

For Alumni
& Friends



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Thank you all for your continued support!

Mike
Heidi &
Evan



NMU Construction Management

Issue #8

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News from Marquette

We wish you all a fabulous 2019!

Upon reflection, (former students, please take note), our faculty team continues to learn.

Examples:

- ◇ We learned an incredibly valuable lesson regarding email lists, as well as “reply” vs “reply all” functions. We can chalk that little exercise up to experience.
- ◇ We also learned that the Jacobetti Complex did (finally) make it to the top of Michigan’s Capital Outlay program toward the tail end of December. Our program was approved as a \$28+M renovation, which would provide anywhere from 35% - 50% of the necessary funding to renovate the existing

structure. There are reasons to be excited and reasons to be reserved:

- ◆ Excited
 - * New MEPF systems and a face lift
 - * Potentially some efficient space usage
 - * Recognition for the programs in the building
 - * Could re-work the scope to build a new structure on campus for better connection to “the south side”...no more daycare down the hall.
- ◆ Reserved
 - * No clear path to get the additional \$20 - \$40 M necessary for either a complete renovation or a new structure
 - * Timetable is, at best, uncertain.
 - * A move to the south side would require a rebuilding of the Jacobetti culture/traditions in a different location.

Q: Where are seniors going after graduation?

A: Detroit, Dallas, Houghton, Iron Mountain, Marquette, Minneapolis, Sault Ste. Marie, Seattle

Q: How many senior projects were completed during the fall semester?

A: Four

Q: Do you need a reminder for the alumni golf outing?

A: Please mark your calendars - Career Fair on Thursday, 19 September and Golf outing on Saturday, 21 September 2019

Congrats to the December 2018 Graduates

1. Steve Bertucci (Iron Mountain, MI)
2. Joshua Crim (Minneapolis, MN)
3. Joe Ferzacca (Marquette, MI)
4. Noah Jutis (Seattle, WA)
5. Jedd Kangas (Houghton County, MI)
6. Darrin Koivisto (Minneapolis, MN)
7. Wynnie Maravilla (Minneapolis, MN)
8. Keegan Pacic (Detroit, MI)
9. Noah Talentino (Sault Ste. Marie, MI)



Joshua (Left), from Lansing, MI will be starting with Mortenson very soon.



Noah (Right), from Waterford, MI begins his career with the Bridge and Marine division of Kiewit.



Jedd (Left) from Chassell, MI is exploring a number of opportunities throughout the upper Midwest

Darrin (Right) from Cokato, MN accepted his offer from Mortenson and will begin early 2019



Keegan (Left) from Grand Rapids, MI will be working for The Whiting-Turner Contracting Company in their Detroit office.



Wynona "Wynnie" (Left) from Madison, WI accepted her offer from Mortenson and starts with them in early 2019

Not pictured: Steve Bertucci from Ishpeming, MI is now working with Gundlach Champion, Inc. Joe Ferzacca from Marquette, MI is working for Jahnke Builders



Noah will be working with the United States Army Corps of Engineers out of their Sault Ste. Marie office - which is his hometown.

From left to right: Heidi, Evan (and David) with Joshua Crim, Darrin Koivisto, Noah Talentino, Jedd Kangas, Wynnie Maravilla, Noah Jutis and Keegan Pacic.



Alumni Spotlight

Ben Hager (2005)



Ben is a Senior Project Manager with J.H. Findorff & Son, Inc. He started with Findorff in 2005, and has been with them ever since.

Originally from Madison, Wisconsin, he spent summers in Sister Bay, WI working and boating. Ben transferred credits from both

Central Michigan University and Bay College before landing in NMU's Construction Management program. He is a former President of the NMC, and maintained a high level of community engagement throughout his time here.

He met Katy six years ago, and they were married on New Year's Eve in 2015. They split time between Madison and Milwaukee, depending upon the variety of projects that Ben is managing.

Ben's "Fast Five":

Favorite Movie: The Great Outdoors

Best NMU memory: Surveying during hunting season in the snow and falling down the icy hills regularly

Greatest Professional Accomplishment: being with the same company for 10+ years and now being a mentor and team leader

Best part of coming back to Marquette: the bike trails and the restaurants

Person he'd most like to meet: Phil Knight the founder of Nike...he seems to be a very interesting guy

Student Spotlight

Matthew Goss (May 2020 & 2022)



To say that Matthew has had an interesting path to get to NMU would be quite an understatement. He is currently a student, but has been a business owner, police officer, personal security detail specialist and an Assistant Operations Chief for the Department of the Army (among other roles).

Mr. Goss has provided personal security for US Ambassadors to Baghdad, the US President, Vice President, Secretary of Defense, Secretary of State (as well as numerous Congressmen, Senators, Governors and Embassy Diplomats...we've seen the pictures) during their visits to Baghdad. Additionally, he has trained FBI and Federal Air Marshals by providing High Threat Operations Instruction.

Upon his retirement from the military, Matthew chose NMU and our Construction Degrees (the Associate and Baccalaureate) as his intermediate goals. Matthew's calm and humble demeanor is welcomed in our classrooms, and his unique perspective adds to the learning environment.

He is currently a technician with NMU's Telecommunications Department, and is weighing summer internship options. Matthew is definitely not our "typical" freshman.



We need your pictures and stories for future issues!!!

Northern Michigan Constructors (NMC) Happenings

The Northern Michigan Constructors worked with Lakestate Industries throughout the fall to complete the finishes on a restroom, perform some demolition and prepare an area for a coffee/pastry shop. Below and right are a couple of progress photos.

Lakestate Industries is a private, non-profit organization that provides training and job services to adult and youth populations that have intellectual disabilities. One of their big selling products is the Yooper Fire Starter (<https://lakestateindustries.org/collections/yooper-firestarters>)



Homecoming 2018
(Tons of Fun)



- The 2018 Construction Career Fair was outstanding. It was well-attended, and the employer tables were staffed by alumni...which is the primary reason our program continues to have the only “program specific” career fair on campus. Back row (L to R): Mikayel Vietzke, Kerry Klausner, Paul Smith, Zach Lange, Eric Brandt, Drew Wudtke, Jon Nehls, Eric Wodek, Andy Patt, Curtis Brown and Austen Harris.
- Middle row (L to R): Mike Brown, Kayla Billmeier, Adam Glover, Jim Conlin, Jake Supa, Tyler McGuire, Alex Williams, Caity Tefft, Jon Slack, Thomas Wahlstrom and Derrick Carter.
- Front row (L to R): Brian Hillen, Ken Kasten, Evan Lucas, Heidi Blanck, Mike Andary, Jeff Sheehan and Scott Ampe. Missing from picture are Michael Oswald and Kyle Swenor.



Left - most of the golfing group at the luncheon on Edgewood Drive

Lower left - Adam Glover and Jason

Below: Jason, Donna (our Border Grill Princess), Natalie and Renee Blanck and Susie (aka “the Boss”)



This year, most teams kept score and we had a winner to crown. The outing capped a tremendous week of alumni assistance to/for our program: from the info sessions and guest lectures to the career fair and all of the interviews. It is our sincere hope that we can continue to keep you (alumni) interested enough to continue doing great things!





Women in Construction

Friday, 30 November 2018

Heidi wrote a successful proposal for hosting two Women in Construction Days during the 2018.19 academic year. The fall event was for high school girls only. More than 120 young ladies from across the Upper Peninsula attended, and an additional 30+ women volunteered to help at the event. Female professionals traveled from Appleton, Iron Mountain and Milwaukee as well as the surrounding area to volunteer, along with the young ladies in our programs.





2018 Senior Projects

This year, four senior projects occupied quite a bit of time for the students involved. A yurt platform and an outdoor learning area were built on campus. A gazebo was built at the new Trillium House, and the new UPaws facility received a gazebo along with a variety of built-in benches. All told, the four projects contributed over 2,000 hours of service to the Marquette community, and not one of them would have happened without the dedicated efforts of our senior class.



“The Yurt”

Left to right: Jim Thams - NMU's Director of Facilities
Dr. Scott Jordan - NMU faculty
Derek Wedin - Senior class
Suzette LaCasse - Senior class
Joshua Downs - Senior class
Wynn timer Maravilla - Senior class
Hunter Mahoski - Senior class
Dr. Liz Wuorinen - Associate Dean for School of Health and Human Performance
Tommy Forester - Senior class
Dr. Jacquie Medina - NMU faculty

Engineering changes, weather and time altered the scope to be a yurt platform. Derek, Suzette, Joshua, Wynn timer, Hunter & Tommy worked with a local engineer to re-design the platform to meet local loads and codes, which varied significantly from the Pacific Northwest standards. This group got to rent a ground heater to thaw the ground and protect the concrete after the foundation pour. Mr. Jeff Korpi (PE from Integrated Designs, Inc.) donated his time (and Engineer's Stamp) for the foundation system that was designed by the students.





2018 Senior Projects... cont.

The EEGS Department was gifted \$10,000 by “The Woods” Contractor (Walbridge) and \$20,000 by the Developer (EdR) to have an outdoor learning area constructed adjacent to the new dorm buildings. It had been an ongoing (nearly) two-year process of designing and refining. There were many versions presented by a multitude of students in various classes. Interestingly, the final design this fall was not the final design, as our seniors spent about seven weeks doing additional preconstruction.



Left to right:

Dr. Steve VanDenAvond - NMU Vice President

Dr. Fritz Erickson—NMU President

Darrin Koivisto - Senior class

Mack Harris - Senior class

Mark Zielinski - Senior class

Austin Pierce - Senior class

Joshua Crim - Senior class

Cody Berg - Senior class

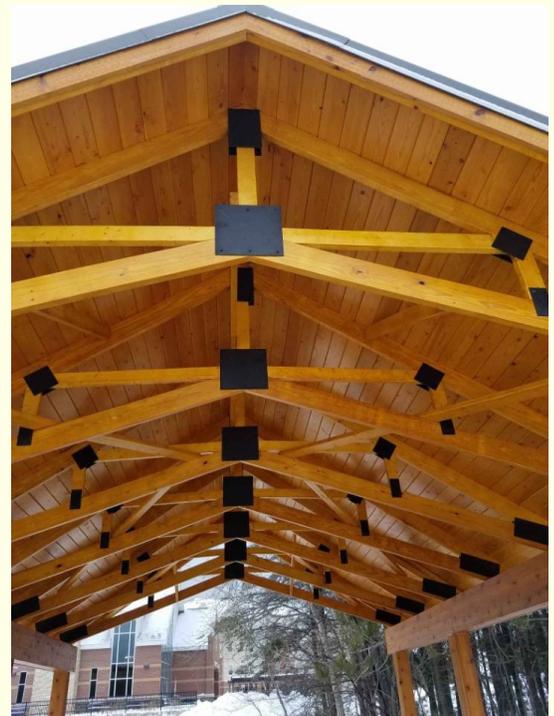
Dr. Robert Regis - NMU Faculty

Dr. Megan McConville - NMU Faculty

Dr. Matt Van Grinsven - NMU Faculty

Jim Thams - NMU Director of Facilities

Mr. Robert Eslinger - Dean of the College of Technology and Occupational Sciences





2018 Senior Projects...cont.

The Trillium House is a new facility in Marquette that opened during the summer of 2018. Trillium coordinates with hospice care for the Marquette area. Their Executive Board requested a gazebo for folks to enjoy the property's private outdoor setting. One twist to this project was the significant design change when the standard post & beam system was replaced by logs, which were donated by Hiawatha Log Homes. The donation required a complete redesign, and altered the construction by more than four weeks.

"The Log Gazebo"



Left to right:

Jalen Brooks - Senior class

Keegan Pacic - Senior class

Ms. Trillium - Trillium rep.

Mr. Pat Bray - Trillium Executive Director

Noah Talentino - Senior class

Adam Michaud - Senior class

Kurt Thiele - Senior class

Dr. Dan Mazzucci - Trillium Board President

Ms. Trillium - Trillium rep.

Ms. Trillium - Trillium rep.

Noah Jutis - Senior class





2018 Senior Projects...cont.

The new UPaws facility in Marquette provides shelter and care for animals that have not lived under the best of circumstances. The cramped facility in Negaunee Township was replaced by the state of the art building south of the Crossroad on CR553. The students were able to field measure the rooms in order to provide the built-in benches, and the gazebo was designed to be towed around the property if UPaws chooses to change the location.

“A Gazebo and a bunch of other stuff”



Left to right:

Mr. Robert Eslinger - Dean of the College of Technology and Occupational Sciences

Alec Schmelebeck - Senior class

Anthony Rinconeno - Senior class

Elizabeth Boose - Senior class

Jedd Kangas - Senior class

Hannah Crampton - Senior class

Wyatt Gooding - Senior class

Kori Tossova - UPaws Executive Director

The four additional people on the far right are Board members and key volunteers for UPaws. Unfortunately, they do not have names.





Donor Funded Scholarships

Six scholarships were awarded during the Winter 2018 Construction Management Advisory Committee meeting, which coincided with Senior Project Presentations.

Picture to the left: (L to R): Mack Harris, Ryan Pietila, Elizabeth Boose, Nathan Williams and Katie Rankinen. Missing from picture, Nick Quinn

Mack will be graduating in May, and plans to start his career in the military. Ryan is a sophomore transfer that has spent time with MDOT. Elizabeth graduates in May and is contemplating a couple different offers. Nathan will be a December 2019 graduate and is planning to spend his summer with the Walbec Group. Katie is a Junior at NMU and new to the program. After learning that nursing wasn't her path, we welcomed her to the program this fall. Nick Quinn is a Junior, and continues to spend his summers with Rieth Riley as a Field Engineering intern. He'll graduate in May 2020. Both Nick and Mack are members of NMU's ROTC program as well.



Alumni:

Please continue to leave things better than you found them

Back row (L to R): Kayla Billmeier, Chris Cardinal, Justin Blubaugh, Jim Johnson, Mickayel Vietzke, Tom Keranen and Evan Lucas

Middle row (L to R): Luke Oberdorfer, Jeremy Bubb, Amber Burden, Adam Glover, Jim Conlin, Ken Kasten, Cole Thoreson and Scott Ampe

Front row (L to R): Mack, Ryan, Elizabeth, Nate & Katie





Wildcat Constructors getting it done!

(Much of this was revealed in the email strings, but it is still pretty cool stuff!)



Left: Liz Glazier, Nikk Glazier (2008), Mike & Susie after supper together in Baltimore. During the summer of 2018, the Andarys headed East for a vacation throughout some historic sites, and were fortunate to catch up with the Glaziers prior to.....



Right: Emma Glazier's birth, which occurred a few months later. Nikk was not able to attend the annual Career Fair, which was a rarity. The birth of a child seemed to be a reasonable excuse - way more viable than many of the reasons we've heard students use through the years for missing class .

Another cool story about the Rhodes triplets (not pictured). Phillip, Jacob and Ryan (2018) appeared a while back in their hometown newspaper. It can be seen at: <https://www.thetimesherald.com/story/news/local/2018/05/02/memphis-triplets-graduate-identical-degrees-identical-4-0-s/572782002/>



(Right) The Oswalds - from left: Zoe, Rose, Reese, Michael & Ava

Although, he didn't submit anything for this issue, Michael Oswald (2003) had an exceptional year as a husband, father and Chief Operating Officer of Hill & Wilkinson in Richardson, TX. He:

◇ Was named to NMU's campus-wide Alumni Board of Directors

◇ Was inducted into Hillman, Michigan's High School Hall of Fame

◇ Was named as one of ENR's Top 20 under 40 TX/LA region. It is scheduled for the early February issue.



No picture: Ryan Steenhagen (2006) is a Project Manager for VJS Construction Services in Southeast Wisconsin. Current student, Nathan Williams, interned with VJS during the summer of 2018, and worked for Ryan on an elephant sanctuary at the Milwaukee County Zoo.



Left and right: Amber Burden (2003) bid and managed an exceptionally fun project in Southwest Michigan over the summer. A couple miles worth of sanitary and water lines with an average cut of 18', plus dewatering and a labor lockout from the paving subcontractor. It provided all the joy that one could hope for from an underground project.

The bypass pumping and dewatering incorporated all of her pumps as well as all of the rental pumps available in the area.



Wildcat Constructors getting it done...cont.

No picture: John Clarcken (2013) relocated to the Pacific Rim and is a Superintendent with Polygon Northwest Homes in the Portland, OR area.



Left: Gabby Garza (2016) is a Project Engineer with Barton Malow's Sports & Entertainment Group. She is working on the Atlanta Braves' training facility in North Port, FL. Spread out over 85 acres, the project needs to be done prior to 24 March - the first spring training game.



Right: Chris Cardinal (2008) is Vice President of Cardinal Concrete Construction, and he bought a new Tele-belt conveyor. The rumor is that his son, Cal (McGoo), was much more excited to play in it than Chris was to write the check for it.

No picture: Jon Irby (2013) is now a Superintendent with DeAngelis Diamond's Detroit, MI office.



Left: Quinton Myotte (2018) is a Field Engineer with Mortenson's Denver Operating Group, and will be working on at least three buildings on Colorado State University's campus.



Right: Sophie Park (2018) and Andrew Steinhauer (2018) are Project Engineers with Hill & Wilkinson in Richardson, TX and are working together on an Episcopal School in Dallas. The three-story 60,000 sf structure comes equipped with tornado shutters, which will make the east side of it a storm shelter.

Additionally, Sophie and Mitch Hanson (2017) got engaged over the summer. Mitch is a scheduler for TIC—a division of Kiewit.



Left and right: Caleb Hayes (2008) is the President of Caleb Hayes Enterprises. He is heavy into brokerage, real estate, investing and private equity. Caleb started a Keller Williams office in the Fox Valley of Wisconsin, flips a few dozen homes per year and manages a bunch of residential and commercial properties.



No picture: Michael Judy (2014) is now an Assistant Project Manager with Elzinga & Volkers, Inc. in Holland, MI. He and his wife are building a home in the Holland area.



Left and right: Marlon Harris (2018) is a Field Engineer with Mortenson's Phoenix Office, and is building an indoor sports center in Tucson, AZ. It will provide climate controlled training space for the University of Arizona's athletic teams. A couple of outdoor football practice fields are also part of the program.





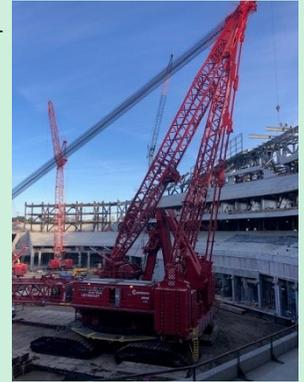
Wildcat Constructors getting it done...cont.



Left: Derek Nakamura (2011) is President and Owner of Paniolo Construction in Terrell, TX. His civil company had a solid 2018, and is looking forward to a productive 2019.

Right: Travis Mellon (2007) is a Superintendent with Manhattan Construction Company in Arlington, TX. The crane's first project was on the Atlanta Falcon's stadium, and was moved on 152 trucks to work on the new Texas Rangers ballpark in Arlington.

No picture: Ryan Gauthier (2007) is a Senior Project Manager with A/Z Corporation in North Stonington, CT. Currently, he is in the preconstruction phase for a new 80,000 sf science lab at Yale University.



Left: Chris Sachs (2003) is a Capital Project Manager with Colorado University in Boulder, CO. He and his wife, Lindsey, welcomed Sienna in October. He plans to have his MBA complete in May. Additionally, Chris and Lindsey have a wedding planning and design business.



No picture: Aaron Miller (2014) will be a Project Engineer with Mortenson's Wind Energy group starting this month.

Right: Michael LaFleur (2015) is an Integrated Construction Coordinator with Mortenson's Federal Contracting Group in Athens, GA. In addition to getting married in September to Lindsey, Michael has been working on the SERPL (Southeast Poultry Research Laboratory).



Left: Matthew Boonstra (2017) is a Project Manager with Midwest Construction in Grand Rapids, MI. He is building seven wood-framed student housing buildings in Big Rapids for Ferris State University.

Right: Kerry Klausner (2011) is a Project Manager with the Walsh Group. He is working on a water reclamation project in Temecula, CA. Treatment includes: primary clarifiers, fine screens, bioreactors, tertiary, chlorine and a big digester. Treatment capacity is in the 23m gallons per day range.



Left: Jamie Martin (2008) is an Assistant Project Manager with Alberici Constructors and is working on a waste water treatment in Gwinnet County, GA that is intended to handle up to 12m gallons per day.

Right: The Martins (Lucas, Malina, Jacob and Jamie) on the shores of the North Sea in the Netherlands.





Wildcat Constructors getting it done...cont.



Left: Zach Lange (2018) is a Project Engineer with Payne & Dolan. They completed a bunch of paving at Sawyer International Airport in Marquette with limited disruption to flight schedules. Lots of night paving and high volume production

Right: Sean Hart (2011) is a Project Manager with J.H. Findorff's Special Projects Group in Madison, WI. The concrete work was the last phase over a nine-year project to replace a parking deck. There were lots of chemicals used to allow epoxy coating within a day instead of 30.



Left: Zach Gadomski (2011) is a Superintendent with Premier Design + Build Group in Itasca, IL. He's been working at a deactivated petroleum storage facility, where the existing structures are all being demolished, and new warehouses (about 750,000 sf) are being constructed.

Right: Skip Warnke (2003) is a Project Manager with GB Design Build in Steamboat Springs, CO. He gets to ski a bunch and build some very cool luxury homes that make the cover of Mountain Living Magazine.



Left: Randy Durecka (2007) is a Project Manager for Walsh Construction Company in Chicago, IL. He is working on the Merchants Bridge, which is one of the oldest active rail crossings over the Mississippi River - it was built in 1892. Lots of cofferdams, barge work and even some air hoists will be used to fly tower sections into place.

Right: Conor Dare (2006) is a Project Manager with O'Brien Construction Company. He converted the historic Elliot Building (built in 1889) into 24 apartments in downtown Detroit, MI.



No picture: Max Watrous (2016) is a Project Engineer with Horizon Construction Group in Madison, WI. He is working on two multi-unit family apartment complexes - each building has 200 units as well as a clubhouse and pool. He will most likely be heading to Apple Valley, MN for a very similar project scope later this year.



Left: Ron Mortti (2007) is a Project Manager with M Lukas Company in Kaukauna, WI. It is a remote controlled demolition machine often used to remove concrete and refractory in their industrial projects.

Right: Spenser Feld (2018) is a Project Engineer for Clark Construction Company in Lansing, MI. His project is with the Owosso Public School system doing some additions to an elementary school.





Wildcat Constructors getting it done...cont.



Left: Colin Phillip (2009 B.S. and 2013 M.S) is a CPS/6-Sigma Black Belt at Ziegler Caterpillar. He and his wife, Casey, welcomed Jace before Christmas.

No picture: Chad Bollman (2010 B.S. & 2013 MBA) is now a Commercial Project Manager with Auric Solar

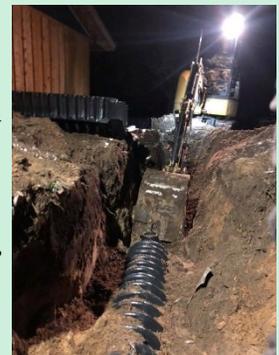
Right: Nick Sexton (2018) is a Field Engineer with Mortenson's Wind Energy Group. He is currently on a windfarm in Colby, KS

No picture: John Stenzel (2003) is a Senior Project Manager with Klein Construction in Lemont, IL



Left: Ken Kasten (2007) is a Project Manager and Estimator for Gundlach Champion, Inc in Iron Mountain, MI. Ken was the estimator and P.M. for the Florence Utilities Commission new office building that opened last month. It was a wood-framed 9000+sf structure.

Right: Michael Holbrook (2014) owns Holbrook Custom Designs. He married Courtney last fall, and has been doing quite a bit of work on Walloon Lake...so he was able to take his boat to work on many summer/fall days



Left: Bret Sheffer (2004) is a Project Manager at Interstate Highway Construction in Brighton, MI. He is now getting traffic shifted back to normal on I-696 between I-75 and I-94. A lockout during September caused a month of production loss, which pushed lots of concrete pouring into winter conditions.

Right: Bret having a bunch more fun catching a salmon.



No picture: Bob Mantz (2011) is an Area Superintendent and Patrick McFadden (2016) is a Field Engineer with Hensel Phelps. They are both working on confidential data centers somewhere in the Mountain states. They are enjoying the work...and the 60+ mph winds as well.

No picture: Tom Labuz (2009) is a Superintendent with Mortenson's Sports & Entertainment Group. He is currently working on the new Golden State Warriors Arena, the Chase Center, in San Francisco, CA

No picture: Lucas Zimmerman (2016) is an Assistant Project Manager with Champion Concrete in Iron Mountain, MI. He has been in Idaho Falls, ID working with Jacobs on a Department of Energy project.



AGC SCAN
Student Contractor Awareness Night
Thursday, 01 November 2018

This past November, students from NMU and MTU met at the Jacobetti, and toured three project sites before settling at our “under construction” University Center for supper and networking. Clockwise, from top right: UP Health Systems Replacement hospital, boiler room of new WEC Energy Center in Negaunee Township, aerial view of the energy center and the meal within the University Center. The Associated General Contractors of Michigan did another fantastic job of coordinating the event. Students from each university had a genuinely good time.



Annual Giving...Something we hope you will consider

We recognize that you have given and sacrificed a considerable amount to be where you are, and yet we are still going to ask that you consider giving a little more. We also know that you are now independent adults with financial burdens of your own...but here we are - seeking your altruistic support for our primary initiative: educating the next generation for a career in construction. In the truest form of leaving things better than you found them, you are in a position to have a positive impact on the development of our students...current and future. The good news is that this “giving section” will appear in every newsletter moving forward, so we’ll be able to reinforce our message through repetition.

Giving to the NMU Foundation and designating the Construction Management Program as the recipient will carry benefits that are difficult to measure.

- ◆ You could help make the difference between a student completing their degree goal, or quitting due to the overwhelming financial pressure.
- ◆ You could be the person that puts us in a position to keep pace with today’s technology (Ex.: so we are not reliant on the 1958 theodolites for surveying)
- ◆ You could leave a positive legacy at NMU that will last a lifetime (or more)
- ◆ You should know that \$1.00 donated is \$1.00 of impact. The NMU Foundation is a responsible steward for your resources. They do not take anything off the top...and your gift is tax-deductible

There are a number of ways to do it, but the following link makes giving relatively easy:

<http://connect.nmu.edu/s16cmn>