MnSCU Chancellor James McCormick recognized the value of maintaining connections with graduates from the Minnesota State Colleges and Universities (MnSCU). Resources provided by MnSCU helped the RCTC Foundation update 19,000 alumni records. We are now in a place where we can communicate with our former graduates, reconnect with those who are interested in keeping in touch and facilitate communication between long lost classmates.

This is just the beginning. Think of the network possibilities? Think of the professional and personal opportunities that can occur through contacts with fellow students and colleagues. Watch future issues as we share these stories...and contact us if you want to be part of it.

Effort Underway to Increase Alumni Connections

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Campus Buzzing with Spring Activities

Spring 2002 at RCTC will go down as one of the busiest in history. On April 16th, the new TELEPro Technology Center was unveiled. TELEPro refers to Technology Enhanced Learning Environments Project—a state of the art electronic system for conveying pictures and text locally and worldwide. The center represents a far-sighted vision of the future of education. Costing $9.2 million, it includes interactive television, online learning, computer labs, classrooms with interactive T.V. and computer equipment and hundreds of miles of fiber optic wiring. Eventually it will include “streaming video” allowing students and faculty the ability to key in a few words and locate multiple resources on a subject, including videotaped lectures, digitized books and documentaries.

Scholarship awards night took place on April 25th, with $120,000 of scholarships awarded to 150 students. Highlights of the evening included recognition to the family of Mike Klampe, '67 who died last October. Mike was a lifelong supporter of our school and a tireless community volunteer. A scholarship fund was created in Mike’s memory and the first award was presented that night.

Graduation took place on May 10th in the new sports complex. 900 graduates received their diplomas this spring. It was a rousing ceremony with former Governor Arnie Carlson delivering the keynote address. (See Back Page for more graduation details and enrollment numbers)

The next day was the Grand Opening Event for the new $15.4 million sports complex. This incredible facility is 115,000 square feet. The field house seats 4000 and contains four full-size basketball courts and a sanctioned 200-meter track. The performance gym is brightly lit and will be home to the Yellowjacket basketball teams with bleacher seating for 1500. A weight and work-out room make the facility feel like a health club. Athletic department offices and a classroom round out the complex.
Growth and Achievement Continues at RCTC

More than 900 students graduated from RCTC this spring, a sign of continued growth in enrollment experienced at RCTC. In each of the last two years the school had double digit enrollment growth. At the same time tuition costs also experienced double digit growth. Tuition this fall is anticipated to rise 12.2%.

Education is still a bargain at RCTC. With the new Sports Complex, TELEPro facility and yet to be completed new horticulture building, RCTC can boast some of the newest cutting edge technology and facilities in the state.

Expansion of programs is ongoing at RCTC. 2+2 curriculum continues to be developed in partnership with Winona State University Rochester Center and the University of Minnesota Rochester. These three educational entities that make up University Center Rochester (UCR), the name used to describe our campus. Currently there are 25 bachelor degrees that can be earned here, in Rochester, on the UCR campus. For a look at 2+2 programs and articulation agreements with a whole host of schools, visit the website:

www.roch.edu/rctc/catalog/2plus2

The two and four year nursing program continues to attract students to RCTC. With a new facility, the horticulture program also is witnessing increased enrollment. With the growth of technology and applications, programs such as graphic design and digital music also draws students to RCTC.

RCTC continues to provide students opportunities for growth through leadership in the student senate, athletics, campus events and affinity clubs.

Watch for future issues where we profile current and former faculty; “Where are they now?” Update your alumni profile and watch for alumni news. Learn more about what is happening at your alma mater.