re invited

RCTC Foundation invites you to attend a celebration of thanksgiving and appreciation for the wonderful year, with hope for a prosperous and bountiful new year. PLEASE JOIN US for REFRESHMENTS AND HOSPITALITY and share our gratitude.

Monday November 27th
11 a.m. - 1 p.m. - Heintz Center - C 124

Rochester Community and Technical College

Holiday Reception

dnesday, December 13 from 2:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Coffman Center 206/208 - (UCR Building)

The “RCTC Yellowjacket Tree” will again become a “Teddy Bear Tree” during the Holiday Reception. Bring a teddy bear to share with local law enforcement agencies.

Evening Administration

The evening administrator for November 27-29 is Dave Weber and for November 30 is Tim Gilsrud. The evening administrator can be reached at x7262.
Weekly funny…

"Something's wrong with our computer. Every time I log on the Wallpaper is changed to a picture of an exotic bird."

Join us for a concert of "New Music" in the Hill Theatre on Monday, December 18th at 6:00.

The first part of the concert will be music by RCTC students involved in the Electronic Music classes. This music will be compositions created by students in the electronic music studios on our campus. There will be short compositions (1-4 minutes each) by about 25 students. The second part of the concert will be new compositions by invited professional composers and performers. The two groups will be: Metaphore. The second group will be Ellen Lease Jazz Quartet. There will be a great diversity of music styles and instruments in the concert. It should be a fun event! We hope to see you there!!!

Scholarships for women students available
The Rochester Chapter of American Business Women's Association is again offering a scholarship to a female student enrolled full or part-time and possesses a g.p.a. of 2.5 or higher. Applications are available at the RCTC Foundation Office, C-120 Heintz Center or the RCTC Counseling Office - UCR SS 150. The deadline for this scholarship is February 2, 2001.

The National Chapter of ABWA also has a scholarship available to students who will be graduating from RCTC in spring of 2001 and continuing their education elsewhere. Information about this scholarship, called the Stephen Bufton Memorial Scholarship is also available at the Foundation Office or Counseling Office. The deadline for this scholarship is June 5, 2001.

College rep on campus
Suzann Benge, Transfer Specialist from North Dakota State University will be outside the Counseling Center on Wednesday, November 29th from 11:30 to 1:00 to visit with interested transfer students or faculty. Please let students know.
Supalla’s Scribblings

Through the magic of information technology, you’re reading this week’s version of Scribblings while Stephanie and I are enjoying a week of relaxation, shopping on Michigan Avenue and State Street, and feasting with family in Chicago. Every year there seems to be a different decorating theme or focus…this year it’s definitely Harry Potter and his characters. The Chicago holiday skyline looks especially festive while sipping wine on the 95th floor of the John Hancock tower. I hope that your Thanksgiving is as special as the one we’re enjoying here.

Congratulations to Ellen Nelson, Ivan Imm and the CE/WD team! On Monday, RCTC defended two Minnesota Job Skills Partnership grant applications. I was very impressed with the proposals that Ivan and our partners, Mayo Foundation and Karrington Cottages, submitted and defended. When the Board made their final funding decision, RCTC garnered more than $350,000. RCTC was awarded $225,000 to develop and deliver training targeted to the Help Desk staff at Mayo Clinic. The MJSP Board fully funded ($125,336) a second grant application that has RCTC partnering with Karrington Cottages to recruit, train and place 30 welfare-to-work clients has care managers and nursing assistants. Nice going!

Many thanks to Barb Mollberg for the excellent job she does year after year advising RCTC’s Omicron Chapter of Phi Theta Kappa. Phi Theta Kappa is the international honor society for two-year college students. The Chapter recently inducted 58 new members, the largest number of fall semester inductees in years, maybe ever. Barb and the chapter officers put together a very impressive, and well attended, induction ceremony. Thanks, Barb!

At last week’s MnSCU Board meeting, the Trustees approved a biennial budget request increase of $256 million (the University of Minnesota’s Board of Regents recently approved a $221.5 million request). This year, MnSCU will present a campus-based budget request to the Legislature in January. Each institution has determined its goals and needs in four areas: academic excellence, workforce development, equipment and instructional technology, and local initiatives. RCTC’s share of the new money request is $3,143,228 and the proposed use of these funds is attached. While MnSCU identified $311 million in essential new needs, the system expects to offset those needs with $25 million in tuition revenue growth and $30 million in reallocated dollars from existing budgets. The $256 million request represents a 15 percent increase in fiscal year 2002 and a 10 percent increase in FY03. Governor Ventura and his staff have been suggesting that state agencies should budget for a 2-1/2 percent annual increase. It’s going to take all of us…students, campuses, and system office…working together to convince the Legislature and Governor that there’s a cost to compete in a rapidly changing marketplace.

The following appeared in the November 16 edition of the “Chronicle of Higher Education”… Community colleges are better suited to educate people to work in information-technology careers than the many private companies that now conduct such training. “We’re getting our butts kicked by a lot of privates offering courses that lead to industry-sponsored certifications,” said John Avakian, director of new media at San Mateo College. Community colleges are better equipped to educate the workers taking these courses, he said, because the colleges also can teach other skills that corporations now realize they want in their employees – such as the ability to research, analyze, and communicate. Offering technology-oriented courses, Mr. Avakian said, fits well with community colleges’ mission, which includes promoting economic development. But for colleges to be effective in offering such courses, he said, they will have to adjust the courses’ schedules and formats to make them more attractive to working adults. Shorter course segments and more-convenient hours are important.
Information from “A Profile of Future Faculty: Data from The National Research Council.” Did you know…

- During 1998, 387 U.S. universities conferred 42,683 doctorates, a slight increase from the number conferred in 1997.
- The largest number of doctorates are awarded in the broad category of life sciences, followed by social sciences, physical sciences, education, engineering, humanities, and business.
- 60.6 percent of all doctorate recipients reported receiving fellowships or teaching/research assistantships. Only 49.1 percent of all doctorate recipients reported educational indebtedness at the time of graduation.
- Median time to received the doctorate since earning the baccalaureate was 10.4 years. Median time to degree since first enrollment in any graduate program was 7.3 years. The typical Ph.D. recipient was just under 34 years old at the time the degree was conferred. At graduation, 70 percent of them will work and 30 percent will continue as post-doctorates.

Thought for the Week…

"Always look at what you have left. Never look at what you have lost.” – Robert Schuller

Look at what you have left…and give thanks. HAPPY THANKSGIVING!

Thank you

I would like to extend a heartfelt thanks to the RCTC Administration, Faculty and Staff for the condolences received recently on the death of my mother. A huge "Corn" plant was delivered to the funeral home. It came with autumn leaves and a wonderful basket.

My family expressed sincere gratitude in your acknowledgment. I brought the plant home and will remember your generosity every time I walk by the plant. Many of you aren't aware that my mother's passing was just one month after my father's passing and right in the middle of these two funerals I started work here at RCTC. The support and caring has been overwhelming. Thank you for everything.

Dera Johnson, Admissions and Records

Decorate for the holidays!

Poinsettias, wreaths, & swags will be available Tues. Nov. 28 10am to 11am and Thurs. Nov. 29 2pm to 4pm. All sales will be in the RCTC Greenhouse located behind the Heintz Center. Poinsettia prices are $6, $8, & $10. Wreath and swag prices are $10 to $15.

Boxwood Trees will be available Tues. Dec. 5.

You’re invited

CHOICES of SE Minnesota, the Program for Women in Transition and Displaced Homemakers is celebrating its 10th anniversary November 28th from 11:00-1:00 at UCR in the Student Commons and on November 30 from 11:00-12:30 in the Heinz Center Commons. Birthday cake will be served and an informational exhibit will be on display.

CHOICES is a grant-funded program delivered by Rochester community and Technical College to the 11 counties of SE Minnesota since 1990. Many of our current and former participants have become RCTC, WSU and U of M students following their participation in the CHOICES program.

COME AND JOIN IN THE CELEBRATIONS!!
TeachNet Inservices

November
30- Open Lab - SH 203 - 3-5 PM
Bring your project related to any software product and TeachNet staff will be available for questions while you work on your project.

December
4- Excel 2000 - SH 203 - 3-5 PM
An introduction to Microsoft’s spreadsheet program. This class will demonstrate the setup for a grade book file and includes default settings, options, formulas, charts, text formatting, worksheet management and output options.

6- Guiding Principles for Distance Learning - SH 101 – 10-11 AM

7- PowerPoint 2000 - SH 203 - 3-5 PM
An introduction to Microsoft’s slide presentation program. Participants will be involved in hands-on exercises including default settings, new slide options, layout, templates, designs, pictures and clip art, audio and video, and output options.

13- Alternative Storage Demo - ST 110 - 1-2:30 PM
A demonstration of the various hardware and software tools available for file storage. Some of the devices include Zip 100/250 drives, CD-writeable drives, Super disks, floppies, JAZ drives, ORB, Internet folders such as X drive, compression tools such as WinZIP and others.

14- Word 2000 - SH 203 - 3-5 PM
An introduction to Microsoft’s word processing program. Includes demonstration of page setup options, tool options, formatting, picture use, font properties, importing and exporting, spelling and grammar, web publishing and output.

20- Grades - SH 203 - 10:15-11:00 AM and 1:15-2:00 PM
An open lab aimed at assisting instructors in entering or updating their course grades online through the MnSCU system. Requires the knowledge of account information (Stinger ID and password) and student grades.

Sarah Prigge/Operations Coordinator -(507) 280-2924

Breaking Ice Performance

In observation of World AIDS Day, University Center Rochester, The Professional AIDS Network (PAN), Mayo Clinic, and several other area organizations and businesses are sponsoring the theatrical presentation, **Breaking Ice** on Thursday, November 30 at 7:00 p.m. in Hill Theatre.

**Breaking Ice**, a Pillsbury House Theatre Production, is an entertaining professional theatre performance that gets at tough issues and inspires people to talk to each other about their differences. The mission of **Breaking Ice** is to foster, through the arts, a better understanding of the self, other persons, cultural traditions and lifestyles.

This performance is FREE and open to the public. All are encouraged to attend. Please encourage students in your classes to attend, also.

**Breaking Ice** will last approximately 90 minutes, including a discussion period following the performance. Immediately following the performance, a candle light vigil will be held outside the atrium to honor those who are living with HIV and AIDS and those we have lost to this disease.
In the Spotlight
The Marketing and Enrollment Services teams invite you to “In the Spotlight – Two on Tuesday” on Tuesday, November 28th from 2:00 to 3:00 pm in CF206/208. The Marketing and Enrollment Services teams will share with participants new college creative and special initiatives to promote RCTC. See the new college viewbook, television spot, beta site for the new college web site and other projects in development. Learn about new special events being planned to celebrate RCTC and its programs. Refreshments will be provided compliments of the Human Resources staff.

Menu of the Week
Taher, Inc.

This week’s panini – Southwestern turkey…………………………… $3.50
This week’s wrap – Swiss cheese, smoked ham and spinach…………………………… $3.95

TRY ONE OF OUR NEW LITE COMBO MEALS STARTING AT $2.95, OR TRY A BAKED POTATO WITH THREE CHOICES OF TOPPINGS, STARTING AT $1.95!!

**MONDAY** – Cream of turkey and vegetable vegetarian soup
Country fried steak with mashed potatoes, vegetable and a roll................................................................. $4.25

**TUESDAY** – Chicken tortilla and cheese and baked potato soup
Marinated beef kabobs with rice, vegetables and a roll................................................................. $4.25

**WEDNESDAY** – Garden vegetable and chicken noodle soup
Fettuccine alfredo with grilled chicken and broccoli................................................................. $4.25

**THURSDAY** – Tomato florentine and cauliflower cheese soup
Chicken and vegetable stir-fry with rice and egg roll................................................................. $4.25

**FRIDAY** – Chef’s choice of soup
Fried fish with potato wedges, vegetable and roll................................................................. $4.25