



An enrollment pipeline. A job pipeline. And a helicopter.

NMC's Aviation division kicked off the new year with a trio of new partnerships offering current and future students more opportunities to expand their skill portfolio and career opportunities:

- Helicopter pilot training, provided by TC Helicopters, a local company that also offers helicopter sightseeing tours and commercial helicopter services. About five students began last month.
- An articulation agreement with West Michigan Aviation Academy, a public charter school located at the Gerald R. Ford International Airport in Grand Rapids, which allows Academy graduates to receive eight credits upon enrollment at NMC.
- A pipeline agreement with American Eagle that guarantees second-year students an interview with the airline. Upon completion of their certified flight instructor hours and a bachelor's degree through NMC's existing partnership with Davenport University, the airline will give students an offer of employment and a \$10,000 signing bonus.

In a world where a sure thing is an ever more rare commodity, the new partnerships set up a situation in which a current senior in the West Michigan Aviation Academy could enroll at NMC for this fall, knowing that their first job interview awaits in 2016.

"For our students to have a clear pathway to employment is important," NMC Aviation director Aaron Cook said.

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From left, Mike Terfehr and Paul Kusmitch of TC Helicopters and Aaron Cook, director of NMC's Aviation division, pose with the training helicopter TC Helicopters will provide for NMC students.



The Dennonos receives Andy Warhol prints, on display through April 5. See p. 4.

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Find and friend NMC

You can find NMC, the Dennon Museum Center, Great Lakes Maritime Academy, WNMC radio, student groups and more on Facebook and Twitter.



**Northwestern
Michigan
College**

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From the President

NMC celebrates another historic first



Timothy J. Nelson

In my thirteen years as president, I've been privileged to witness many proud moments for NMC. But last month brought one of the all-time highlights.

Just two months after receiving our accreditation to become the first community college Michigan to offer a bachelor's degree, NMC bestowed that degree on two outstanding students, Maritime cadets Nathaniel Lammers and Matthew O'Donnell.

It's hard to overstate the significance of the moment. I can only harken back to an equally significant moment, in 1951, when Northwestern Michigan College was chartered as the state's first community college. For the first time, Grand Traverse residents didn't have to leave the area for higher education. They could learn where they lived, and NMC set forth on its mission of providing lifelong learning opportunities to our communities.

In sixty-plus years, we've never looked back. In fact, we've always looked ahead, and several years ago began imagining a community college baccalaureate. That vision culminated in December 2012, when, thanks to the efforts of our friends

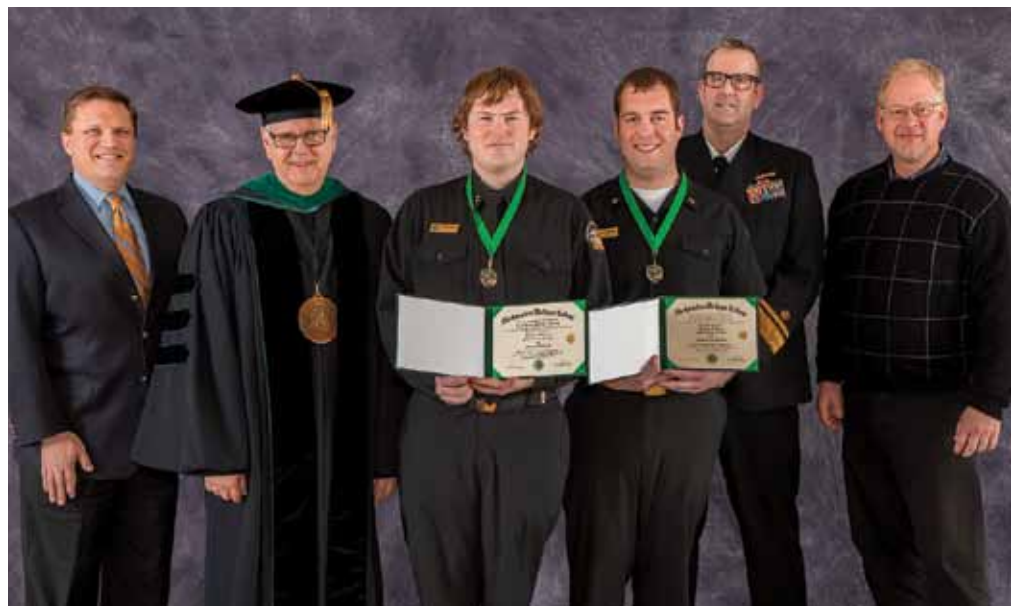
in the Michigan Legislature, the hard work of the Michigan Community College Association and others, a bill was passed granting community colleges the authority to offer bachelor's degrees in four specialty areas, including Maritime Technology.

From the moment we received word of the passage of the baccalaureate authorization, we worked to make it a reality. Our Great Lakes Maritime Academy, one of only six such academies in the nation, already had much of the curriculum, and support services, in place to allow for a fairly quick transition. Last summer we hosted an accreditation visit from the Higher Learning Commission—the final hurdle to clear. And we sailed over it—pun intended—receiving accreditation in November.

We're not stopping at one bachelor's, either. Next we'll be investigating offering degrees in the areas of culinary arts and energy production. Like Maritime, these are already robust two-year programs that serve key economic sectors in the region.

So I extend my congratulations not only to our newest NMC alumni, but to you, the citizens of the region, who had the foresight to establish NMC and the wisdom to continue to support it. We couldn't do what we do without you.

► Reach Tim Nelson at tnelson@nmc.edu



Pictured from left: State Representative Wayne Schmidt, NMC President Timothy J. Nelson, Matt O'Donnell, Nate Lammers, Great Lakes Maritime Academy Superintendent Jerry Achenbach and State Representative Greg MacMaster.

International profile: Alexey Morozov

For a kindergarten costume party, Alexey Morozov chose to go as a clown. His electrical engineer parents decided the costume needed “more sparkle.”

Morozov walked into the party with his clown crown wired to a battery, the power switch in his pocket, allowing him to turn lights off and on.

“I was like, oh, my God, it works,” said Morozov, an international student from St. Petersburg, Russia, who graduated from NMC in 2007.

Morozov’s come a long way since kindergarten, with engineering degrees from Michigan Technological University (2009) and the University of Michigan (2013). Since June he’s worked as a senior software engineer at a tech company in California’s Silicon Valley. But the 25-year-old still finds it wondrous to make something work.

In his current position at InvenSense, Morozov is part of a team that writes

algorithms that drive location-based services on mobile phones and other devices. On his desk he keeps a test phone, to be sure that the positioning processes actually work as intended.

“I love that part of being able to actually test it,” he said.

At NMC he found that satisfaction as part of the Engineering Club’s Baja race car team, in which club members use a kit of basic parts to design and race a car in an all-terrain type race. Morozov, who also drove the vehicle in races, said he took pictures of the car to job interviews.



“I always loved projects which were more hands-on, more real, than working with some esoteric mathematical concept,” he said.

In fact, if you’ve got a Nexus 4,5,7 or Samsung Galaxy Note 3 tablet, or a Nintendo 3DS, Wii or WiiU game system, Morozov might have made something work for you.

► Ensuring that learners are prepared for success in a global society and economy is a strategic direction for NMC. Periodically such learners and alumni will be profiled in NorWester.

To suggest subjects, contact Cari Noga at cnoga@nmc.edu, or (231) 995-1027.

China Today: Competitor or Partner?

With more than 1.3 billion people and an economy soon expected to eclipse that of the U.S., China presents both challenges and opportunities.

In celebration of its 20th anniversary, the International Affairs Forum (IAF) presents **China Today: Competitor or Partner?** This two-day conference June 5 and 6 is an opportunity to learn more about the dynamic business, educational and cultural connections already growing between China and northern Michigan, and to discuss what this means for the future.

Key conference sessions and presenters include:

- **China in the 21st Century – Are We Ready?** Kurt Campbell, Chairman and CEO of the Asia Group and former Assistant Secretary of State for East Asian and Pacific Affairs



- **The Rapid Pace of Change in China: What’s to Come?** Ted Plafker, Beijing Correspondent for The Economist and author of *Doing Business in China*
- **China’s Business Culture.** Dr. G. Mustafa Mohatarem, Chief Economist, GM
- **China’s Environmental Challenges – Water!** Keith Schneider, Circle of Blue
- **Education Exchanges with China and Global Competency in schools**

As a prelude to the conference, IAF will focus its four spring lectures on Asia, and together with local partners including the State Theatre and National Writers Series, present other special cultural programming. It starts Feb. 20 with Frankfort-based business executive Lowell “Jep” Gruman speaking on “The Rise of the Asian Tigers: Lessons for Beijing.”

► For more details, visit nmc.edu/iaf.

Pipeline

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On the enrollment end, the articulation agreement means Academy students will save time and money by coming to NMC and receiving credit for courses completed in high school. The Academy will graduate its first class of 75 students this spring and expects to graduate 100-plus students in 2015 and beyond.

Meanwhile, the helicopter training creates another option for both degree-path students and the 20 percent of aviation students who come from the community, seeking to earn extra ratings.

“It’s another facet of aviation that students can be exposed to. We’re an international program and we draw students from all over the world. This is another offering that attracts students to us,” Cook said.

► To learn more visit nmc.edu/aviation



THE
Dennos
MUSEUM CENTER

dennosmuseum.org

Now at The Dennos

Andy Warhol prints

A new gift of seven original screen prints by noted American artist Andy Warhol (1928-1987) is on exhibition at The Dennos through April 5.

The prints date from 1970-1986. The gift was made by the Andy Warhol Foundation for the Visual Arts, and is the second gift to the collections of the Dennos. In 2008, the museum received more than 150 of Warhol's original Polaroid photographs and gelatin silver prints from the Foundation.

Andy Warhol was an American artist who was a leading figure in the visual art movement known as Pop Art. His works explore the relationship between artistic expression, celebrity culture and advertisement that flourished by the 1960s. Born in Pittsburgh, Penn., Warhol's art encompassed many forms of media, including hand drawing, painting, printmaking, photography, silk screening, sculpture, film, and music.



Gwen Marston Quilts

From Beaver Island, Gwen Marston is a professional fiber artist, author and teacher who has taught nationally and internationally for more than three decades. She has written 26 books, two of which have won awards: *Mary Schafer: American Quilt Maker* won a 2005 Michigan Notable Book award, and *37 Sketches* won a 2012 New York Book Show award. She has had twenty-five exhibits of her large quilts, seven exhibits of her small quilts, and her work has been shown in many group exhibits throughout the United States and abroad. Through April 27.

Making Paper Dance: The Art of Pop-Up Books

Pop-up books have been engaging readers and non-readers alike for more than 800 years. The fact that this form of book art has thrived speaks to the fascination we have with the art of transforming two dimensional paper forms into a continuing chain of three-dimensional possibilities. *Making Paper Dance: The Art of Pop-Up Books* is both a nostalgic homage to early movable books and a view into the dynamic and ever-evolving world of pop-ups created in the twenty-first century.

Curated by Linda Ross of Linda Ross Contemporary: Art + Projects. Through April 6.





Coming to Milliken Auditorium

Saturday, March 1, 8 PM

Deanna Bogart is an award-winning multi-instrumentalist and multifaceted musician whose fans value the diversity of her genre-free zone. As a bandleader/singer/songwriter/producer/pianist/sax player, Deanna combines the best of boogie-woogie, contemporary blues, country and jazz into a splendid blend she calls “blusion.”

Friday, March 14, 8 PM

RUNA offers a contemporary and refreshing approach to traditional and more recent Celtic material. Through their repertoire of both highly energetic and graceful, acoustic melodies, along with their fusion of music from Ireland, Scotland, Canada, and the US, this ensemble gives its arrangements of traditional music a fresh sound.

► Tickets: dennosmuseum.org or (231) 995-1553

Water Studies students harvest hydroponic success

From Constanza Hazelwood’s office window on NMC’s Great Lakes campus, the view of Grand Traverse Bay is expansive and blue.

But Hazelwood, education and outreach coordinator at the Great Lakes Water Studies Institute, spends a lot of time thinking about places that look a lot different. Dense, urban megacities, crammed with a population projected to hit 9 billion by 2050, with a shortage of both land and water in which to grow food to feed that population.

In the Water Studies classroom, Hazelwood sees a possible solution: the vertical lettuce farm Water Studies students started in September, partially funded by a \$5,000 innovation grant from the NMC Foundation.

“This is a way to start exploring,” she said of the 24 heads of lettuce grown hydroponically in a 16-cubic-foot space. “The general conclusion is that it’s been very successful, and that we can transfer this same idea into different settings. It can become a living fixture in a kitchen, or in a restaurant, or, if you scale up, a way to produce food.”

As a next step, Hazelwood hopes to supply lettuce and basil, the next crop, to Lobdell’s, NMC’s teaching restaurant located on the other side of the Great Lakes campus building. Culinary staff have already tasted and approved, she said.

“They liked the idea of being able to harvest their own lettuce and serve it right away,” she said.

Hazelwood envisions more cross-curricular collaborations, too. The next version of the farm will have more robotic sensors

connected to the structure, so students can monitor it remotely. She’d like to use solar and wind power to generate the light exposure that mimics the sun. She wants to incorporate more physics into the structure design so it can be adapted to different spaces, made portable and uses the smallest footprint possible.

“We see a lot of potential for the future,” she said.

► Visit nmc.edu/foundation to read about other innovation grant projects.



At left, NMC student Tanner Ciganic monitors hydroponically grown bibb lettuce. At right, both plants are three weeks old and illustrate how water scarcity affects root system development. Photo credit: Alan Newton

News digest

Northwestern Michigan College to train for nearly 300 new jobs

A total of 297 new jobs will exist in northern Michigan by 2018, thanks to training agreements NMC has signed with nearly a dozen regional employers.

All jobs must pay above \$12.95 per hour. NMC inked its first training agreement with Electro Optics Technology in 2010, following passage of the New Jobs Training Program by the Michigan Legislature in 2008. Six new companies signed agreements in December 2013.

The companies are:

- Electro-Optics, Traverse City: Manufacturer of semiconductors and other components of laser systems
- Hagerty Insurance, Traverse City
- Hayes Manufacturing Inc., Fife Lake: Mechanical power transmission equipment manufacturing
- Materne North America, Grawn: Fruit processing
- Skilled Manufacturing, Traverse City: Aircraft and motor vehicle parts
- TentCraft Inc., Traverse City: Textile bag and canvas mills
- Armor Express, Central Lake
- Century Extrusion and Century Inc, Traverse City
- Moran Iron Works, Inc., Onaway
- Precision Edge Surgical Products LLC, Boyne City
- Shoreline Fruit LLC, Traverse City

The New Jobs Training Program provides funding for organizations to pay for staff development in new positions paying above \$12.95 per hour. The companies pay for the training, which NMC provides, and are reimbursed over time as payroll tax dollars are diverted.

NMC's Training Services division offers customized training opportunities including leadership and team building, Lean, advanced manufacturing and more.

- Learn more at nmc.edu/training or (231) 995-2218.



Top, Audio Technology students work in their lab. Above, Anatomy and Physiology students applaud the pieces created for a collaborative project called "Body of Music."

Students collaborate on 'Body of Music'

How does it sound when your back hurts?

A collaborative, cross-curricular project has attempted to answer that.

The three-minute piece by audio technology students Patrick Stowe and Ben Will starts out upbeat New Age, with an even beat, symbolic of health. There's the sound of a wave crashing on a beach. Around the one-minute mark, a few minor notes are heard. The beat speeds up. The New Age sound morphs to a high-pitched, techno style that abruptly sputters out and dies.

To Chelsey Harding, an anatomy and physiology student who works in a clinic where many patients suffer from back pain, the piece Stowe and Will created is "the soundtrack of what they're feeling."

The three students were among about thirty who created "Body of Music," musical interpretations of six different conditions and systems of the body.

The cross-curricular project began in October. Anatomy and Physiology instructor Nick Roster assigned his students to work in small groups with the audio technology students. Each A&P group had to explain a system, disease or condition of the body.

The assignment is intended to simulate what students will face on the job, when they need to deploy their education, often in a health care setting, Roster said.

"I expect them to be able to teach, to explain difficult concepts to people with no background," Roster said. "A lot of them are going to be nurses, and they're going to be asked, 'What does that mean?'"

Neither Stowe nor Will had set foot in a biology classroom. But when Harding described the feeling of degenerative disk disease as "grinding," they got it.

Using instruments, sound effects and editing technology, the Audio Technology students then created musical pieces, each about three minutes long, which interpret those systems.

"The assignment from our side was to take that information and arrange it into a musical composition," said audio technology instructor Steve Quick.

- To hear the pieces, visit nmc.edu/explore

NMC gets kudos for military friendliness

Military Advanced Education has named NMC a top military-friendly school in its 2014 Guide to Military-Friendly Colleges & Universities. GI Jobs/Military Friendly Schools has also listed NMC in the top 15 percent of military-friendly schools nationwide. This is the second year NMC has earned this designation.

Records show that 256 veterans currently attend NMC. Veterans interested in more information about NMC can visit nmc.edu/veterans, or contact Scott Herzberg, POC for Military & Veteran Services, at (231) 995-2526.

Plan ahead...

February 20

International Affairs Forum lecture, "The Rise of the Asian Tigers: Lessons for Beijing."

6 p.m., Milliken Auditorium

Tickets: (231) 995-1700.

Series continues third Thursday of the month through June.

► Topics and speaker bios: nmc.edu/iaf

February 22

Vagina Monologues performance

Sponsored by NMC Student Life

7 p.m., Milliken Auditorium

Tickets: nmc.edu/vday

February 23

NMC Choral performance

Featuring the NMC Grand Traverse Chorale, Chamber Singers, Canticum Novum and the NMC Children's Choirs.

3 p.m., Lars Hockstad Auditorium

Tickets available at the door

February 28

Grand Traverse Tasters' Guild Auction

6:30 p.m., Great Lakes Campus

Tickets: nmc.edu/culinary

NMC Concert Band

8 p.m., Milliken Auditorium

Tickets are free and available at the door

March 7 and 22

Public Viewing Night

9-11 p.m., Rogers Observatory

Admission \$2/person, \$5/family

► All 2014 dates:
nmc.edu/rogersobservatory

April 25

NMC Grand Traverse Chorale and NMC Chamber Singers present "Night and the Celestial Light" music for voice and strings

7:30 p.m., Milliken Auditorium

Tickets available at the door

April 27

NMC Concert Band

3 p.m., Milliken Auditorium

Tickets: (231) 995-1553

May 3

NMC Commencement

2 p.m., Traverse City Central High School

May 4

NMC Children's Choirs performance

3 p.m., Lars Hockstad Auditorium

Tickets available at the door

May 17

NMC Jazz Ensembles Spring Jazz Showcase

7:30 p.m., Milliken Auditorium

Tickets: (231) 995-1553

May 18

NMC Barbecue

11 a.m. – 5 p.m., Main Campus

Tickets: nmc.edu/bbq

August 7

NMC Scholarship Open

Grand Traverse Resort

www.nmc.edu/golf

- Visit nmc.edu/news for more events and details.
- Follow NMC on Twitter to find free events on campus: <http://twitter.com/NMCdotEDU>

In memoriam

Shirley S. Okerstrom, January 8, 2014



Okerstrom, 87, played a pivotal role in the life of NMC, serving on the Board of Trustees for 22 years and as its first female chair. She was also the Board's liaison to the NMC

Foundation for 14 years and a Foundation Board member for eight years. The Fine Arts Building is named in her honor.

Allison Dean "Al" Shumsky, Nov. 10, 2013



An instructor from 1957-1995, Shumsky taught "everything in English" but specialized in creative writing and linguistics. He founded the NMC Archives and

continued to volunteer part-time almost until his death at age 83.

David M. Vermetten, Oct. 25, 2013



Vermetten, 82, taught English at NMC from 1962-1996 and was Faculty Emeritus. The photo is from the 1965 yearbook.

Tasters' Guild Auction February 28

Guests will sip, sample and savor a strolling dinner of international food and wine at the annual Tasters' Guild Auction, set for Feb. 28 at NMC's Great Lakes Campus.

Featuring multiple cuisines prepared by NMC's Great Lakes Culinary Institute students and served at more than a dozen tasting tables, proceeds support scholarships, books and equipment.

► Tickets are \$60 each or \$700 for a table of ten and available online at nmc.edu/culinary



Nominate an Outstanding Alumnus

NMC is seeking nominations for the 2014 Outstanding Alumnus award. Established in 1988, the award recognizes NMC alumni who are noteworthy for their continued donation of time, talent, resources and enthusiasm on behalf of the college, significant professional achievements, and/or exemplary leadership in community and professional activities. The 2013 recipients were Peg Jonkhoff and Paul Britten.

► Nominations are due by Feb. 28 and can be made online at nmc.edu/alumni



Tickets: nmc.edu/bbq

Let's all do the BBQ – May 18

Advance ticket prices for the annual picnic under the pines on main campus are \$6, \$2 less than the \$8 price on Barbecue Day.

The late Gerald W. Oleson and his wife Frances, founders of Oleson's Food Stores in Traverse City, started the annual fundraiser picnic in 1956. Oleson's continues to donate the food. About 10,000 people attend every year, raising more than \$1.5 million for college programs and equipment.

The traditional menu including a choice of buffalo steakette or hot dog, baked beans, potato salad, coleslaw, ice cream and a beverage will be served from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. on main campus May 18. The day also includes live entertainment and children's games and activities. Both the Dennon Museum Center and Rogers Observatory on Birmley Road are open to the public free of charge.

► Tickets are available online at nmc.edu/bbq. For more information, call (231) 995-1020.



From the Archives

Do you know anyone from this Ski Club outing to Holiday Hills in 1967? Marilyn Kelley holds the megaphone. If you can provide any identifications or details on the others, contact Ann Swaney in the NMC Archives: aswaney@nmc.edu, (231) 995-1016.

Love these archival photos? We do, too. Like NMC on Facebook to enjoy Throwback Thursdays, vintage photos posted each week – some mystery, some not.

