

# NMU Construction Management

For Alumni & Friends  
Issue #9 / Summer 2019



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Thank you all for your continued support! As alumni, you are the reason we have a newsletter

Mike, Heidi & Evan

## News from Marquette



The first half of 2019 has been solid...we are very much looking forward to the back half!

### ◇ Updates on the \$28.6M+ Jacobetti Capital Outlay Program:

- ◆ Currently the: “Career and Engineering Tech Facility (CETF)”
- ◆ NMU has hired an A/E firm (Neumann Smith), and they will bring two concepts to schematic design
  - \* One renovation of the existing Jacobetti and
  - \* One new structure adjacent to the Art & Design building. An early rendering is shown below:
- ◆ The RFP for Construction Management Services will be distributed this month (June).

### **Q: Where are seniors going after graduation?**

**A:** Detroit, Dallas, Green Bay, Houghton, Iron Mountain, Marquette, Minneapolis, Phoenix, Seattle and lots of other areas once assignments are made.

### **Q: Is it worth keeping in touch with us?**

**A:** Most definitely—YES!

### **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 May 2019 Graduates

1. Cody Berg (Channing, MI)
2. Elizabeth Boose (Lupton, MI)
3. Jalen Brooks (Detroit, MI)
4. Hannah Crampton (Marquette, MI)
5. Joshua Downs (Marquette, MI)
6. Tommy Forester (Madison Heights, MI)
7. Wyatt Gooding (Onsted, MI)
8. Mack Harris (Almont, MI)
9. Suzette LaCasse (Dollar Bay, MI)
10. Hunter Mahoski (Ishpeming, MI)
11. Adam Michaud (Charlevoix, MI)
12. Austin Pierce (Pinckney, MI)
13. Holt Richards (Marquette, MI)
14. Anthony Rinconeno (Ann Arbor, MI)
15. Alec Schmelebeck (Iron River, MI)
16. Kurt Thiele (St. Clair Shores, MI)
17. Derek Wedin (Green Bay, WI)
18. Mark Zielinski (Troy, MI)



Far left: L to R - Mack Harris, Suzette LaCasse, Adam Michaud, Austin Pierce, Anthony Rinconeno, Tommy Forester, Derek Wedin, Alec Schmelebeck, Josh Downs (kneeling), Cody Berg, Kurt Thiele, Mark Zielinski, Elizabeth Boose, Hannah Crampton and Wyatt Good-

Left: Mike, Jalen Brooks and Evan. Jalen is with Mortenson in Phoenix, AZ.

Right: Anthony "Rico" Rinconeno with his family. Rico is working with Mortenson

Far right: Elizabeth Boose, Kurt Thiele and Cody Berg are "studying for exams" before graduation. Elizabeth will be with Mortenson, Cody with Gundlach Champion and Kurt with Hill & Wilkinson



Left: Alec Schmelebeck and Kurt Thiele Alec is heading to Seattle to work with Kiewit's Infrastructure Division.

Far left (L to R): Rico, Tommy Forester, Adam Michaud and Evan. Tommy will be with Mortenson and Adam is heading west with Kiewit.

Not pictured: Hunter Mahoski from Ishpeming, MI is now working with a company that specializes in guided hunting. Holt Richards from Marquette, MI is working locally for Jahnke Builders.



## Alumni Spotlight

Jon Nehls (1999)



Jon (on the bull float) is a Field Operations Manager for Mortenson Construction. He started with Mortenson upon his graduation, and has steadily been promoted to his current position.

He is lives in Pewaukee with his wife (Bridgett) of 19 years and daughter (Evalynn). Originally came to NMU to play football and study Industrial Technology. He changed his major and his football trajectory.

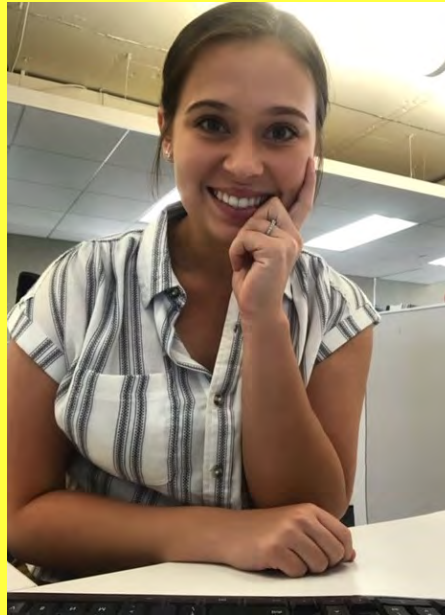
A highlight project Martha Jefferson \$225M replacement hospital in Charlottesville, VA. It was his first major project as a Senior Superintendent. Jon found it unforgettable due to the team that was assigned for the project. 23 Mortenson employees staffed the project, and the average age was 28. Seven children (of the team members) were born on that project. Tremendous life-long bonds were formed!

Jon's "Fast Five":

1. Favorite Movie: Shawshank Redemption
2. Best NMU memory: Meeting his wife here
3. Greatest Professional Accomplishment: Watching a team member (as a carpenter years ago) just recently promoted to Senior Superintendent... Seeing professional growth in others is incredibly rewarding.
4. Best part of coming back to Marquette: Hoping to inspire the next generation and make a positive impact within the construction industry
5. Person he'd most like to meet: Bart Starr—admired him for a long time with his approach to teamwork. He remained humble through all of the accolades and accomplishments.

## Student Spotlight

Karlie Hanson (May 2021)



Karlie was born and raised in Wallace, MI and attended Stephenson High School where she played softball and volleyball and participated in Business Professionals of America (BPA) events. She is the NMC's incoming Vice President of Public Relations.

As a second-generation construction girl, she has been an integral part of her father's projects since elementary school, and understands the value of a solid day's work. She started her career at NMU in Art & Design, but the move to Construction Management was a smooth transition.

Following her freshman year, she interned with a marketing firm in Menominee, MI. Upon her return to school, she landed with the Skanska Closner team, and worked on the UPHS Replacement Hospital until finals week. She had a lot of punchlist responsibility, and split her time between the field and the office. Karlie was also tasked to resolve a large stack of RFIs during her time on the \$330M project. In addition to school and a nearly full-time job with Skanska Closner, she has worked at Marquette's Big Boy since her freshman year.

This summer, she is in Baltimore as an intern with The Whiting-Turner Contracting Company.

Karlie is looking forward to helping the NMC achieve their goals for the upcoming academic year. She appreciates the wealth of opportunities that the construction industry provides. New places, new people and new experiences are incredibly fulfilling.

She thought the SCAN Events of 2017 and 2018 were great, and the career fairs have been incredibly helpful when interacting with alumni and/or helping chart a career path.



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

## Northern Michigan Constructors

The 2018.19 Executive team of Griffin Boo, Nick Hughes, Nick Quinn, Brooke Bailey and Kurt Thiele did a very job of being involved in the community. They continued the NMC tradition of assembling key components for the UP200 Sled Dog Race, built some staging for TedX seminars and designed/built a fantastic set for the Hospitality Management's end-of-year event...this year's theme was under the big top, so it had a circus appeal.

The incoming group (Michael Willaert, Nick Hughes, Karlie Hanson, Spencer Cota and Alec Walters) are looking to continue the good work that decades of previous NMC Executives teams have led.



## A Couple Awards

In late-February, Mike was surprised to learn that he had been awarded NMU's 2018.19 Distinguished Faculty Award. There was a nice reception in April where he received a plaque, paperweight and a medal. Heidi wrote the primary nomination, Evan provided support, and a group of alumni added some very kind words.

Right: Robert Eslinger (Dean), Dr. Erickson (President), Mike and Dr. Kerri Schuiling (Provost)



Evan was part of a team award for innovation. He was heavily involved with Studio 102, which is an effort to incorporate more virtual and augmented reality to enhance the online teaching/learning experience. Picture to the left... in the back row - left to right: Dr. Steve VandenAvond (Vice President), Evan, Matt Smock (Director of Instructional Design, Technology and Media), Eric Smith (Director of Broadcast and Audio Visual Services), Stacey Deloose (Instructional Technologist). Front row - Kim Hegmegee (Safety Department) and Dr. Fritz Erickson (President).

Also...last year, Evan wrote the proposal (that was funded) for an online B.S. degree in Construction Management that is intended to serve place-based trade professionals that are looking to move up. While still in the planning stages, early feedback has shown a strong interest

Near right: Kurt Thiele received the Outstanding Graduating Senior Award for the Technology and Occupational Sciences Department. He earned the accolade not only from his stellar academic performance, but also for his work outside the classroom. Kurt was a tutor for Construction Management students for two years, a lab assistant for one year, an NMC member for three years, and an Executive for one. He was also a coach for the 12U Marquette Hockey team that earned a state championship. In the midst of all that, he worked for Walbridge on NMU's dorm project for nearly a full year.



Picture to far the right: Kurt (with hardhat) being honored alongside other students from various departments.



## Women in Construction - 2019



Above right: Heidi welcoming the middle school ladies from across the Upper Peninsula, and volunteers from all around the Upper Peninsula as well as Wisconsin.

Above left: Heidi's spring Women in Construction Event was another hit across the region. Logistics were interesting, because many of the schools could not get the students to the Jacobetti by the start time. The picture shows the starting team, but more than 80 middle school girls made it for most of the day!

**\*\*Save the Date\*\***



**Friday, 08 November 2019**

**Women in Construction - DuPage**

The need from industry coupled with her passion to encourage more young ladies into the construction industry provided a unique opportunity to expand Heidi's Women in Construction event outward to the Chicagoland area. The Technology Center of DuPage will be the venue, and generous sponsors (thus far) include: Big Construction, Chicago Regional Council of Carpenters, Clear Result, ComEd, Elevate Energy, Franklin Energy, Gilbane Building Company, Home Depot, Kelso-Burnett Co., Lend Lease, Mortenson, Power Construction and Skender.

We are planning an alumni gathering on Friday after the event for anyone in the area...more information to follow in the coming months!

Mrs. Bernie Steiger was the primary force in the coordination of getting this event rolling. She

worked closely with Heidi and the many sponsors. If all goes as planned, this should be an annual event that accomplishes the goals of everyone involved.



## Senior Project update

“Da’ Yurt” became a Senior Project in August of 2018. The team (Joshua Downs, Tommy Forester, Suzette LaCasse, Derek Wedin and Wynn timer Maravilla) worked with NMU’s School of Health and Human Performance to design and budget and the whole package while constructing the platform and ramp system. Below is the article and a few pictures from *North-ern Today*: [https://news.nmu.edu/node/577?utm\\_source=newsletter&utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_campaign=060619](https://news.nmu.edu/node/577?utm_source=newsletter&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=060619)



NMU’s School of Health and Human Performance has a new year-round outdoor education center. A 30-foot circular yurt has been installed in a wooded area east of the PEIF.

“This gives our outdoor recreation leadership and management students an opportunity to practice their craft in a more relevant environment,” said professor Jacquie Medina. “A traditional indoor classroom is not where they’ll be teaching; they’ll be outside. The opportunity for students to deliver lessons in a yurt, where they’ll also have access to the resources they need, is exciting.”

“Shortly after I arrived here, I was walking around and saw a class outside on a drizzly day, with the students under tarps,” said Liz Wuorinen, associate dean and director of the School of Health and Human Performance (HHP). “I asked why we didn’t have

an enclosed outdoor education area. It’s great that we now have one.”

Classes likely to get the most use out of it include education in outdoor settings, Wilderness First Responder, outdoor living skills, program design in leisure services and wilderness stewardship. But it will be available to anyone within HHP. Erecting the yurt proved to be an effective team-building activity.

“When we put it up recently, almost every faculty member showed up and worked together to make it happen,” said Professor Scott Jordan. “It’s thrilling to see that kind of support. It was a little harrowing at first because of the size and weight. We needed an alpine package to handle U.P winds and snow loads, so the roof joists are heavier and the materials are more durable. NMU construction management majors built the platform it sits on and the wooden ramp that leads up to the door as a senior project during the fall semester.”

The school has used the wooded area in the past for various outdoor activities and Wilderness First Responder simulations. Jordan said it will be nice to have an education space on site to complement those and save time that would normally be required to shift to indoor classrooms.

Outdoor recreation leadership and management will host a “welcome back to school” function in the yurt at the beginning of the fall semester. Wuorinen said a campus open house is also planned at some point.





## Faculty on the move (with alumni)

This faculty group has been fortunate to experience interaction with some alumni outside of NMU and Marquette.

We hope to host an alumni event in Chicago on Friday, the 8th of November this year, so if you are in the area, please keep your eyes open for updates!



Picture to the left (L to R): Evan, Heidi, Bob Mantz, Tyler Lenderink and Patrick McFadden. Bob, Tyler and Patrick are all employed by Hensel Phelps in the region, and made time for a dinner with the faculty. Heidi and Evan were at the Associated Schools of Construction conference in Denver, CO.



Picture above - Back row (L to R): Evan, Eric Judy, Danny Elmore, Mike, Levi Perry, Andrew Steinhauer and Michael Oswald.  
Front row (L to R): Kurt Thiele, Ryan Lucas, Matthew Shem, Sophie Park, Jaren Steward, Heidi, Dr. Erickson and Kenny Wilkins.  
Missing from picture: Gabe Baumann (H & W), Mitch Hanson (Kiewit) and Derek Nakamura (Paniolo).

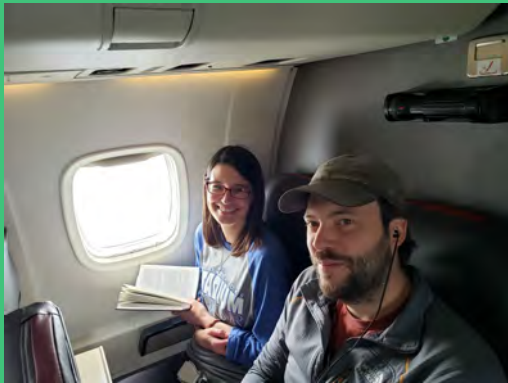
Michael Oswald hosted a couple of NMU North Texas alumni events in May at Hill & Wilkinson's office in Richardson, TX. President Erickson attended the Thursday (16 May) evening dinner. The lively discussion was alumni-centered, as each got to provide a brief overview of how they got to NMU, and what they've accomplished since graduation.

During the roundtable meeting on Friday morning the 17th, President Erickson gave a great summary of where NMU was, where we are and where we are heading...led by the upcoming Jacobetti Capital Outlay Program. The Faculty also got to be a part of Hill & Wilkinson's Margaretville, which is an annual gathering for H&W employees after lunch on Friday.



## More Texas Fun

There was a lot of fun to be had in North Texas. Alumni were willing and able to show the faculty group an extremely good time throughout the week!



Far left: Heidi and Evan are being incredibly patient with our nine hours worth of flight delays on Thursday. Five in Marquette, three in Chicago and one in Dallas. Whether mechanical, staffing or logistics: we ran the spectrum, but it was a great experience

Near left: A project tour with Andrew, Sophie and Jaren...along with some other alums. Back row L to R: Mike, Evan, Heidi and Levi Perry. Front Row L to R: Kenny Wilkins, Kurt Thiele, Jaren Stewart, Sophie Park and Andrew Steinhauer.

Right Winding down at H&W's Margaritaville with Ryan Lucas, Danny Elmore and Mike. Danny came back from Lubbock to visit with us



Far Right: Heidi, Mike & Evan unwinding at Kenny's Famous Smokehouse after Margaretville. The brisquet was outstanding!



Far left: Sophie Park and Mitch Hanson being all engaged at Margaritaville.

Left: Evan, Heidi and Kurt Thiele outside the Old Ballpark in Arlington and in front of the new Ballpark in Arlington. Through the torrential rains and tornado warnings on that Saturday, a four-hour window opened up and allowed the baseball game to be played. The Rangers got spanked by the Cardinals that afternoon, but it was still an awesome experience.

Right: Mitch Hanson is presented with the 2019 watermelon eating championship by Mr. Driscoll...The CEO of Hill & Wilkinson. There was some initial question regarding Mitch's eligibility (as a Kiewit employee), but in the end, he was the undisputed heavyweight champion.







## High Performing Students spending time with Michigan's Governor

Construction Management students were invited to a round table with Michigan's Governor, Gretchen Whitmer this spring. Discussion revolved around the construction industry, and included education, opportunities, training and student plans for the summer.

Picture below:

Back row (L to R): Brooke Bailey, Katie Rankinen, Elizabeth Boose, Jalen Saunders, Nick Quinn and Dean Eslinger

Front row (L to R): President Erickson, Melanie McNamee, Governor Whitmer, Kurt Thiele and Heidi.





## Hill & Wilkinson Scholarships

Four (4) scholarships were awarded during the Spring 2019 Construction Management Advisory Committee meeting, which coincided with the Advisory Committee's Student Summit. Micael Oswald (2003), C.O.O. of Hill and Wilkinson started the scholarship program four years ago.



Picture above (L to R): Spencer Cota, Jake Polich, Nick Quinn and Gabe Johnson

Spencer will be a Junior and is an intern with Clark Construction Company (in Lansing, MI) for the second consecutive summer. Jake is a Junior and will be spend the summer working for Fahrner Asphalt Sealers. Nick is heading into his senior year and will continue with Rieth Riley and the ROTC program. Gabe spent most of the academic year with Burns & McDonnell on the Wisconsin Energy's new power plant in Negaunee Township. He will be an intern with Gundlach Champion this summer.

### Alumni:

Please continue to leave things better than you found them

Back row (L to R): Michael Andary, Justin Blubaugh, Jeremy Bubb, Jon Nehls, Kevin Bredeson, Tom Keranen and Evan Lucas.

Middle row (L to R): Joel Klahn, Ken Kasten, Luke Oberdorfer, Chris Cardinal, Amber Burden and Heidi Blanck

Front row (L to R): Spencer, Jake, Nick & Gabe





## Wildcat Construction Folks— getting it done from coast to coast!



Above right: Matthew Boonstra (2017) is a Superintendent for Midwest Construction Group and is wrapping up a housing project at Ferris State University.

Both pictures above: Daniel Hunter (2018) is a Field Engineer with Mortenson, and is working on a Repower project in Wyoming



Picture to left: Chris Cardinal (2008) made a generous donation to the North Fond Du Lac Building Trades program. As the financier of the last two housing projects that the Building Trades program has completed, any profit generated from the sale of the two homes was donated back to the program.

No picture: James Chernosky (1992) is a Senior Project Manager with the George W. Auch Construction Company out of Pontiac, MI. He is looking to take on a more involved role as an alum, which is great news for our program.

No picture: Tommy Forester (2019) is a Field Engineer with Mortenson at their Wind Farm in Golden City, MO.

No picture: Drew Wudtke (2016) is a Field Engineer with Boldt, currently assigned to a paper towel converting line in Palatka, FL. He gets to wrestle with alligators on the project when they wander in through the gate. The plant processes enormous rolls of paper on the intake, and kicks out individual rolls of paper towels on the outflow.

Picture to right: Jim Conlin (2009), Nick Sexton (2018), Wynnie Maravilla (2018 Aaron Miller (2014) and {missing from picture} Pat Bishop (2015) - all with Mortenson in Colby, KS. They are disbursed between the two sites at Solomon Fork and East Fork working on a sizable wind farm.





## Wildcat Constructors getting it done...cont.



Far left: Michael LaFleur (2015) designed and built a custom crib. He and Lindsey are expecting an arrival in a couple weeks. Knowing Michael, one would understand that the crib needed a little style (beyond the norm), so he equipped it with an accent strip lighting feature that can be controlled through his phone. He is still the Integrated Construction Coordinator for Mortenson at the South East Poultry Research Lab project in Georgia (the state, not the country), and is using a lot of the tech toys he enjoys: Revizto, Trimble, HTC VR, HoloBuilder 360, BIM360...etc.

Right: The KBIC Marquette Casino project is staffed with two NMU Alumni working full time on site with general contractor Gundlach Champion; Thomas Wahlstrom (2018) as a Project Engineer, and Steve Bertucci (2018) as a Field Engineer. Current NMU CM student, Andrew Plomer, has joined the team as a summer intern as well. The new 62,000 SF facility consists of an event center, two restaurants, and an expansive gaming floor. In order to carry out the project GCI had to relocate 5 residential structures to new lots outside of the new casino footprint. A new public water supply including a filtration plant and a 185' tall water tower, as well as a new sanitary sewer system running over 5 miles to tie in to Marquette City's existing system, also had to be constructed to service the facility and the housing district adjacent to the casino property. The project began in the late summer of 2018 and continued to run at full speed during the 2018-2019 winter as 70% of the building was sheltered throughout the harsh UP winter. With warmer weather ahead and full crews for GCI and their subcontractors keeping the momentum going, the mid-December 2019 finish line is in sight.



Renderings to the left and far left: Matthew Kehr (2011) is a Project Manager for A/Z Corporation, and is working on a Design-Build renovation of Fort Bradshaw in Williamstown, MA at Williams College and associated with Clark Art Museum. The structure was built in 1907, and serves as a two-year Co-Ed post graduate dormitory. Among the cool features are a geothermal VRF heating system and a solar thermal pre-heated domestic hot water system. Matthew will be constructing a 100% combustion-free facility to a LEED Gold standard. The project will be registered with the LBC and IFLI



## Wildcat Constructors getting it done...cont.



Far left and left: Quinton “Q” Myotte (2018) is a Field Engineer with Mortenson’s civil division, and is still at the Fitzimons project in Aurora, CO. He is helping construct spillway walls, storm water energy dissipators and a private school. Originally from Sault Ste. Marie, MI, Q is a long way from home...and enjoying things quite a bit.

Far right: John Dibala (2010) is the Construction Project Manager for the Corpus Christi Independent School District in Corpus Christi, TX, and one of his middle school projects is nearing completion. He has led over \$500M worth of construction during the last 3 1/2 years, and they still have quite a bit more to do over the next ten years.

Near right: John and his wife welcomed Emmalyn Grace on the 20th of February.



Far left: Jared Swajanen (2017) and Lexi, with their newest addition, Sutton Alexander (born on the 22nd of February). Sawyer is the older brother.

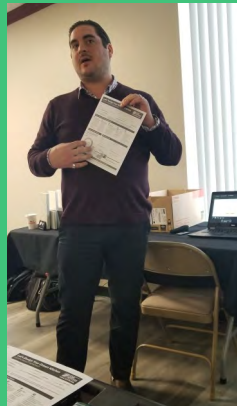
Left: Jared and the family relocated to Cincinnati, OH. He is a Project Engineer with Skanska, and is working on a couple of new school projects...a PreK to 6th grade as well as a 7th—12th. All told, he has almost 500,000 sf to build in order to house 3,500 students between the two buildings.



## Wildcat Constructors getting it done...cont.

Right: Vince Sochacki (2005) is Vice President of Absolute Construction, Inc.

Far right: Vince organized a group of designers from about 60 Home Depot stores and focused his discussion on budgets and planning when the designers interact with homeowners



Left: Jon Slack (2015) is now a Project Manager with Clark Construction out of Lansing, MI. Jon, with daughter (Isla) and Amanda.

Far left: Jon's latest project involves masonry restoration on Central Michigan University's Warriner Hall. It's an aggressive summer project, but he satisfied with the progress thus far.

No picture: Kevin Bredeson (1997) is the Vice President of Preconstruction and Planning at BE&K Building Group.

No picture: Nick Allers (2014) is a Project Engineer II with the Gilbane Building Company in the Milwaukee, WI area

No pictures, but cool updates:

Andrew Bailey (2013) is the owner of Bailey Builds, LLC in Boise, ID

Daniel Berg (2015) is a Senior Project Manager with Schroeder Asphalt Services, Inc. in Marengo, IL

Brandon Bogue (2003) is a Project Superintendent with Miller-Davis, and operates out of the S.W. Michigan area.

Paul Corrigan (2011) is a Senior Project Manager with CR Meyer out of Escanaba, MI

Andrew Hank (1999) is a General Superintendent with LendLease in Chicago, IL

Mitch Hanson (2017) is a Scheduler with Kiewit in Dallas, TX

Jason Kehrer (2011) is the Owner of Pine State Builders in Whiting, ME

Sergio Mojica (2008) is a Project Superintendent with Clayco in Chicago, IL

Todd Reddinger (2010) is a Project Manager with M.J. Electric in DePere, WI

Mark VanderVeen (2011) is Project Superintendent with Rockford Construction Company in Grand Rapids, MI

Bill White (2009) is a Project Manager with Great Lakes Energy in Boyne City, MI



## Wildcat Constructors getting it done...cont.

Right: Derek Nakamura (2010) and his wife (Mrs.) are the proud parents of Deacon Riley. Initially, we were worried about Derek, because we had hoped to see him at the H&W's Margaretville. As it turns out, he had his hands full. Between the work that Paniolo Construction is churning out, and preparing to be a parent, we gave Derek a pass. It seemed reasonable.

No Picture:

Curtis Brown (2012) is a Project Manager with Boldt, and has wrapped up his projects at Notre Dame in South Bend, IN. Notre Dame made a commitment to be coal-free by 2020, and they are on target with the projects that Curtis has managed over the last couple of years.

Austen Harris (2012) is a Project Manager with CMF Group, Inc. in Detroit, MI.

Mark Jackan (2006) is a Project Manager with MC Industrial.



Both pictures above: Nick Glazier (2008) is a Project Manager with Whiting Turner in their Washington, DC office. The two pictures are a one-year spread at the same site. As with all of us that venture into construction, the production tends to remain really cool.

No Pictures:

Marlon Harris (2018) is a Project Engineer with Mortenson in Chandler, AZ and sent along a time-lapse video of the Davis Sports Center:

<https://youtu.be/NyiREF-LfG4>

Justin Hubbard (2009) is a Project Manager with Borrego Solar Systems, Inc. in the San Francisco, CA area.

Marty Jensen (2013) is Project Manager with DeGroot, Inc in Green Bay, WI. He had some cool pictures, but we couldn't open them in time for distribution of this letter.

Noah Jutis (2018) is a Field Engineer with Kiewit in the Seattle, WA area.

Ryan Khatib (2000) is a Senior Project Manager with Turner Construction in Orlando, FL

Scott Knudsen (2010) is Vice President with LangeHaumer Construction, Inc. in Chicago, IL.

Dan Mayville (2013) is a Superintendent with Barton Malow, and is working on a wind energy project in Garden, MI...it's a suburb of Fayette.

Michael Plagens (2003) is Partner and Vice President of Project Management for Fairview Construction Services, LLC in Wixom, MI. Michael has helped grow the company from scratch to \$20M in just over a year.

Caity Tefft (2017) is a Project Manager and Estimator for Carey Contracting in Iron Mountain, MI.

Chris White (2014) is a Project Manager and Estimator for Carey Contracting in Iron Mountain, MI.



## 2019 Student Summit



On Friday, March 22nd, members of our Advisory Committee (Justin Blugaugh, Jeremy Bubb, Jon Nehls, Kevin Bredeson, Tom Keranen, Joel Klahn, Ken Kasten, Luke Oberdorfer, Chris Cardinal and Amber Burden) presented short courses to the student body. Topics included: getting started in the industry, soft skills & leadership, conflict resolution, ethics in construction, virtual construction technology and unique property development.

Each A.C. member/group presented their topic two times, and the groups of 10—15 students were able to select three sessions to attend. The feedback from the students was exceptional, in that they appreciated the industry experience. A lunch for the whole group (A.C. members, faculty and students capped an exceptional day.

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### ***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>