



NMC alumnus helps turn tide of Ebola epidemic

At the epicenter of the Ebola epidemic, mortality at one Sierra Leone clinic dropped from 90 percent to 40 percent between November and January.

It's a welcome positive statistic amid the tidal wave of grim news out of west Africa since the Ebola epidemic began last year. And an NMC alumnus was among those helping to turn the tide.

"It's an ongoing battle that is being won. In six weeks I could see an improvement, both in the epidemic and our ability to give quality medical care," said Dr. Michael Paterson, a 1988 NMC graduate who is now an emergency physician.

Last month Paterson, 58, returned to his current home in Colorado after a six-week stint at a treatment center in Sierra Leone, one of the three west African nations ravaged by Ebola. He's served in other disaster areas, including Haiti post-earthquake and the Phillipines post-typhoon, but Sierra Leone was in a different category. The physical conditions were arduous – Paterson ate mostly fish heads and rice for a month and didn't get a shower for six weeks – and the psychological conditions even more so.

"It's hard to live in those conditions for that long, seeing children dying every day," said Paterson, who made the trip through the Boston-based nonprofit Partners in Health.

When he arrived, availability of basic supplies like IVs, scrubs, protective equipment and people – only 50 physicians in a nation of 6 million – hindered efforts to combat the epidemic.

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Dr. Michael Paterson, NMC class of 1988, on right in scrubs, stands in front of an Ebola holding center he helped to re-open while working in Sierra Leone with the non-profit Partners in Health.



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Find and friend NMC

You can find NMC, the Dennis Museum Center, Great Lakes Maritime Academy, WNMC radio, student groups and more on social media.



The NorWester is published by the NMC Office of Public Relations and Marketing. Alumni news and updates may be submitted online at nmc.edu/alumni or by e-mailing alumni@nmc.edu

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Printed with bio-renewable ink.

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From the President

Measuring up to expectations



Timothy J. Nelson

As I review the recently-received results from our latest community survey, I see one overarching takeaway:

Our community has broad and deep expectations of us.

Our highly-ranked performance as we endeavor to meet those expectations is a testament to the hard work of everyone at NMC, from faculty in the classrooms to staff who offer everything from financial aid assistance to personal counseling, to maintenance employees who keep our campuses beautiful.

And we will always strive to do even better.

The telephone survey of our geographic community is done every few years and is an important tool in the college's self-assessment. Simply put, it lets us know how the community members we serve think we're doing. The most recent survey was completed in November 2014 by EMC Research. As has been the case in the past, the results were overwhelmingly positive.

- 95 percent of respondents think NMC is as good or better as other four-year colleges in Michigan

- 97 percent positively rate both the value of an NMC education and NMC's academic reputation
- 90 percent positively rate the availability of student scholarships

As president, those are incredibly gratifying results. But there's one statistic in particular that I consider kind of a guidestar. That's the job NMC does responding to the learning needs of our community. Why? Because learning needs are always changing, vary with the learner (and ours are a diverse bunch) and in our current climate of economic and technological change, may emerge with little warning. So if we're responding well to community learning needs, I feel confident not only about the job we're doing now, but that we'll be equipped to do that job well next year, five years and ten years from now.

This year that measurement was 95 percent positive, consistent with the last two surveys. Among the most important programs we offer to meet learner needs, respondents cited access to college credit by high school students, skilled-trade career training, transfer education and access to other four-year colleges for advanced degrees.

We will continue to seek ways to improve, and to best meet the needs of the community we are privileged to serve. Let me know what you think at tnelson@nmc.edu.

Tasters' Guild Auction February 27

Sip, sample and savor a strolling dinner of international food and wine at the annual Tasters' Guild Auction, set for 6:30 p.m. Friday, Feb. 27 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 \$65 each and available online at nmc.edu/tasters-guild. Sponsorships and corporate tables also available, call (231) 995-1834.



Epidemic

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“You take a resource-constrained place and throw in an epidemic of these dimensions and you’ve just crushed their health care system,” Paterson said.

But as relief workers brought in supplies themselves and shipments began to get through, care improved.

Just before his departure, Paterson escorted Sierra Leone President Ernest Koroma on a tour of a re-opened Ebola holding center, which allows symptomatic patients to be isolated until their status is known, thus deterring the spread of the disease. Alternative techniques like intraosseous lines, used in lieu of standard IV lines in dehydrated patients, often children, also led to patient recovery.

“I saw them be discharged from the Ebola treatment center alive and well,” said Paterson, who now believes Ebola cases have crested.

After NMC, Paterson earned his bachelor’s at Wayne State University and then attended the University of Michigan Medical School. He recalls NMC as the place



Dr. Michael Paterson, in scrubs, NMC class of 1988, helps train nurses to fight Ebola in Sierra Leone.

where he discovered his affinity for science, from teachers like Bob Rudd (chemistry) and Jim Coughlin (physics).

“Of all my educational experiences, NMC is the one that has a special place for me. It was the personal atmosphere, the rigor-ousness, the accessibility of the professors,” he said.

- ▶ To learn more about Partners in Health, visit pih.org.
- ▶ 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.

Let's all do the BBQ Sunday, May 17

Advance ticket prices for the 60th 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 17. The day also includes live entertainment and children’s games and activities. Both the Denno’s 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.





THE Dennos MUSEUM CENTER

Dennos concert series

Five performances remain in this year's concert season, offering styles from Celtic to blues and performers ranging from marionettes to drummers. Up next are Scythian Feb. 21 (above) and the Cashore Marionettes Feb. 28 (below). Both shows begin at 8 p.m. Visit dennosmuseum.org for ticket information and the full schedule.



Through May 17

Exhibits:

ReTooled

Utilitarian objects are transformed into works of beauty, insight, and wit in this exhibition of more than 40 works from the Hechinger Collection. Artists represented include Arman, Anthony Caro, Richard Estes, Howard Finster, Red Grooms, Jacob Lawrence, Fernand Léger, Roger Shimomura, and H.C. Westermann; photographers Berenice Abbott, William Eggleston and Walker Evans; and pop artists Jim Dine, Claes Oldenburg (inset above), and James Rosenquist.

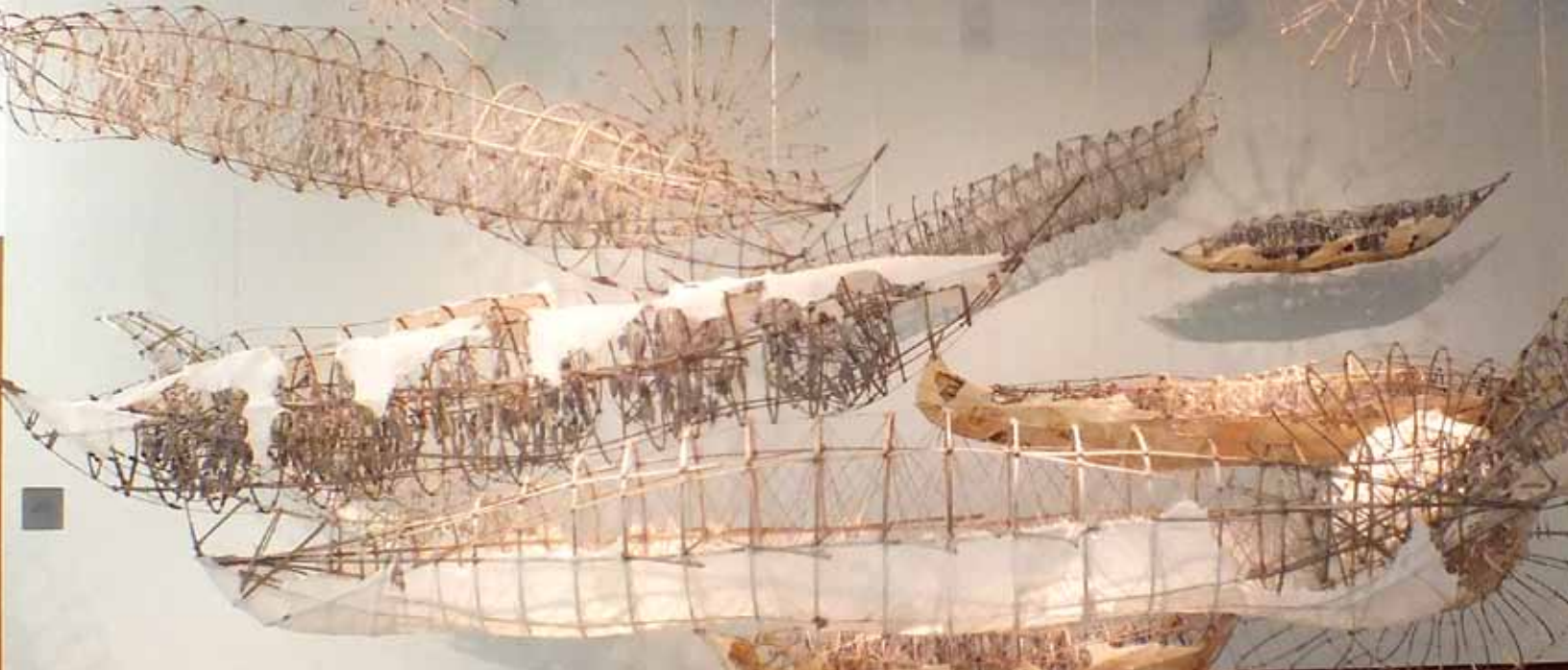
All of the works remind us that tools embody the can-do spirit that defines America and the quest to improve our quality of life.

Habitat for Humanity-Grand Traverse Region is a featured programming partner for ReTooled and will present special programs highlighting their important work in our community. Habitat will also accept tool donations during these events to support the local ReStore.

February 28 - Homes Filled with Hearts, an exhibit featuring artwork from Habitat families (10 a.m.-4 p.m.) and a tool craft project (1-3 p.m.)

March 28 - Upscale Art, a salvage art exhibit and silent auction featuring ReStore wooden chairs re-imagined and restored. 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

April 18 - Net Zero Housing Presentation, an exhibit on energy use with a special guest speaker on reusable energy, net zero housing, and the benefits of recycling. 10 a.m.-4 p.m.



Michigan Ceramics 2014

Diverse examples of forms, techniques, and materials comprise this exhibit showcasing the innovative work of 24 Michigan ceramics artists who employ methods including hand and machine pressing, coiling, rolling, throwing, carving, and wood-firing. The pieces range from unglazed to a variable encyclopedia of glazes, and from the utilitarian to the whimsical to the conceptual.



South Korean artists

Can't Stop Thinking About?

Born in South Korea, Jae Yong Kim spent much of his childhood in Kuwait and Saudi Arabia before returning to South Korea as he finished high school. In 1994 he moved to the United States to pursue university studies, including an MFA in ceramics at Cranbrook Academy in Bloomfield Hills. These early experiences with moving abroad are explored throughout his work as an artist, rooted in his desire to understand and find his identity and the meaning of 'Home.'

Kim explores these issues through the use of surrogate subjects in his work, such as donuts (inset above) or snails. He is recognized and noticed for his quirky, eclectic, and humorous renditions of these subjects.

"Hweh-Geeh" (Return again)

Jinwon Chang's works on paper and sculptures of bamboo and paper (top image) involve marine animals, vessels and other water-related imagery, responding to three near-death experiences in water.

Chang says, "Hweh-Geeh is 'to return again' in Korean, as we are born we are destined to return to the source."

Giving college a third try

Traverse City woman goes from dropout to Dean's list

How do you transform a two-time college dropout into a Dean's List student?

Give her a bridge and a foundation.
Walk her over and shore it up.

In 1998 Lindsey Grice enrolled at NMC, fresh out of Traverse City Central High School and mother to a newborn daughter. It didn't go well.

"I just failed miserably. It wasn't something I knew about. I had a full course load and a little baby and it was too much," Grice said.

She tried again a decade later. By 2008 she was a mother to three, including a son with intensive mental health needs. Grice had to take six credits and earn a 2.0 in order to keep her financial aid. Her attendance was spotty due to her son's caregiving demands and she did well in one class, but not the other. She lost her financial aid and dropped out a second time.

Fast-forward to 2014. A friend told Grice, now 34, about NMC's Bridge program. Created for nontraditional students attending college for the first time or returning after past attempts, Bridge endeavors to lay a foundation for student success. It's been around for years, but recently was redesigned so that what were formerly preparatory classes are now for-credit.



Lindsey Grice, right, stands with Ashley Darga, left, Student Success Coordinator and Adviser Shannon Owen, two of the NMC staff who helped her succeed in making the Dean's List last semester.

Significantly, that makes Bridge students eligible for financial aid.

NMC Student Success Coordinator Ashley Darga walked Grice through the process of petitioning to reinstate her financial aid. Regulations have changed to favor students like Grice, Darga said.

"I was able to get my Pell grant to be able to take classes this fall," Grice said. Her foundation steadied.

Almost simultaneously her son Brandon, now 15, entered a residential school, further firming her foundation.

"I've taken care of him completely. Now he's receiving help out of the home (and) he's doing really well," Grice said. "I'm able to focus on my studies instead of spending every waking moment worrying about him."

Finally, her daughter Ashley – the newborn during Grice's first college stint – now 16 and a high school junior, threw down the gauntlet.

"She kind of challenged me," Grice said. "My oldest daughter is getting ready to graduate, and she had mentioned to me that I should go back and get back my classes before she does."

That challenge completed the foundation underpinning Grice's turnaround. Bridge students take nine credits (five classes) their first semester. Grice earned a 4.0 and made the dean's list, proving the third time is the charm.

► Read more of Lindsey's story online at nmc.edu/deanslist

Show your love for NMC
Gifts to the NMC Foundation help NMC serve students like Lindsey Grice. The Foundation's next giving opportunity is right around the corner. NMC 24, set for Feb. 13, seeks 150 people who love NMC to make donations that day. Donate and find out more at nmc.edu/nmc24

Open house for new Marine Technology bachelor's program March 4

Prospective student can learn more about NMC's newest bachelor's degree major, Marine Technology, at an open house March 4.

Building on college courses, faculty and assets already in place – namely NMC's Great Lakes Campus, harbor, and research vessels – the four-year program offers students both an interdisciplinary curriculum and the hands-on training necessary for employment in the growing field of marine technology. Classes are slated to begin in Fall 2015.

"We are very excited to offer this new bachelor of science major, which bridges

the gap between traditional academic programming and industry needs for the marine space," said Hans VanSumeren, director of NMC's Great Lakes Water Studies Institute. "We have built this major with direct input and support from the marine industry while emphasizing the skills needed for immediate employment opportunities."

Globally, there is a strong need for highly trained people across multiple sectors of the marine industry. This interdisciplinary major emphasizes the core and marine-related technical competencies along with the project management skills required for work in the highly complex marine industry.

The open house will be held at 6 p.m. March 4 in the Parsons-Stulen Building on NMC's Aero Park campus.

NMC also offers an associate's degree in Engineering Technology specializing in Marine Technology, and an associate's degree in Freshwater Studies.

"This newest degree option further bolsters NMC's position as an international magnet for attracting students interested in working for multiple sectors of the marine industry," VanSumeren said.

► Learn more about the new bachelor's degree major at nmc.edu/marine-tech

Plan ahead...

February 15

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 19

International Affairs Forum lecture – “Cuba: Time for Change?”

6 p.m., Milliken Auditorium.

Tickets \$10, free for students and educators (231) 995-1700

February 22

NMC Music Department Recital

Chamber and choral music featuring the NMC music faculty and the Grand Traverse Chorale. Donations accepted for the NMC Music Student Scholarship Fund.

3 p.m., Milliken Auditorium

February 24

Academic World Quest

17 high school teams compete for best knowledge of world affairs.

1:30 p.m., Hagerty Center, nmc.edu/iaf

February 27

Grand Traverse Tasters’ Guild Auction

6:30 p.m., Great Lakes Campus

Tickets \$65 each available at nmc.edu/culinary

February 27

NMC Concert Band

7:30 p.m., Milliken Auditorium

Tickets*

March 1

Pure Acappella – featuring the NMC Canticum Novum and other acappella groups.

3 p.m., Milliken Auditorium

Tickets available at mynorthtickets.com

March 6 and April 3

Public Viewing Night

9-11 p.m., Rogers Observatory

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

All 2015 dates: nmc.edu/rogersobservatory

March 19

International Affairs Forum lecture, “The Geopolitics of Energy: Winners and Losers”

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

March 22

NMC Children’s Choirs performance

3 p.m., Lars Hockstad Auditorium

Tickets available at the door

April 24

NMC Concert Band

7:30 p.m., Milliken Auditorium

Tickets*

April 25

NMC Jazz Bands and Vocal Jazz Ensemble

7:30 p.m., Milliken Auditorium

Tickets*

May 17

NMC Barbecue

11 a.m.- 5 p.m., Main Campus

Tickets: nmc.edu/bbq

August 6

NMC Scholarship Open

Grand Traverse Resort, nmc.edu/golf

► Visit nmc.edu/news for more events and details.

► Follow NMC on Twitter to find free events on campus: twitter.com/NMCdotEDU

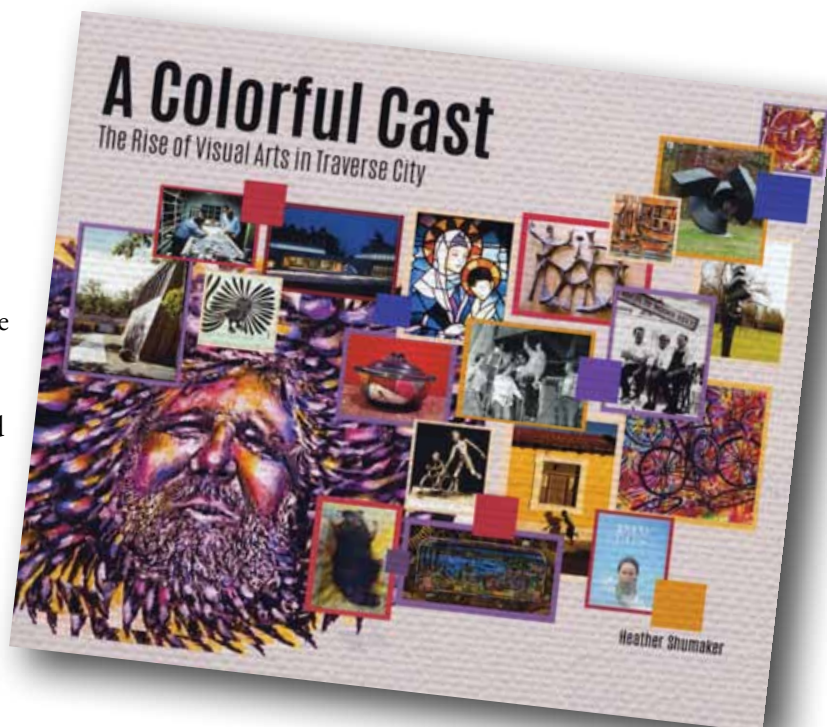
*Tickets: \$10 for adults, \$5 for seniors 62 and older and children 12 and younger, free for NMC students with ID.

New art history book supports scholarships

Copies of *A Colorful Cast*, a newly-published retrospective chronicling the rise of visual arts in the Grand Traverse Region and the legacy and rich history of the NMC Art Department, are now available for purchase.

Conceived by retired NMC art department chairman Paul Welch, written by Traverse City author Heather Shumaker, stewarded by NMC archivist Ann Swaney and designed by NMC Visual Communications students, *A Colorful Cast* highlights the men and women who created a wave of visual arts in the Grand Traverse region and celebrates the role that NMC played in building regional interest in visual arts. The galleries, the studios and the festivals that now draw thousands to our region all were influenced by the vibrant learning environment of Northwestern Michigan College and the artists who have gathered and learned here.

Copies of *A Colorful Cast* are \$29.95 and available at the NMC Bookstore, Dennon Museum Store, and Horizon Books in downtown Traverse City, as well as through the NMC Foundation by calling (231) 995-1021 or online at nmc.edu/colorfulcast. Proceeds from the sale of *A Colorful Cast* will support visual arts scholarships.





Nominate an Outstanding Alumnus

2015 nominations are due by Feb. 20 and can be made online at nmc.edu/alumni.

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 2014 recipients were Craig LaFave, John Militello and Angela Nahikian.

From the Archives

Who are these students enjoying winter back in the 1950s and 1960s? If you can provide any identifications or details on the locations, 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.

