The Great Lakes Campus of Northwestern Michigan College has opened its west wing to the Great Lakes Maritime Academy and Great Lakes Water Studies Institute. The $18.05 million project is on schedule and on budget—with the east wing opening in January, 2004.

“We are very grateful to the community for its support of the Great Lakes Campus project through the 1999 bond request,” said NMC Board of Trustees Chair Cheryl Gore Follette. “The community told us what they wanted, and we believe that each of our campus sites now encourages learning and reflects the pride we all feel for our region.”

The Great Lakes Campus west wing is 36,000 square feet, with 11 classrooms and labs, 13 offices, 2 bridge simulation areas, and 6 radar rooms—plus reception and conference rooms. The Maritime Academy occupies part of the first floor and the entire second floor of the west wing—and now that they are in their new home, the freezer building is gone.

Commenting on the new facilities, Maritime Superintendent John Tanner said, “We knew the building was going to be fantastic, but it’s exceeded our expectations. Everybody is very pleased.”

The Water Studies Institute (WSI) occupies the classroom and demonstration laboratory at the north end of the first floor, overlooking the bay. WSI Projects Coordinator Rebecca Cooper said, “Strategically positioned on the shore of Grand Traverse Bay, the Water Studies Institute puts NMC at the epicenter of the Great Lakes Basin map where we can act as a conduit to provide locally relevant water-themed education, support original research, and convene partners on important water-related issues.”

Public Open House: April 21, 2004, 3-7 p.m.
Alumni Updates

1950’s

Milliron, Fred, 1954-56
7579 Narrow Gauge Road, Beulah, MI 49617
Mr. Milliron received an A.A. from NMC, a B.S. from CMU and a M.A. from EMU. He retired in 1986 after teaching for 27 years, 20 in special education. He also owned and operated a refuse collection business. “Still have fond memories of my days at NMC.”

Stevens, John R., 1954-56
405 Parnell Ave., Sault Ste. Marie, MI 49783
Mr. Stevens was a Liberal Arts major at NMC. He retired after 41 years as a professor.

1960’s

Bailey, Pamela A. (Haight), 1966-68
2143 College Rd., Holt, MI 48842
Ms. Bailey received an A.A. from NMC and a B.A. from MSU. She is currently working at MSU for the Michigan Sea Grant Program. “Friendships made at NMC, and still remain close, is best memory.”

Message from the President

Timothy J. Nelson, NMC President

There is a lot happening this fall at Northwestern Michigan College. Academic enrollment is up, construction is continuing and improvements are everywhere. On main campus, we’ve remodeled and re-opened two of our veteran buildings—Old Science becoming Scholars Hall and Communications becoming Founders Hall. At the same time, the west wing of our Great Lakes Campus has opened for business with the Great Lakes Water Studies Institute and Great Lakes Maritime Academy taking up residence in October. The east wing will welcome the Great Lakes Culinary Institute and Great Lakes Professional Development Center in January. You’ll read more about these developments in this issue of Nor’Wester—and we encourage you to visit our campuses to see for yourself. You are always welcome.

Those of you in Michigan are aware of the budget challenges facing the State. These challenges have affected NMC resulting in a 10% reduction in our funding with the real potential of more this year. A combination of cost reductions, revenue enhancements, program efficiencies and prior planning allow us to meet the needs of the region and provide high quality accessible learning. The support of community, faculty, staff and students during these challenging times are consistent with the heritage of NMC.

A Message From Jerry Linenger

Honorary Chair, Great Lakes Campus Campaign

"From my perch in space living aboard the Russian space station Mir, I experienced a ‘whole new view’ of the planet. I can vouch for the fact that there is no other part of the globe more recognizable, more spectacular than the Great Lakes region.

The Great Lakes Campus sits on the water’s edge of this special spot on earth, and it is spectacular! Support it. Embrace it. Actively participate."

Jerry M. Linenger, U.S. astronaut/Mir cosmonaut
Captain, U.S. Navy (ret.)

Use this coupon or on the web: www.greatlakescampus.org

Buy a Fish, Join the School!

Buy a Fish for just $100 and help us create “A Whole New View” on West Bay in Traverse City. Your name or the name of a loved one will appear on the fish— and be part of the “school” of fish prominently displayed in the Great Lakes Professional Development Center at Northwestern Michigan College.

Use the form below to buy your fish. Pay now or spread your $100 over four payments. For more information, please call (231) 995-1021 weekdays, 8 a.m.-5 p.m.

Yes! I/We would like to purchase Fish @ $100 each          Date          /          /

or, I/We would prefer to apply my/our gift to:

Name
Address
City/State/Zip
Phone number with area code (          )

☐ Pledge: Please bill me ☐ Full amount, or ☐ Quarterly for up to one year
☐ Check Enclosed ☐ VISA ☐ MasterCard ☐ Discover Exp. Date          /          /

payable to NMC Foundation

Acct. # Signature

Name/s to appear on the Fish

Return to: NMC Foundation, Northwestern Michigan College, 1701 E. Front, Traverse City, MI 49686
**Alumni Updates**

1960's
Moore, Don J., 1960-62
80 Burlingame Ave., Citrus Heights, CA 95621
Mr. Moore studied Business at NMC and Computer Programming at the University of California in Sacramento. He was a Deputy Sheriff for Sacramento County for six years and the business manager for a commercial construction company for 20 years. He retired in 1989 and travels in his R.V.

Rogers, Deanna G. (Nystrom), 1962-64
8107 Webster Rd., Mt. Morris, MI 48450
Ms. Rogers graduated from the Registered Nursing program at NMC and worked as a critical care nurse for 29 years. She retired in 1995 and now enjoys her grandchildren, crafts, and cruising with her husband in their two custom cars—a ‘49 Chevy and a ‘51 Mercury. She is also a Mary Kay Consultant.

1970's
Collins, Ann M. (Davis), 1976-77
9757 E. Valley Hills Dr., Traverse City, MI 49684
Ms. Collins graduated from the Licensed Practical Nurse program at NMC and is currently working in Occupational Health and Medicine through Munson Medical Center.

**INNOVATIVE FACULTY IDEAS**

**Innovative Faculty Ideas**

**Biography as Textbook**
History instructor Tom Gordon is trying a new approach in his “American History, 1865-Vietnam” course, using the biography “Truman” by David McCullough as his text. “I’m trying to get away from textbooks,” Gordon said, “because they cover too much without depth and are mired in political correctness. History should be interesting.” So far, the students seem to be enjoying the Truman biography and will use it to pursue “learner-centered projects,” Gordon said, “which will establish the context of Truman’s life and fill out the requirements of the course.” He adds, “We’re all teachers in this class.”

**Pharmacy Tech as Independent Study**
As part of a workforce collaborative initiative with Munson Healthcare, NMC is offering a Pharmacy Technician Independent Study option. “We’re putting the final pieces together,” Health Occupations Academic Chair Jean Rokos said. “We have determined that this is a need both at Munson and within the community.”

The independent study includes training and testing using CD-Rom technology as well as independent projects and homework to prepare for the national certification exam. “We plan to launch this new option fall semester 2004” Rokos said, “and look forward to working with students who are interested in this field.” For more information, contact: Mary Vanderkolk at (231) 995-1239 or mvanderkolk@nmc.edu.

**MVU Tutorials as Valuable Bridge**
“This fall we’ve decided to use several computer tutorials offered by the Michigan Virtual University for our students,” Bridge Program Instructor Dave Crawford said. “Some have never touched a computer, so this enables them to work at their own speed, in class or out of class.” The NMC Bridge Program is a one-on-school program designed to prepare students for college-level work and/or employment.

“We welcome students with a wide range of skills,” Crawford said, “so tutorials are a great opportunity for them to study classes like PC fundamentals and Microsoft Word in a comfortable format.”

**Denos Museum as Curriculum**
Instructor Steve Drake has a passion for math and for convincing people that math is not only relevant but interesting. One way to do this is to link math to other disciplines and add applications in connection with exhibitions at the Denos Museum Center. “We have a grant from the National Science Foundation for curriculum integration,” Drake said, “and we’ve stretched those dollars over four years and several projects.” For example, when the Museum featured a glass exhibit, Steve worked with NMC chemistry instructors to help students understand the chemistry involved in making and coloring glass. Presently, the Museum is featuring photographs from the Hubble Space Telescope and Drake is inviting instructors from astronomy and photography, plus an ophthalmologist, to share their expertise and show applications involving mathematics. “The goal is to broaden our students’ thinking by helping them weave concepts,” he said. “I hope to make students aware that mathematics is everywhere—including the entire universe.”

**NEW FLAG POLES, THANKS TO CLASS OF ’53**

“I was looking at that old flag pole,” George Comden, NMC Class of 1953, said, “and I thought it was probably the original flag pole and ought to be replaced.” The original pole was erected at the groundbreaking ceremony for the main campus on July 3, 1952.

Comden decided that three flagpoles would “look classier” than one and would permit NMC to fly the American flag, the Michigan flag and the college flag. To accomplish this project, he invited members of NMC’s first graduating class, the Class of ’53, to contribute—and 17 did. Their names, as noted on a flagpole plaque, are:

- Eleanor C. Brzezinski
- Louis N. Rumenes
- Raymond R. Oliva
- Rozell W. Sattler
- George C. Comden
- Allen G. Scheck
- Alexander J. Galligan
- Marilyn (Carder) Scheck
- Carol (Paynor) Galligan
- Edward A. Schmidt
- M. Jeanne (Underhill) Kerr
- Joy (Kyser) Smeltekop
- Virginia (Mariage) Lee
- Betty (Fahler) Smith
- Joseph W. Mariage
- Janet (Harrigan) Taylor
- W. Charles Mellberg
- Louis N. Rumenes
- Rozell W. Sattler
- Allen G. Scheck
- Marilyn (Carder) Scheck
- Edward A. Schmidt
- Joy (Kyser) Smeltekop
- Betty (Fahler) Smith
- Janet (Harrigan) Taylor
- W. Charles Mellberg

Thank you, Class of ’53, for your generous and enduring support of NMC! You are an inspiration… again and again.
Located at the Great Lakes Campus, the new NMC Great Lakes Water Studies Institute (WSI) supports stewardship through education with a focus on the Grand Traverse watershed—in collaboration with other regional groups.

Marguerite Cotto, executive director of the NMC University Center, is Acting Director of the WSI—a role she will fulfill until a permanent director is identified. “Freshwater is essential for life and is in limited supply,” Cotto said. “The Grand Traverse waters are a primary source of our regional identity, economy, and quality of life. We look forward to being a pro-active member of the community of educators and conservation groups who are involved in these efforts.”

Activities currently underway at the WSI include:
- Design of a “Watershed Education Program” in cooperation with the Michigan State University Institute of Water Research through a local “Community of Learners,” with inaugural courses planned for winter 2003-4;
- A Community Survey to enhance understanding of regional needs and resources, to be completed by early 2004;
- Identification of prototype Pilot Projects for fall 2003 involving local nonprofit conservation and watershed organizations, college and high school, middle school, and grade school teachers and students;
- Application for funding to the State Coastal Management Program to design the new Great Lakes Campus harbor.

“Our Community of Learners is a wonderful group of 13 area educators, experts and advocates,” said Rebecca Cooper, coordinator for this initiative and the pilot projects. “Our goal is to modify the MSU watershed curriculum to fit issues related to the Grand Traverse watershed.”

Dawn Iott, a science instructor at Interlochen Pathfinder School, is a member of the Community of Learners and said, “To me, it’s important to teach our children respect for the world around them; it’s just good planetary hygiene. We can survive without oil, but not without clean water.”

For more information on the NMC Water Studies Institute, contact Marguerite Cotto at 231 995-1775 or by email: mcotto@nmc.edu or bcooper@nmc.edu

Terry and Janet Sanborn met at NMC when they attended in the 1960s and went on to graduate from Michigan State University, the first in their families to obtain college degrees. “Education gave us the opportunity to have a better lifestyle than we might otherwise have achieved,” Terry said.

“There were only a couple of buildings back then,” Terry said, remembering NMC in the sixties, “but the academics were rigorous. It was an economical way for people who didn’t have much money to go to college.”

Terry worked for Whirlpool for five years, then helped “turn around companies in trouble” for awhile. He retired as Chief Operating Officer from Medex, Inc., a manufacturer of disposable medical devices. Now the Sanborns divide their time between northern Michigan and Florida.

In appreciation for their experience at NMC, the Sanborns have included the college in their estate plans. For more information about making a planned gift, contact Kathy Lievense in the NMC Planned Giving Office, 231 995-1855 or by email: klievense@nmc.edu

Wayne and Terry Lobdell present NMC President Timothy Nelson and Culinary Institute Director Fred Laughlin with a check for $300,000, naming the new culinary restaurant, “Lobdell’s, A Teaching Restaurant.” Wayne Lobdell said, “Our decision to make this gift to the Great Lakes Culinary Institute and Northwestern Michigan College on behalf of our family was based on our desire to give something special back to the Grand Traverse Region to express our appreciation for the opportunity to start our business here and raise our family here.”
The Old Science Building has been renovated and renamed "Scholars Hall," boasting a handsome new entrance (almost completed), new general purpose classrooms, offices for Communications and Social Sciences faculty, and plenty of study spaces for students. Social Sciences Office Manager Cindy Duby said, "It doesn’t even seem like the same building at all; it’s nice to have a permanent home.”

Political Science Instructor John Zachman said, “The biggest impact has been on students; the public spaces invite them to be here and study together.” English Instructor John Pahl said, “It’s a luxury to teach on the premises and great to see the students gathered in the alcoves.” “We have more space, more light, more book cases!” said Writing Center Technician Karen Giddis. “And we love the study-cubbies!”

The Old Communications Building has become “Founders Hall” and home to the College Relations and Foundation staff, plus two new conference rooms. “It’s wonderful to be back on main campus after six years at the University Center,” College Relations Executive Director Kathleen Guy said, “and to welcome our donors and alumni to such a beautiful facility.”

2000’s

Potter, Bill J., 1998-2002
132 Mitchell, St. Cloud, MN 56301
Mr. Potter studied resort management at NMC and is currently majoring in community psychology at St. Cloud State University. He stays active by participating in many clubs.

Travin, Molly M., 1999-2000
Ms. Travin received an A.A. from NMC and graduated with honors from Saginaw Valley State University, majoring in criminal justice and sociology. She was accepted into Wayne State University’s Criminal Justice Graduate Program for Fall, 2003.

If you’re an alumnus of NMC, you know the value of community support for the college. We wouldn’t be here without it! Each year, we seek to renew this support through our Annual Community Campaign which provides important new resources to serve our learners.

Last year, several generous donors provided “matching funds” so that we could offer incentives to new donors by matching their pledges. This program worked so well that this year, the Alumni Association has set a collective goal of raising $5,000 to become a Matching Gift Donor and thus encourage new gifts. If just 100 of us contribute as little as $50 each, we will make it as a team! Please join us.

Janet Harrigan Taylor, Class of 1953
Frank Shumsky, Class of 1960
Lura Lyon Ruede, Class of 1995

To make a pledge, contact Teri Hedrich in the College Relations Office at 231 995-1021 or by email at: thedirich@nmc.edu

Tell us about yourself for publication in Nor’Wester

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Mail to: NMC Alumni Office, 1701 E. Front St., Traverse City, MI 49686
Email to: mfox@nmc.edu
NorWester Alumni Updates

“When I first started at NMC, I decided to take the one course I knew I would fail,” Nicholeen Frusti said, “in order to prove that I wasn’t capable of going to college.” That course was Algebra and her grade was a 3.5. “Knowing that I could do it, I came back for more and little by little, I succeeded,” Frusti said. Success was a surprise for Frusti, she said, because she dropped out of high school and never dreamed she’d go back to school or to college. Then, “as a mother of three and tired of working as a server,” she decided to risk higher education.

At first, she tried to work full-time while attending college, but “my life was falling apart.” Thanks to scholarship support, she was able to focus on her studies (and her family)—and “keep a 3.7 grade point average.”

An honors student, Frusti is president of the NMC chapter of Phi Theta Kappa, the honor society for community colleges. “I intend to give back to my community as a professional,” she said, “because I received help when I needed it.” Enrolled in the Business Administration Program, Frusti hopes to continue her education through Ferris State University at the NMC University Center with a Bachelor of Science in Secondary Education with a Business Education emphasis. She eventually plans to complete her MBA. As a student worker in NMC’s Career and Employment Office, Frusti meets other students like herself—who might not think they can succeed in college. “I hope I can inspire them to try,” she said. “It’s made a big difference in my life.”

The Great Lakes Campus Campaign “Buy a Fish” effort has been enhanced by the presence of a “Spokesfish” who has added much humor and visibility to the campaign. Throughout the summer and fall, the Spokesfish has been making appearances at Cherry Festival parades, Friday Night Live, and many service club presentations. At right, campaign co-chair Bob Brick joins the Spokesfish at a summer event.

Spokesfish Hooked By Brick

NMC STUDENT SURPRISES HERSELF WITH SUCCESS

“...”

Alumni Updates

1970’s
Wood, Chris (Heim), 1971-73
556 W. 27th St., Holland, MI 49423
Ms. Wood studied Nursing at NMC and now uses her nursing skills once a year to assist with sports physicals at her local high school. She is a full-time Mom to six teenagers.

1980’s
Fowler, Jeannie P. (Bechill), 1985-88
Ms. Fowler studied Commercial Art at NMC and works for Handelman Company in Troy, Michigan, the world’s largest distributor of pre-recorded music to mass merchants. Ms. Fowler is married with two children and lives in Rochester, Michigan.

1990’s
McKee, Jenell P. (Gauthier), 1989-90
653 Lakewood Ln, Marquette, MI 49855
Ms. McKee studied education at NMC and has worked as a special education teacher, teacher consultant, Director of Special Education in Cedarville Les Cheneaux Community Schools, and teacher of physics and chemistry at Heritage High School in Saginaw Township Community Schools. She married Bob McKee in 2002, is retired and enjoying life.