



NorWesterner

A Publication for
Alumni & Friends
of Northwestern
Michigan College

Fall 2012

Tis the season when numbers run amuck. As the 2012 presidential election enters its homestretch, statistics on a constellation of issues are to be found all over radio, TV, online, and on your voice mail.

We know you're tired. You're weary. You're yearning to breathe spin-free air on Nov. 7. In the meantime, we say if you can't beat 'em, join 'em. But with something lighter. Something surprising. Something you haven't heard before. Something that, dare we say, informs you. We went looking for statistics about NMC that would do just that. To the right is what we found.

If the whole is greater than the sum of its parts, as Aristotle said, then what does this portrait of NMC add up to? A dynamic environment that's constantly evolving to better serve students and community, whoever gets elected.

P.S. Political junkies, flip to p. 7 and the back cover to see political snapshots at NMC through the years. No audio. Promise.

2

Gallons of gas NMC's Penguin B unmanned aerial vehicle needs to fly 36 hours.

40

Percent of locally-sourced food served at Lobdell's, NMC's

teaching restaurant. (OPEN FOR LUNCH, ACCEPTING RESERVATIONS – SEE P. 6)

Number of NMC students who signed a pledge committing to complete their degrees last year.

600

Credit hours taken at NMC's University Center partner schools in the 2011-12 academic year.

6,000

\$450,000

Goal for the 2012-13 Annual Campaign for Scholarships and Programs, a record amount. (SEE P. 2 TO FIND OUT MORE)

83,000,000

Light years distant of the furthest galaxies visible through the telescope at NMC's Rogers Observatory. (SEE FOR YOURSELF AT THE NEXT PUBLIC VIEWING NIGHTS OCT. 5 AND 20)



The Golden Dragon Acrobats return to Milliken Auditorium Oct. 12. See p. 4.

- ▶ **Annual Campaign** 2
- ▶ **New degree added** 3
- ▶ **Faculty honored** 5
- ▶ **Plan ahead calendar** 7



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.



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College

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

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From the President

Preparing our learners to create economic and social wealth



Timothy J. Nelson

At NMC, we have charged ourselves with providing our learners with the skills and experiences they need to create economic and social wealth in their lifetime. Those needs are constantly evolving, as are the learners themselves. How do we keep up? By re-organizing and re-deploying NMC's greatest resource – our faculty and staff. This fall we've established a new Office of Outreach Services to serve learners in three emerging and critical areas:

High school services – Early College, an ever-growing concept that affords academically-capable high school students the opportunity to begin taking college courses in high school. After their senior year, they then spend a “13th year” on campus at NMC, taking the final courses towards their associate degree. Outreach Services will ensure that these students receive the highest possible level of support to make Early College a well-rounded and valuable experience.

At NMC, we have charged ourselves with providing our learners with the skills and experiences they need to create economic and social wealth in their lifetime. Those needs are constantly evolving,

Military services – More and more veterans of our armed forces are returning from duty and ready to take on their next challenge. NMC is here to help them explore all of their options. We are increasing our veterans' services and working to build partnerships and relationships to support them as they start their next career.

International services – We are educating students who are going to work and live in an increasingly globalized society, and it is important that their experiences at NMC lay the groundwork for them to be successful. We must integrate globalization into our courses to provide every student with an international experience. That experience could be studying abroad, studying with students who have come to NMC from around the world, or in-depth study of the intercultural aspects of our courses. The global economy and society is made up of thousands of cultures, and it is imperative that we provide our learners with a foundation to create a broader understanding of the world we live in.

Let me know what you think at tnelson@nmc.edu.

Make a difference for an NMC student

NMC's Annual Campaign for Scholarships and Programs gets underway this month. Please join these generous people and organizations who have stepped forward as matching donors for the 2012-13 campaign. Gifts, as always, may be designated toward any specific NMC program or scholarship.

They have provided funds that will match two kinds of gifts dollar for dollar:

- All gifts from new donors
- Increases in gifts from current donors

Whether you make your first gift or increase your giving from last year, you'll double your impact.

► Save time; give online! www.nmc.edu/give or use the enclosed remittance envelope.

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Fifth Third Bank

Ford Insurance Agency

Huntington Bank

Jordan Exploration

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NMC Retirees

TBA Credit Union

Utopia Foundation

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Noverr Family

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Audio Technology degree available

A fast-track degree in audio technology is now available to NMC students.

Started this fall, the new associate of applied science degree is offered as an 18-month program completed over four consecutive semesters, including summer. Some two dozen new classes have been added to previous a la carte course offerings to create a comprehensive program that will train students to be studio engineers, recording engineers, composers and more, said NMC music program director Jeff Cobb.

“The industry has really changed. It’s gone from an old model of several big corporations creating all the music to musicians creating, recording and producing music in their own project studio. You don’t have to live in LA or New York anymore. The technology allows you to do it all in your home studio. We’re going to be creating a new niche in the audio technology training market,” Cobb said.

Classes are held at NMC’s University Center campus. Students will also get hands-on experience in NMC’s Miliken Auditorium, running and recording sound for the venue’s wide range of live events, from jazz concerts to lectures.

Cobb added that students will also take classes from the music major curriculum. Along with the new degree, NMC is bringing back the second year of music major courses, which had been on hiatus.

“Our students are going to be musicians and technically savvy,” he said. “They’re getting a foundation in music, true music training, on top of all that technology training.”

In addition to the degree, three levels of certification are offered. Students will also have the opportunity to earn platform-specific certification from industry leaders like Apple.

► Visit www.nmc.edu/music for more information.

Campus briefs

VanderKolk appointed to state nursing board



Mary VanderKolk

Health Occupations instructor Mary VanderKolk has been appointed to the Michigan Board of Nursing by Gov. Rick Snyder.

The 23-member board oversees the licensure requirements and standards for nurses in Michigan and serve four-year terms. VanderKolk was one of three appointments.

“These experienced professionals are committed to excellence in nursing and I am confident they will serve as great additions to the board,” Snyder said.

VanderKolk said she is excited about the opportunity. The board reviews all proposed changes to nursing education in Michigan.

“I think we’ve done lots of progressive things at NMC. That will help me in evaluating other changes that come to the board,” said VanderKolk, noting NMC was the first Michigan community college to offer online nursing in 2003.

With community colleges seeking legislative approval to offer bachelor’s degrees in nursing, VanderKolk and her new board colleagues would have plenty on their plates.

“If they do approve the BSN at the community college, all those potential new BSN programs would seek approval through the Board of Nursing,” she said.

VanderKolk will represent professional registered nurses with a baccalaureate degree engaged in nursing education in a licensed practical nurse program. She previously worked at Munson Medical Center, Eastern Michigan University, Catherine McCauley Health Center, and Sparrow Hospital.

She has a bachelor’s in psychology and nursing from Michigan State University, a master’s in nursing from Wayne State University and a master’s in business administration from Lake Superior State University. Her term expires June 30, 2016.

► See more campus briefs on p. 6.

THE
Dennos
MUSEUM CENTER

In The Dennos galleries:

Miao Xiaochun

Beijing-based multidisciplinary artist Miao Xiaochun expands the boundaries of photography into the realm of new media. His most recent work involves the development of paintings from Western art history into computer models that are then projected as digital videos. These works are expanded from their two-dimensional origins into a rich virtual space complete with enhanced depth and volume. Through Feb. 10, 2013.



Sketches to Sculptures: Rendered Reality, Sixty Years with Marshall M. Fredericks

Small sculptures and related drawings and sketches showcase the creative process of Fredericks, who spent his career as designer and sculptor in Michigan.

Organized from the collections of the Marshall M. Fredericks Sculpture Museum at Saginaw Valley State University, Fredericks' creative mind is on display as he transforms two-dimensional ideas on paper into three-dimensional sculptures. While many of the drawings in this exhibition resemble the final sculpture they would become, others only hint at elements of their outcome or point to a different outcome entirely. Through Jan. 6, 2013.

In Milliken Auditorium:

New sound system

In September, a new, state-of-the-art sound system, made possible with a grant from Rotary Charities and a major gift from Richard and Diana Milock, was installed in Milliken Auditorium. This system was designed to integrate with and support NMC's new Audio Technology program (see p. 3.) We thank our donors, and we know you will too, when you hear the difference.

The concert series includes the return of audience favorites as well many exciting new performers.



Oct. 6 - Bob Seeley and Bob Baldori

Prepare for an amazing, two piano blues concert. Bob Seeley is considered one of the greatest living boogie-woogie piano players with a distinguished solo career. "Boogie" Bob Baldori has been a mainstay in the music world since the 1960s, playing harmonica and piano with Chuck Berry for more than 40 years.

Oct. 12 - The Golden Dragon Acrobats

Back for an encore performance, the Golden Dragon Acrobats represent the best of a time-honored Chinese tradition that began more than 2,000 years ago. Direct from Hebei, China, their amazing artistry, beautiful costumes and props provide a visual feast for the entire family to enjoy.



Nov. 3 - Nora Jean

Said to have the voice of Koko Taylor and declared by some to be the next "Queen of the Blues," Elnora Jean (Bruso) Wallace was born and raised in Greenwood, Mississippi, a town famous for producing blues and gospel greats. Her father was Bobby Lee Wallace, a blues singer and sharecropper; her mother was Ida Lee Wallace, a gospel singer. With that heritage, Nora Jean Wallace was born to sing the blues.



Business, Maritime instructors named 2012 Faculty Excellence winners

Business instructor Kristy McDonald is NMC's 2012 Imogene Wise Faculty Excellence Award winner. Maritime instructor John Biolchini is the 2012 Adjunct Faculty Excellence Award winner.

Chosen by a student selection committee, award criteria includes teaching excellence, rapport with students, innovation in the classroom and a sense of dedication. Both awards were made at the 2012 Commencement ceremony in May.

McDonald began working in NMC's Career Services office in 2006 and moved to the faculty in 2011. Biolchini joined the Maritime program in 2007.

In nominating McDonald, students said: "Her class is truly the highlight of my week."

"This instructor deserves recognition for the way students are encouraged to step out of their comfort zone to help them



Kristy McDonald



John Biolchini

reach their full potential. I am so glad that I had this experience because I left that class a changed person."

McDonald said she was particularly gratified by comments like the latter.

"It takes it outside of the academic lens," she said. "We do more than that at NMC. We touch people's lives in so many ways we don't even know it."

In nominating Biolchini, students said: "Captain John Biolchini has over 30 years

of sailing experience, and his expertise has been so evident during the two years I have been attending the Academy."

"Captain Biolchini's teaching style is phenomenal. His integration of personal sailing exploits, practical lessons on river navigation, and a thorough instruction of textbook seamanship makes his class one of the most important and influential in his students' academic careers at NMC."

"This award is really their award," Biolchini said of the Maritime cadets. "The students have to give you the opportunity to teach at your peak."

The Imogene Wise Faculty Excellence Award was initiated by a contribution from longtime NMC benefactors Harold and Imogene Wise in 1970 and first awarded to a full-time faculty member in 1971. The NMC Adjunct Faculty Excellence Award was created as a companion in 1999.

Retired nursing instructor receives college's highest honor

Hettie Molvang, a nursing instructor from 1974 to 1994, has been named the 2012 recipient of the NMC Fellow award, the college's highest honor.



Hettie Molvang

As a teacher, Molvang believed she had a broader duty to students than overseeing their academic performance. To that end, she went so far as to make personal loans so struggling students could continue their education. As a birthday gift, her late husband, Eric Molvang, established an endowed scholarship in her name.

Established in 1989, more than 40 students have been helped by the Eric & Hettie Molvang Endowed Scholarship, awarded to nursing and maritime students. She was also named NMC's Imogene Wise Faculty Excellence award

recipient in 1986, only the second female faculty member to be chosen for the distinction.

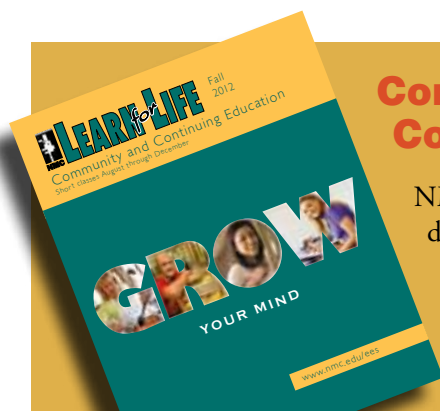
Now a retiree, Molvang has been instrumental in helping NMC remain connected to other retirees through NMC's Annual Campaign. Her support also includes the Denno Museum Center, where she retains an active membership, Commitment scholarships and the NMC Scholarship Open golf outing.

Beyond NMC, Molvang is active in the community. In 2011 she was named Distinguished Senior Citizen of the year

by the National Cherry Festival for her advocacy for people with Parkinson's disease, especially veterans. She is as a board member and facilitator of the Grand Traverse Area Parkinson's Support Group and assistant state director for Parkinson's Action Network, the political voice for all Parkinson's associations.

NMC has named Fellows each year since 1964 as a way of recognizing and thanking those individuals who have made special contributions to the college.

► Watch a video of Molvang sharing her NMC story at www.nmc.edu/mystory.



Community and Continuing Education

NMC is your center for professional and personal development. New, short format courses begin each week all year long.

► See the schedule at www.nmc.edu/ees or call (231) 995-1700.

Campus briefs

Cleaner, renewable marine fuel performs well in tests

Results of 2011 tests of algae-based biofuel in the T/S State of Michigan showed reduced greenhouse gas emissions and slightly better fuel consumption.

The tests of hydrotreated renewable diesel (HRD) fuel could pave the way for a greener U.S. Navy and commercial maritime operations. A joint effort by the departments of Transportation and Defense, the tests were conducted over 17 days at sea as well as 31 at the pier on NMC's Great Lakes Campus.

The HRD is made from algae and blended 50 percent with an ultra-low sulfur diesel and a lubricant additive. Tested in one of the ship's four engines, the weighted emissions of nitrous oxide, carbon monoxide, and carbon dioxide were 10, 18, and 5 percent lower, respectively, for the blended test fuel than for same engine operated on only ultra-low sulfur diesel.

The switch in fuel also resulted in a 25 percent reduction in the weighted emissions of particulate matter, and a lower volumetric fuel consumption for the same power output.

A second round of testing in the ship was held last month.



sive recycling and composting services for all its special events. When not washing their own china and flatware, the Hagerty Center uses tableware that can be composted along with food scraps and uneaten food to create virtually waste-free events.

Nathan Glidden leads the team that manages the Center's recycling effort.

"We are proud to have received the MRC's certification for our facility and for Northwestern Michigan College," Glidden said. "It takes the hard work of our fine staff in order to maintain the recycling and composting efforts, and the majority of the credit belongs to them."

Lobdell's open for lunch

NMC's teaching restaurant is now serving lunch for the fall semester.

Reservations are highly suggested and available from 11:30 a.m. - 2 p.m. Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays.

The restaurant is run by students in NMC's Great Lakes Culinary Institute. In addition to the best view of West Bay in Traverse City, local food comprises about 40 percent of the menu.

- To see the fall menu online, visit www.nmc.edu/lobdells. For reservations, call (231) 995-3120.



Hagerty recognized for recycling efforts

NMC's Hagerty Conference Center has earned three-star designation as a Certified Recycler from the Michigan Recycling Coalition (MRC) for its recycling and composting efforts.

"The Hagerty Center is proactive in pursuit of its sustainability goals and is reaping the benefits of that commitment, its zero waste goal and saving money," said Kerrin O'Brien, MRC Executive Director.

The Hagerty Center works closely with Bay Area Recycling for Charities to provide comprehen-

NMC instructor remembers Ray Bradbury

The world lost a literary giant when author Ray Bradbury, memorialized as a master of science fiction who brought the genre into the mainstream, died June 5. NMC communications instructor Dr. Garyn Roberts (right) remembers Bradbury, who died June 5 in Los Angeles, most as a friend.

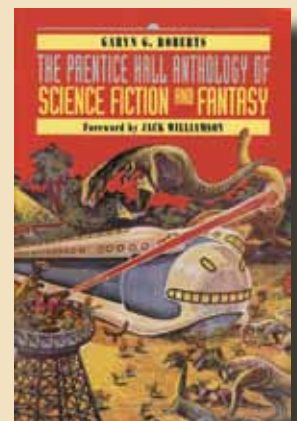


Dr. Garyn Roberts

As an authorized biographer of Bradbury, Roberts maintained a 30-year relationship with the author. They met in 1982, when Bradbury visited Bowling Green State University where Roberts was a graduate student completing the first year of his master's degree. In 2003 and 2004 and 2005, they toured the Midwest together for community reading programs, celebrating the fiftieth anniversary of the 1953 publication of "Fahrenheit 451," which many consider Bradbury's seminal work.

Roberts also wrote a piece on Bradbury for The Prentice Hall Anthology of Science Fiction and Fantasy, which he edited. Osterlin Library has this book in its circulating collection.

"I will miss my friend, and all-time favorite author, but he is at peace and he has left us a legacy that is incredible," Roberts said.



Plan ahead...

October 4

Community Cinema - As Goes Janesville
Co-sponsored with WCMU Public Television.
7 p.m., Milliken Auditorium.
Free, ongoing first Thursday of the month.
Film summaries: www.dennosmuseum.org

October 5

Great Lakes ~ Great Chefs™ dinner
Lobdell's Teaching Restaurant
Reservations: (231) 995-3120

October 5, 20

Public Viewing Nights
8-10 p.m., Rogers Observatory
Suggested donation \$2/person, \$5/family
Future dates: www.nmc.edu/rogersobservatory

October 18

International Affairs Forum
Can the U.S. Help Prevent Europe from Collapse?
6 p.m., Milliken Auditorium.
Tickets \$10, call (231) 995-1700
Complete 2012-13 speaker schedule:
www.nmc.edu/ees

October 26

NMC Community Band presents
"An Evening with Gershwin"
8 p.m., Milliken Auditorium
Tickets: (231) 995-1553,
www.dennosmuseum.org

November 9

Mariners Memorial
Noon, Great Lakes Maritime Academy courtyard
www.nmc.edu/maritime

November 15

International Affairs Forum
One Michigander Making a World of Difference in Southern Africa: Dr. Terrie Taylor
6 p.m., Milliken Auditorium.
Tickets \$10, call (231) 995-1700
Complete 2012-13 speaker schedule:
www.nmc.edu/ees

November 30

NMC Community Band holiday concert
8 p.m., Milliken Auditorium
Tickets: (231) 995-1553,
www.dennosmuseum.org

December 1

NMC Children's Choir holiday concert
2 p.m., Lars Hockstad Auditorium
(Central Grade School)
www.dennosmuseum.org

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

From the archives: Politicians

Plenty of politicians have stopped by NMC over the years – and even enrolled. Here are some highlights.

1950s - From left are Robert Griffin, who would serve as a congressman, U.S. Senator and state Supreme Court Justice; Arnell Engstrom, who as a state legislator helped craft and pass the community college laws of 1951 and 1955 and William Milliken, who would go on to become Michigan's longest-serving governor. All three are recipients of NMC's Fellow award. Engstrom and Milliken served as NMC trustees.

1971 - Player No. 20, Bart Stupak, was also president of the NMC College Council when he was a student. He went on to serve nine terms in the U.S. House of Representatives, retiring in 2010.



Team members: (front row, left to right) Gary Gladman, Mark Hopkins, Greg Ingles, Bart Stupak, Sam Wright, Bruce McGhan, Al Davis. (back row, left to right) Coach Bob Inglis, Don Gundy, Charlie Meach, Werner Koehler, Mike Mezzano, Al Nutter, Jon Wykoff.



1981 - Top dogs: Former President Gerald Form chats with NMC Board chairman Les Biederman.

2007 - U.S. Sen. Carl Levin, bottom left, visited NMC's Energy Demonstration Center to learn about alternative energy programs.





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From the archives: Governors on campus

1964 - Current Republican presidential nominee Mitt Romney wasn't along when his father, Michigan Gov. George Romney, stopped by campus (below.) But the resemblance is unmistakable. If you can identify any of the students in attendance below, contact Ann Swaney in the NMC Archives: aswaney@nmc.edu, (231) 995-1016.



2008 - Former Michigan Gov. Jennifer Granholm mixes it up with Maritime cadets aboard the *T/S State of Michigan*.

► For more political photos from the archives, turn to page 7.