Leadership RCTC
Hear is what Leadership RCTC participants say about the program:

“At Leadership RCTC, there is always the privilege of working with faculty and staff who really care about the campus. Each meeting provides an opportunity to learn more about the college, its history, and programs in a way that would not ordinarily present itself. Leadership RCTC helped me to see that we’re stronger when we work together, and has endeared this campus to me for the rest of my life.”

Janet Wessing
RCTC Student Senator

“Leadership RCTC was very valuable to me as a new employee. I learned important information that I may not have been exposed to in such a comprehensive manner if I had not participated in Leadership RCTC. I also met a variety of faculty and staff who I normally would not be in contact with as I am located in the Heintz Center. The Steering Committee did an excellent job of providing us with valuable information, quality speakers, and enlightening presentations. I would recommend Leadership RCTC to all!”

Stacey Spinler
Academic Advisor for Career and Technical Education
Rochester Community and Technical College

“The Leadership RCTC program provided a wonderful opportunity to learn more about the college and meet all sorts of people I may not normally interact with on a daily basis. Our cohort included representation from student, faculty, staff, and administration. Leadership RCTC brought together a diverse group of people to learn about RCTC, its successes and its challenges, its past and its vision for the future, and what role we in our various roles play in it. I was very happy that divergent viewpoints could be openly and honestly discussed. Rather than conversations breaking down into "us versus them" arguments, we were able to sit around the table, all members of the RCTC community. I highly recommend Leadership RCTC to anyone who wants to learn more about RCTC and have a chance to interact with other smart, motivated, forward-looking people.”

Leonard S. Goldfine, Ph.D.
Director of Institutional Research
College Relations and Effectiveness
Rochester Community and Technical College

For more information or to apply for the spring cohort beginning January 21 click on the links under attachments (above left).
Weekly Funny

SNAPSHOTS at jeanetlowe.com

Mrs. Howell packs 200 changes of clothing for a 3-hour tour.

Marketing Fact
According to the U.S. Department of Education, Digest of Education Statistics, 2001, in the fall of 1999, 47% of the undergraduate students in U.S. public higher education and 44% of all U.S. undergraduates were enrolled in community and technical colleges.

Crossings Classifieds

Wanted: Used free-standing gas fireplace and a large area rug. Call Brenda Frame at 356-4303.

For Sale: Whirlpool Washer and Dryer (electric). Approximately 15 years old. Both in good working condition. $120 for pair or best offer. Jim Stegge - 285-7500 or jim.stegge@roch.edu.

For Sale: Maytag Dishwasher (portable - not a built in). Approximately 12 years old. Good working condition $100 or best offer. Jim Stegge - 285-7500 or jim.stegge@roch.edu.

For Sale: Red metal toddler bed frame, $20.00, Evenflo stroller with snap on infant carrier/car seat, white with blue print liner, $25.00, and Century convertible (front/rear facing) infant/toddler car seat with T-shield, $20. Call Deb #7230 or 280-0932 after 5 p.m.

Holiday Reception
Mark your calendars for the annual UCR Holiday Reception!

Wednesday
December 15, 2004
2:00 to 4:00 pm
Heintz Center
Commons Area

– Sponsored by the Administration –

The Teddy Bear Tree will be available during the reception for anyone wishing to donate a new teddy bear to local law enforcement agencies for children in need of a “friend”.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS!

The Annual Student Support Center Holiday Party and Silent Auction will be held on Thursday, December 9 from 11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. in the Student Support Services office area SS160. Be sure to stop by for treats and bid on some unique items at the silent auction. All proceeds benefit the Iris Fried SSSP Scholarship fund. Teresa Tolmie will create a holiday atmosphere with her delightful piano selections and accept “tips for scholarships.” Please join us for holiday cheer, good times and yes, food!! See attachment for more information on the silent auction!
Supalla’s Scribblings

Depending on which report you believe, the news out of St. Paul today regarding the Minnesota biennial budget deficit is “bad” ($700 million) or “really bad” ($1.5 billion). It’s a certainty that when the next budget forecast is released in February, it won’t be good news for public higher education. On top of the bad budget news, came a report on MnSCU’s Monday presentation on the 2004 capital project program to the Senate Capital Investment Committee. The original 2004 request of $275 million, coupled with construction cost index inflation of 8.63%, becomes a 2005 request of $297.5 million. RCTC’s $11.7 million Health Sciences project is now expected to cost $12,758,594. The total MnSCU construction inflation cost due to the Legislature’s inability to pass a bonding bill last session is estimated at more than $19 million. Don’t hesitate to tell legislators who say the 2004 session wasn’t a costly one…”isn’t so!”

MnSCU received word this week from the Department of Natural Resources that the request for custodial control of the 37.3 acres of DNR land just north of Evanston Heights and south of the Heintz Center football fields has been permanently transferred to MnSCU for use by RCTC and the Rochester community. This long-awaited news is welcomed, brings the total UCR landmass to 518 acres and was the result of collaborative lobbying by area legislators, city officials and RCTC representatives.

The Minnesota Higher Education Services Office has released a report that post-secondary enrollment in the state has increased slightly for 2004. Fall enrollment at Minnesota’s colleges, universities and career schools increased just .9 percent this fall. Total headcount enrollment increased by 2720 students, from 317,544 in 2003 to 320,264 in 2004. Although enrollments at RCTC are up, MnSCU system enrollments declined slightly for the first time in six years.

A number of faculty and staff searches have been approved and search committees are being formed. If you’re interested in serving on a committee, please forward your name to union leadership ASAP. In an effort to initiate searches earlier and engage search committee members sooner, I will be appointing committee representatives the week of December 6. Please consider volunteering for this important responsibility.

Did you know…

➢ Faculty members wishing to be considered for a 2005-06 sabbatical are reminded that applications are being accepted now. Applications will only be accepted in the President’s Office until Wednesday, December 15.
➢ Applications are being accepted from any RCTC employee interested in participating in the Leadership RCTC spring 2004 cohort. The first session begins on January 21 and the program concludes on April 22. Congratulations to the first cohort participants who will be celebrating their accomplishment on December 3. Feedback from the first Leadership RCTC cohort has been very positive.
➢ Congratulations to Othelmo da Silva, SSSP academic advisor, who became a US citizen on November 17 during a ceremony in St. Paul. We’re pleased you’re on Team America and RCTC, Othelmo!
➢ Great news from the Office of the Chancellor…”RCTC has shown ‘great improvement’ in the collection of student race/ethnicity data. Unknown student race/ethnicity data for all students at RCTC has been reduced to 8% and for new students to 6%. These percentages are in the ‘acceptable range’ required by the Diversity Task Force of the Leadership Council.” Congratulations and many thanks to Troy Tynsky and the Admissions and Records staff who worked hard to achieve this significant data collection improvement. I applaud your efforts!
➢ The Foundation 2004 report indicates that new total endowment received this fiscal year was $72,245; the Foundation endowment balance now totals $1,358,617; the total Foundation fund balance stands at $1,969,365; 160 scholarships valued at $102,965 were awarded; 10 percent of registered alumni contribute to the Foundation; RCTC received $88,291 in gifts/grants of $5,000 or more; and the total value of non-cash/in-kind contributions to the College totaled $37,281. Thanks to Judy Bird, Marilyn Etbauer and the Foundation Board for their efforts.
MnSCU Chancellor Jim McCormick has been elected by his colleagues in the Midwest United States as Chair of the Midwestern Higher Education Compact. The Compact’s ten-state area includes over 850 institutions that are able to use a variety of collaborative programs for cost savings, student access and policy research. MHEC’s programs saved Minnesota colleges and universities, state and local governments and students over $2.3 million last year.

Kenneth W. Monfort College of Business, Greeley, Colorado, was the only institution to receive a Baldrige award in the education category for 2004. Three other organizations, one each in manufacturing, small business, and health care, also were named Baldrige winners.

Thought for the week…

The real winners in life are the people who look at every situation with an expectation that they can make it work or make it better.

- Barbara Pletcher

Congratulations to the RCTC winners!

Congratulations to Bill Brown for being selected as the Best Bee of the Month for December.

Here is some of what Bill’s nominators had to say: (Bill) is the most knowledgeable person I know on computer security. RCTC has one of the more secure networks around and a lot of credit goes to Bill; and, Not only does Bill help with everyday technical problems for students and faculty/staff, but he is also the one behind the scenes scanning our network for security reasons to keep hackers away; and finally, (Bill) always tries to find ways to improve the working environment and to make sure the Help Desk is where students/staff feel comfortable to come for any help with computer-related problems.

Bill will receive an "up front" parking spot at UCR for the month of December. Thanks, Bill, for helping make RCTC great!

Special Parking Permit Policy

Due to the number of requests received for special parking permits and the limited number of spaces available, the following policy will be in effect as of January 1, 2005.

**Special Parking Permit Policy:** Without documentation of need from healthcare provider - special parking permits will be limited to six weeks per illness/injury. With documentation of need from healthcare provider - special parking permits will be limited to six months per illness/injury.

Those needing extended permits (more than 6 months) are encouraged to apply for a Disability Parking Certificate from the Minnesota Department of Public Safety Driver and Vehicle Services Division. [http://www.dps.state.mn.us/dvs/](http://www.dps.state.mn.us/dvs/)

Special Parking Permits for employees and students are issued through Student Health Services (RG115.)
Inclement Weather Policy

Periodically the administration needs to close the University Center Rochester campus or cancel academic or non-academic activities due to inclement weather or other emergency conditions. The specific policy relating to the Closing of the University Center Rochester may be found at [http://www.roch.edu/rctc/policies/html/weather.html](http://www.roch.edu/rctc/policies/html/weather.html). Attached to this week's College Crossings is the procedures and work schedules followed when it becomes necessary to close the campus or cancel classes and activities, or delay the opening of college due to inclement weather or other emergency conditions. Each year the National Weather Service and the Minnesota Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management promote winter safety and individual preparedness for all citizens wherever they are: in their homes, on the road, at work, and at play.

Unfortunately, many people each year suffer needlessly because they are unaware of the potential dangers of the winter season. In preparation for the winter months, please remember:

**Winter Weather Preparations:**
* Keep ahead of the winter storm by listening for the latest weather statements, watches and warnings.
* Your vehicle should also be ready. Get it winterized, before the onset of winter weather.
* Be equipped for the worst. Carry a winter survival kit in your car, especially when traveling in rural or open areas. Try to travel with others.

**When Driving:**
* Yield to snowplows, and give them plenty of room to operate.
* If your vehicle becomes stranded, stay with it until help arrives.
* Do not try to walk for help during a blizzard, you could easily become lost in the whiteout conditions.

**Outdoor Activities:**
* If you will be outside during storms or extreme cold, dress in layered clothing and avoid overexertion.
* Do not exhaust yourself shoveling snow. Shoveling is very hard work and may induce a heart attack.
* If you will be snowmobiling, avoid alcohol. Most snowmobile deaths are alcohol related. Take a snowmobile course offered by the DNR or check with your snowmobile dealer.
* There were five fatalities in Minnesota last winter when people fell through thin ice.

**Home Safety:**
* Heating fires are a major cause of residential fires in Minnesota. Turn off portable heating devices when you are away from home or retire for the evening. Have your fireplace and chimney professionally inspected before winter.
* Carbon Monoxide is most likely to accumulate inside homes during winter.
* Check your heating systems and ensure your home has proper ventilation.
* Install a UL listed Carbon Monoxide detector that sounds an alarm.

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**Bake Sale – Fundraiser for RCTC Family Fund**

The sale will be held on Monday, December 13th from 10:00am-Noon in the Atrium and from 2:00-4:00pm in the Counseling Center if any baked items are left from the morning sale. Everyone is asked to donate baked goods wrapped and priced for the bake sale. One dozen of each item packaged, or if pies, breads, cakes, wrap them and also price them. If someone prefers to bring a baking sheet of bars or a container of cookies to sell individually that would be okay for students that don't want to purchase a plate of any item. We prefer to sell more by the plate. Everyone will have the weekend to put some baked items together and help raise money for the RCTC Family Fund. Please bring your items to the Atrium by 9:45am on Monday for the sale. If you need to bring your items earlier, they can be delivered to Rose Conway in Counseling.

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**Lost and Found**

The Lost and Found boxes are overflowing. Lots of items have been collected since the beginning of fall semester and are unclaimed. If you’ve checked at the Atrium Information Desk before, stop again, it may be here now. Anything unclaimed after December 17 will be donated to non-profit organizations.
12 Days of Christmas HOLIDAY DRAWING
12 PRIZES - 12 LUCKY WINNERS
The drawing is open to everyone. Ticket cost is: 10 tickets for $5.00. Tickets may be purchased from Deb in the Student Support Services office, SS150 or from the Upward Bound Heintz Center office, HA 116 or email Molly Rohe and have tickets delivered to you.

- 14kt gold, Sapphire and Diamond Ring, valued at $550
- Kahler Hotel, 2 night Great Escape Package, valued at over $250
- Treasure Island one night stay, valued at $109
- Snow Mass Fleece Jacket and Winter Bear
- Rochester Art Center Family Membership
- New Year’s Eve Celebration Basket
  - A Cup of Tea Holiday Basket
  - Glimmering Gold Holiday Basket
  - Wine Rack and 2 bottles of Wine
- World Traveler Overnight Bag, Photo Album and Journal
  - Christmas Collection Basket
  - Joy to the World Snow globe

Items on display on the 4th floor - December 6-10. The drawing will be held Atrium. You do not need to be present to win. All Proceeds go to the RCTC Upward Bound Scholarship Fund.

Goddard Library Remote Access Update
- Remote access to Goddard Library’s electronic resources will change on January 6, 2005. We will be switching to another proxy server. This will change the steps that you will need to follow in order to access our resources remotely.
- Use the current Remote Access Instructions until this date.
- *New* Remote Access Instructions will be available from the library’s website (http://www.roch.edu/library) on January 6, 2005.

Season’s Readings from Goddard Library
What better way to relieve end-of-semester stress than to think of something fun to read over the holidays?

- Do you know of a good title that other people might also enjoy?
- Submit your recommendations online at: (http://www.roch.edu/library)
- Recommendations received by Friday, December 10, 2004 will be posted online from the library’s homepage and in the library so that all of us can get some ideas for fun reading over the holidays.

Condolences
Condolences are extended to Sara Soukup whose grandfather, Lawrence Leeder, passed away. Condolences are also extended to Barb Ewen whose father, Roger Kennedy, passed away on November 30th. Our thoughts are with Barb, Sara and their families.

Thank You
Dear All: Thank you for your cards, words, and gestures of sympathy in connection with the death of my mother. My family and I are deeply touched by your support. Your words of hope and encouragement helped me during the past few months as I dealt with her illness and your sympathy and condolences help us now as we deal with her loss. I truly appreciate your support.

Nirmala Kotagal
**Electronic Music Concert**

On Monday, December 13 at 7:00pm, the Electronic Music Students will be presenting a one-night-only concert in Hill Theatre. They will be performing their original electronic music compositions. The World Drum Ensemble will also be performing. The event is free of charge, no reservations needed. Hope you can make it! These students are highly creative people and it promises to be a good show!

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**Duplicating Holiday Hours - 2004**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>December</th>
<th>Dec 1 - Dec 18 Regular Hours:</th>
<th>Dec 20 - Dec 22</th>
<th>7:30am - 6:00pm</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dec 23</td>
<td>7:30am - 5pm</td>
<td>Dec 24 - Jan 2</td>
<td>Closed</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jan 3 - Jan 7</td>
<td>8:00am - 4:30pm</td>
<td>Jan 8 - Jan 9</td>
<td>Closed</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jan 10</td>
<td>Regular hours resume:</td>
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<td>7:30am - 6:00pm Mon - Thurs</td>
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<td>8:00am - 11am Saturday</td>
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**Second Annual TREE OF POOR TASTE!!**

Bring your ornaments, doo-dads, and even ca-ca to "adorn the buck-thorn" located in the Student Support Services area by the copiers (SS156). Prizes will be awarded to the 3 WORST submissions!

Imagine the prestige of being this year's biggest LOSER. Bring your Holiday Horribilia now!

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**Annual Holiday Party and Silent Auction**

December 9, 2004
11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.
Room SS160, UCR Campus

*Sponsored by Student Support Services, Upward Bound, Perkins, and Disability Services*