NMC faculty, students, spend summer living and learning in Russia

From Moscow to the edge of Siberia, four NMC faculty and eight students crisscrossed Russia last summer, experiencing the emerging capitalist society as both teachers and learners – and planning how to share the experience back on campus.

Engineering instructor Jim Coughlin, math instructor Steve Drake and eight NMC engineering students traveled to Russia through Michigan State University’s Multidisciplinary Study Abroad program. They spent most of their trip in Volgograd (formerly Stalingrad) in southern Russia, teaching and studying at Volgograd Engineering and Architectural University.

Meanwhile, business instructors Karen Howie and Mary Ann Linsell traveled in northern Russia as participants in a Fulbright Group Project Abroad.

Both Coughlin, who’s sent students to Russia for years but was teaching for the first time, and MSU officials will continue to explore ways for more students to take advantage of study-abroad opportunities.

The trip was also Drake’s first international teaching experience in 35 years at NMC. He said he hopes more students are able to choose international study through programs like the proposed partnership.

“In the present mood of the world you have to think globally. You cannot think locally,” he said.

Coughlin also hopes to expand the program and bring Russian nationals to study at NMC.

“They just bring a flavor to education that the U.S. nationals don’t get here. We’re pretty homogenous here, especially in this area,” he said.

Howie and Linsell agreed. Back on campus, Linsell has already started an “e-pal” correspondence between her Introduction to Business students and Russian counterparts, made possible through a contact she made on the trip. The class studies different economic systems and Russia and the U.S. are two case studies.

“I knew automatically it would be a great experience to bring back to students, to compare and contrast with their lives and those of a developing market economy,” Linsell said.

Beyond the classroom, Howie hopes to share some of the trip with the entire community by bringing an exhibit on Russia’s last gulag, Perm 36, to the Dennos Museum Center next year. Perm 36, which they visited on their trip, operated until the mid-1980s in the city of Perm, located at the foot of the Ural Mountains on the eastern edge of what is considered European Russia and the western border of the Siberian plain.

All four faculty members presented to their colleagues at a fall professional development day. They encourage international travel by educators as a way to enrich their instruction and make it more relevant in today’s global society.

“It was so intense. I’ve never had an international experience that was so immersed,” Howie said.
A new study about the economic contributions of Northwestern Michigan College comes up with some impressive numbers and conclusions about how NMC impacts our regional economy.

The vast majority of NMC students choose to stay in the region and join the workforce. That workforce, now more than 50 years in the making, makes an accumulated contribution of more than $350 million in income to the current economy.

Add in NMC operations of about $17.9 million, and the bottom line is NMC accounts for nearly 7 percent of the total income for our region each year.

Impressive as those numbers are, they overlook what to me is the most important number of all: One.

NMC makes its impact one learner at a time.

One associate degree student.

One Training and Research client.

One Dennos Museum Center patron.

One Extended Education participant.

One WNMC listener.

You need meet only one person who has participated in an NMC program or talk to one current student to learn the real value of all that we do. While it can be quantified, there is an intrinsic value to what we do, and the role that we play in the region.

While the dollars and statistics are important, every day our mission comes down to meeting the needs of each learner in our community, one at a time.

Original NMC faculty member Walter Beardslee and his wife Elaine, also a teacher and longtime librarian, were named NMC Fellows for 2006.

Bestowed on those who dedicate effort, time and financial support to the college over many years, the NMC Fellow is the college’s highest honor.

In 1951, the Beardslees moved to Traverse City so Walter could join the faculty of the new college. He taught history classes and also served as the college’s first librarian. He headed the humanities department for 15 years until his retirement in 1985.

In the early 1960s, Elaine joined Walter on the faculty, teaching English and history classes. In 1963 she moved to her real love, the library, where she was instrumental in building the collection. She retired in 1995 yet still volunteers there three days a week.

Both Beardslees volunteer at a host of college events, from the annual BBQ to the international student dinner. They also have made a planned gift to the college, and established a scholarship in honor of the Class of 1953, NMC’s first graduating class.
College welcomes two new trustees

NMC’s Board of Trustees appointed local business owner Bill Myers and attorney Doug Bishop to fill board vacancies created by resignations earlier this year.

Myers, the owner and founder of TriLink Technical Services and a 10-year resident of Traverse City, said his service is prompted by a desire to contribute to the growth of NMC’s technical programs. “Through the development of a strong reputation in technical fields, NMC can accelerate the rate at which Traverse City attracts ‘high tech’ employers to the region,” he said.

Bishop has practiced law in Traverse City since 1977 and is past chair of the Traverse City Area Chamber of Commerce Education Committee. “There is no more important factor in the well-being of a community than availability of quality educational opportunity at all levels, and opportunities offered through NMC are a critical component,” he said.

On Nov. 7, Myers was elected to fill out a term ending in 2008. Bishop and incumbent trustee Walter J. Hooper each were elected to six-year terms.

Twice the impact

Have you been thinking about making a gift to NMC? Now is the best time to do so. During the 2006-07 Community Campaign, gifts from first-time donors will be matched dollar-for-dollar by these generous people and organizations:

- H. Cox & Son, Inc.
- Barb & Dennis Fedorinchik and Hallmark Construction
- Fifth Third Bank
- Huntington National Bank
- Jordan Exploration Company
- National City Bank
- NMC Foundation Board Members
- The Art & Mary Schmuckal Family Foundation

An investment in NMC funds student scholarships, state-of-the-art classroom equipment, enhances programs and course development, and can provide tax deductions for donors.

The 2006-07 campaign seeks to raise $315,000 from 600 donors.

You can make your gift online at www.nmc.edu/foundation

New Foundation Board Members

The NMC Foundation has named three new members to its board who will serve through 2008:

- Bruce L. Byl is an NMC alumnus, receiving an AA in Aviation in 1979. He is retired as co-owner of two Steelcase office furniture distributorships.
- Terry Lobdell is a partner and advisor with her husband, Wayne, for Lobdell Family Enterprises, a diversified investment company. Lobdell’s, A Teaching Restaurant on the NMC Great Lakes Campus is named in recognition of their contributions to the Great Lakes Campus culinary facilities.
- Barb Smith is the retired CFO of Olmsted Products, a company she and her husband Dudley purchased in 1988. They are Fellows of NMC for their long-time support of the Dennos Museum Center, particularly the Inuit art collection.
Shakespeare wrote that all the world’s a stage. This spring, the Milliken Auditorium will stage the world.

Artists with roots on three continents – Africa, Asia and North America – will perform the three final concerts of the 2006-07 series at the Dennos Museum Center. Collectively, they represent the museum’s foray into a newer genre for northern Michigan: world music.

With technology shrinking the globe, Museum Director Gene Jenneman said he wants to expand the traditional jazz and blues concert series. Long Lake resident and renowned jazz pianist Bob James, who will play the finale concert with a quintet of Chinese musicians he’s dubbed the Angels of Shanghai, said he believes audiences will find their sound irresistible.

“I would consider myself somewhat of a Pied Piper. I love the opportunity to introduce new things to my friends. I hope they’ll trust me,” said James, a Dennos favorite whose Steinway makes its home at Milliken.

James praised Jenneman for his efforts to bring “new and unpredictable stuff” to Traverse City audiences. Two of the three Dennos shows, including his, will be the artists’ U.S. premieres. The schedule includes:

- **African Guitar Summit**, March 24. Jenneman is a self-described “groupie” of the Toronto-based guitarists of African descent assembled by the Canadian Broadcasting Corp. in 2004. Their Dennos appearance will be their first in the United States.
- **Kiyoshi Nagata Ensemble**, April 20. Also based in Toronto, the six-member ensemble is rejuvenating and redefining traditional Japanese drumming. They return after sellout concerts last year.
- **Bob James and the Angels of Shanghai**, April 28. The “angels” are Shanghai Conservatory of Music students who play centuries-old traditional Chinese instruments. The group has played in Bangkok, Seoul, Jakarta and toured Japan. James is planning a short U.S. tour following the Dennos debut, and hopes to stage a Chinese tour, too. A donation from the International Affairs Forum, which sponsors an annual speaker series at NMC, is helping to bring the Angels to Traverse City.

For information or tickets, visit [www.dennosmuseum.org](http://www.dennosmuseum.org) or call (231) 995-1553.

Wisconsin artist Jennifer Angus’ medium is tens of thousands of dead, dried and preserved insects. She’ll take over two galleries at the Dennos Museum Center between Dec. 10-March 4 to showcase “A Terrible Beauty,” an exhibit unique to the space and installed over nine days.
Alumni Updates

Read more online

We’ve made it easier for alumni to keep in touch with one another. Visit the new Alumni section of the NMC website, where you can read about others, or submit an update about yourself electronically: www.nmc.edu/alumni

You also can send updates via e-mail to alumni@nmc.edu

1950s
Marjorie Jeanne (Underhill) Kerr (1951-53) studied Language Arts and Spanish at NMC. She attended MSU and “eventually” earned a master’s degree. She continued taking classes after retirement, but now travels most of the time. “NMC gave me the first chance to broaden my horizons. I will be forever grateful that I had the opportunity to be in the first class.” She lives in Lansing.

Charles D. Kesner (1957-59) was a science major at NMC. He now lives about 15 miles from Helena, Mont. in the Big Belt Mountains. His son, Todd, also an NMC alumnus, is on the faculty at Montana State University, so he visits there often.


Edward A. Schmidt (1951-53) studied liberal arts at NMC. He was drafted into the Army in 1953. He earned a B.S. in Biology, a master’s, and a master’s plus 30 from CMU. He taught for 36 years and retired in 1995. He lives in Mt. Pleasant and enjoys doing various volunteer activities.

1960s
Leone K. (Bigelow) Grams (1964-66) earned an AA from NMC and a BA from Western Michigan University. She was a social worker for the State of Michigan from 1969-2002, and is now enjoying retirement in Muskegon.

John Lindberg (1964-66) received a degree in business administration from the University of Michigan in 1968. He went on to a 36-year career as an entrepreneur, during which he created more than 1,000 jobs, many in northern Michigan. He created and sold a metal finishing company and a book distribution business. Since 2000 he has owned an e-commerce order fulfillment company. He is married to Jana Bunt Lindberg and has three sons: Jordan, a PhD; Jason, a junior at Albion College; and Jeff, who is currently enrolled at NMC. He says he has many happy memories of NMC and appreciates the opportunity he found here as a young man.

John Worm (1963-65) graduated from NMC in 1965. He is a senior partner with The Counseling Group, Inc. in Taylorsville, N.C., providing EAP and counseling services to six counties.

1970s
John B. Brolick (1976-79) was in the Aviation program at NMC. He has been a pilot with American Airlines since 1985 and a captain since 1991. He is based in Dallas-Fort Worth.

Brian C. Dwan (1975-78) was in the Aviation program at NMC. He has flown freight and corporate, and was a flight officer for the “real” Eastern Airlines. He is now an Airbus captain for United Airlines. He keeps in touch with other NMC alumni flying for various airlines and corporations.

Dennis S. Halverson (1973-75) studied liberal arts at NMC. He recently retired as the longest serving (19 years) chief of police for the city of Charlevoix to become the Safe Schools Coordinator for the Charlevoix-Emmet Intermediate School District.

Col. Stephen Kaufman, USMC Retired, (1975-77) studied general science at NMC. He earned a BA in Paralegal Studies from the University of Central Florida and was also in the USMC ROTC. He served as a military police officer in the U.S. Marine Corps for 22 years, retiring as a colonel in 2001. He has received 5 Purple Hearts, 2 Silver Stars, and 1 Bronze Star. He was a member of the 1980 U.S. Olympic Weightlifting Team and was captain of the 1992 U.S. Power Lifting Exhibition Team that competed in Barcelona, Spain. Currently he is a consultant in the commercial security field in New York City.

Mark S. Riley (1977-79) was in the Auto Mechanics program at NMC. He has been in the tool & die wire burn industry for 20 years. He and his wife, Connie, live in Marne, Mich. They have been married for 25 years and have 3 children. “Life is good!”

James A. Ziemnick (1970-72) was in the parks and recreation administration program at NMC. He lives in Calumet, Mich.

1980s
Elaine M. Bageris (1981-83) studied commercial art at NMC and earned a BS in Advertising from Ferris State College. She has worked for local business and entertainment publications, and is now working in the art department of a local newspaper. She lives in Kernersville, N.C., where she enjoys performing in community theatre and fundraising for the Central North Carolina Chapter of the National Multiple Sclerosis Society.

Andrea (Beadle) Galloup (1980-82 and 1989) earned two degrees from NMC, one in Executive Secretarial and one in Legal Assisting. She also earned a bachelor’s degree in business administration from Ferris State University. She is a Realtor with Real Estate One of Traverse City and is a multi-million dollar producer. She is active in her church, is a member of the Traverse City Chamber of Commerce, where she volunteers as a Chamber Ambassador, and plays clarinet with the Encore Wind Symphony. She lives in Leelanau County with her husband (an NMC alumnus) and two sons.

Chuck and Naida Kesner traveled the farthest to attend the 50th anniversary of the NMC BBQ last May, journeying from Helena, Mont. for their buffalo burger. Chuck is an alumnus of NMC’s Class of 1959. The 2007 BBQ is set for May 20.

Continued on page 6
Find it here...

The Spring/Summer 2007 Schedule of Classes offers a world of opportunities for degree-seeking students, including online Flexible Learning Options. Download or search the Spring and Summer 2007 Schedule of Classes online at www.nmc.edu/schedules or request your own catalog. Write to cgarvin@nmc.edu or call (231) 995-1054.

Also, check out the just-released Extended Educational Services Catalog online at www.nmc.edu/ees or request your own catalog. Write to ees@nmc.edu or call (231) 995-1700.

More than 10,000 people participated in ESS classes last year. They learned everything from dancing to Japanese to working with computer spreadsheets. There’s sure to be a class that intrigues you, too.

Veterans History Project continues at NMC

Students in NMC history instructor Jim Press’ classes have interviewed more than 60 veterans from World War II, the Korean War, Vietnam War, Persian Gulf War and the current conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan as part of the Library of Congress’ recorded Veterans History Project. The interviews will become part of the Library’s collection of stories and memories gathered from veterans nationwide.

Veterans who would like to take part should contact Press at jpress@nmc.edu or 231-995-1327. For more information on the project or to read and hear samples, go to www.loc.gov/vets

Shining Stars

NMC astronomer Jerry Dobek greets Ann Rogers, widow of NMC math and science instructor Joseph H. Rogers, at the 25th anniversary celebration of the Rogers Observatory in October. It was Joe Rogers’ passion that led to the observatory’s construction in 1981. More than 100,000 people have peered at the stars since then. The observatory’s next public viewing night is Saturday, Dec. 16, from 8-10 p.m.

Alumni Updates

Brenda S. Hubbell (1986-88) earned her ADN from NMC in 1988. She works for Munson Medical Center, is married and has three children.

Kathy L. Miller (1987-1989) was in the liberal arts program at NMC. She earned a bachelor’s degree in anthropology and ecology at the University of New Mexico, and a master’s in anthropology from Colorado State University. She is a practicing anthropologist for the Tutoit, Haida and Tsimshian tribes in Juneau, Alaska. She has lived with Jacob Kiefer (NMC Alumnus, 1987-89) for over three years.

1990s

Alan T. Lindholm (1989-93) studied marine engineering at NMC and general business at Ferris State University. He works for the State of Michigan at the Marquette Branch Prison in the powerhouse and lives in Gwinn.

Amy M. (Smith) Willman (1988-91) earned an associate degree in nursing from NMC. She is a GI Endoscopy RN, a certified fitness instructor and a SGNA member. She lives in Maryland Hts., Missouri.

2000s

Craig LaFave (2000-01) earned an Associate of Applied Science at NMC. He is currently working at Olmsted Products in Traverse City and lives in Cadillac.

Northwestern Michigan College’s Student Engineering chapter won the Blizzard Baja race held in Houghton last February. Sponsored by Michigan Technological University, the Blizzard Baja consists of two hour-and-a-half endurance races over a rigorous track made of snow and ice. NMC bested the field of 22 schools competing in sub-zero temperatures.
Roy Terdal, pacifist, idealist and a beloved NMC philosophy instructor for 30 years, died April 22, 2006. He was 72.

Born in Brooklyn, N.Y., Terdal's family returned to their native Norway when he was three years old. At age five, the Nazis invaded. The three years young Roy spent living under Nazi occupation — until his mother coordinated an escape aboard a small fishing boat — would profoundly influence his life.

Terdal taught at NMC from 1964-94. Daughter Sonja Olshove, an NMC instructor now on leave, said her father lived for the classroom and his students. “Teaching and the interaction with the students energized him more than words can express – he spent every break making lectures in anticipation of the start of the new semester.”

In 1982, Terdal’s colleagues named him the recipient of the Imogene Wise Faculty Excellence Award. Olshove said her father never stopped being a learner, either.

Even after his death, Terdal’s dedication to NMC continues, with donations in his memory directed to the Adopt-A-Student Fund.

Keep In Touch With NMC

Please help us stay in touch with you by providing your current contact information.
(Please note that NMC does not sell or share your personal contact information.)

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Mail to: Northwestern Michigan College
Office of Institutional Advancement
1701 E. Front St., Traverse City, MI 49686

E-mail to: alumni@nmc.edu
Alumni news and updates may also be submitted online at www.nmc.edu/alumni

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Plan ahead…

Mark your calendar for the following upcoming NMC events:

Dec. 1
Northwestern Michigan Children’s Choir holiday concert, 7:30 p.m., Lars Hockstad Auditorium at Central Grade School

Dec. 8
NMC Jazz Ensemble & guest, “The Jeff Hall Be-Bop Band,” Milliken Auditorium

Dec. 15
NMC Community Concert Band, Milliken Auditorium

Dec. 16
Free public viewing, Rogers Observatory

Jan. 13
Spring semester begins

Feb. 23
Taster’s Guild Auction, Great Lakes Campus

March 2
NMC Community Concert Band, Milliken Auditorium

April 29
NMC Community Concert Band, Corson Auditorium at Interlochen Center for the Arts

May 5
Commencement. Class of 1957 invited to participate.

May 6
Spring semester ends

May 20
51st annual NMC BBQ, main campus

June 13 (tentative)
Commitment Scholarship golf tournament, Kingsley Club

Aug. 2
NMC Scholarship Open, Crystal Mountain

Visit www.nmc.edu for regular news and calendar updates, including our ongoing Free Film Series.
Jim Delapa, class of 1956, is NMC’s Outstanding Alumnus for 2006.

After NMC, Delapa received a bachelor’s degree in Hospitality Management from Michigan State University. He founded Saluto Foods Corp., which was sold to General Mills in 1976, the same year President Gerald R. Ford named him Michigan’s Outstanding Business Person of the Year. He is a past member of the MSU Foundation Board of Trustees.

Now semi-retired, Delapa is an avid supporter of NMC’s Great Lakes Culinary Institute both financially and through his service on the program’s advisory committee.

The Outstanding Alumnus award was established in 1988 to recognize NMC alumni who are noteworthy for their continued donation of time, talent, resources and enthusiasm on behalf of the college, significant professional achievements and exemplary leadership in community and professional activities.

Nominations for the 2007 award will be accepted through Feb. 23, 2007. A nomination form is available online at www.nmc.edu/alumni

Outstanding alumnus Jim Delapa (right) with Fred Laughlin, Director of NMC’s Great Lakes Culinary Institute.