

Northern Michigan University

Communication and Performance Studies

## CAPS ALUMNI &amp; FRIENDS NEWSLETTER

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## CAPS Graduate Goes on to Work at CNN

**Cody Boyer**, a recent CAPS graduate, has gone on to work at CNN in Atlanta.

The correspondent/reporter position he assumed in their newsroom is the very same one that Anderson Cooper had.

While here at NMU, Cody was a very involved student. Majoring in English writing and media production new technology with a minor in communication studies Boyer worked on campus as sports editor of *The North Wind* and as a producer and anchorman for Pub-

lic Eye News (PEN). He worked cameras for both PEN and the Central Collegiate Hockey Association as a student ambassador and ran technical and audio boards for multiple shows at WMNU-TV 13. He also worked at Radio X as a disc jockey and served during his senior year as the editor-in-chief of *The North Wind*.

According to Boyer, "the main thing I really learned in both PEN and at *The North Wind* was how to bring the news to the audience and knowing what they were really looking



Cody Boyer

for and what really needed to be heard."

He said he feels that this opportunity with CNN was just "a really awesome example of how a person can find good fortune by sticking to their guns."

## Rebecca Budesky Speaks at NCA Convention

Rebecca Budesky, a communication studies major at the time, travelled to Washington, D.C. in November with Jim Cantrill, our department head, to participate in the National Communication Association (NCA) convention.

Rebecca presented a paper that she and Dr. Jessica

Thompson, CAPS assistant professor, co-authored together entitled "How do you talk to your friends about climate change?" The paper explored how Americans understand and talk about climate change with their peers, in particular, friends and family.

Budesky participated in

numerous other sessions at the conference, including a half-day field trip to learn about Environmental Communication. There she was able to network with government officials and representatives from numerous NGO's in regard to environmental policy and communication in the U.S.

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## NMU Professor Gets a Grip on Professional Filmmaking

A faculty member from NMU's Communication and Performance Studies Department spent three weeks in Nashville this spring getting an inside view of movie making with writer/director Howie Klausner ("Space Cowboys," "Soul Surfer") and actor Kevin Sorbo (star of the "Hercules" TV series). Dr. Mark Shevy, an associate professor of mass communication and media production, worked with the grip crew on a film called "The Secret Handshake."

"Nothing compares to the perspective you get by doing the actual work and living day in and day out as part of the crew," said Shevy. "I learned new skills, gained insight on the overall process of filmmaking, and made a good number of friends."

Shevy said the film was fairly low-budget, only about \$300,000, which allowed a more casual atmosphere than in a film that has \$100 million riding on it. This provided ample opportunities to chat with the cast and crew, which includes notable professionals.

"I was repeatedly surprised by the caliber of people with whom I was working," said Shevy. "The writer/director worked extensively with Clint Eastwood. The lead actor has been the star of a hit TV series and a growing list of movies, one of which was in theaters this spring. The unit production manager was a coordinator for 2013's acclaimed film "42." Many of the crew members are currently working for the TV series "Nashville."

Shevy said he tried to put himself in the shoes of the students doing internships.

"I worked hard, as though my future job depended upon it, and I guess I still have what it takes," laughed Shevy. "Several people told me that they hope to work with me again and that they'll give a great recommendation if I ever want to get a job in the film or television industry."

The experience confirmed for Shevy that internships and other real-world experiences are vital for many students.

"I told people that our broadcasting majors are required to have internships, and they emphatically said, 'That's so important,'" said Shevy. A good internship allows students to see what the job is really like, teaches details that can't be taught in a classroom and develops skills and career networking necessary for getting your foot in the door for a job."

The film is a joint venture between professionals in the movie industry and a new graduate program in filmmaking at Lipscomb University. "The university desired to incorporate a full-scale project with experienced professionals, and the film producers needed extra crew members and resources to augment the film's budget. The collaboration was a win-win solution," said Shevy.

"We've done similar collaborations at NMU, such as involving students in professional television sports and radio broadcasts," said Shevy. "Since the film shoot, I've been thinking about ways we might be able to do even more."

"The Secret Handshake" is a family comedy about a father who has a daughter being harassed by a trouble-making boy. In an attempt to help the boy develop better character and maturity, the dad takes the boy camping, where they have mishaps, laughs, adventure, and some thoughtful reflection.

"The experience was also personally rewarding, because it is the kind of movie that I want to see with my family," said Shevy.

Producers for "The Secret Handshake" are pursuing network television and other distribution deals. The film is scheduled to be released this fall.



Pictured above from left to right are: actor Kevin Sorbo, Mark Shevy, and writer/director Howie Klausner

Pictured below from left to right are: Mark Shevy, Shawn Jenkins, and Jonathan Key



## CAPS Faculty and Their Creative Works

## Dwight Brady

- ◆ Received NMU's Technology Innovation Award—December 2013 (pictured second from right) .
- ◆ Received a \$7,000 grant to produce a compact disc of original songs related to the history and culture of Upper Michigan and the Great Lakes region.



## Jim Cantrill

- ◆ Text Chapters: "Social Science Dimensions of Environmental Communication Research." In Robert Cox and Anders Hansen (Eds.), *Handbook of Environmental Communication*. Forthcoming.
- ◆ Journal Articles: "On Seeing 'Places' for what they Are, and Not what we Want them to Be." *Environmental Communication*," in review.

## Chuck Ganzert

- ◆ Awards & Recognition: Presented with the Michigan Campus Compact Faculty/Staff Community Service-Learning Award -Winter 2014 (pictured at right on the left).
- ◆ Peer-Reviewed Conference Papers: Delivered two conference papers in Grand Rapids: "How to Feel Like an Olympian—A Case Study From Northern Michigan University" and "Reasonable Care: Risk and Liability in Service Learning"—February 2014.
- ◆ Creative Works: "Sparrow Tree: You Can Lead a Horse to Water." An hour-long music and interview program recorded, edited and mixed for WNMU FM. The show, with Jane Cislucyis as host, was recorded on March 20, 2014. And "Derrell Syria Live on Weekday with Hans Ahlstrom." A live-over-the-air program broadcast.



## Vic Holliday

- ◆ Scenic design for *West Side Story*, Peninsula Arts Appreciation Council, Vista Theatre; *Les Miserables* and *She Kills Monsters*, Forest Roberts Theatre; *Comedy of Errors*, Panowski Black Box Theatre; *How To Succeed in Business Without Really Trying*, Negaunee High School.
- ◆ Lighting designs: *Haunted Theatre*, Forest Roberts Theatre; Faculty Dance Concert (*December 2013*), Forest Roberts Theatre; Lighting design for *An American In Paris*, Forest Roberts Theatre; Student Dance Concert (Winter 2014) and *Jack and the Beanstalk*, Forest Roberts Theatre.
- ◆ Properties design (Audrey II) for *Little Shop of Horrors*, Gwinn High School.

## Tom Isaacson

- ◆ Publications: Hove, T., Paek, H.J., Isaacson, T., & Cole, R. (2013). Newspaper portrayals of child abuse: Frequency of coverage and frames of the issue. *Mass Communication and Society*, 16 (1), 89-108.
- ◆ Peer-Reviewed Conference Papers: Isaacson, T. (2013, February). *Evaluating fan reactions: a university football team crisis using Situational Crisis Communication Theory and Social Identity Theory*. Paper accepted for presentation at the 6th Summit on Communication and Sport in Austin, Texas. and Isaacson, T. (2013, June). *Evaluating the crisis response strategies of a university basketball program: How do reactions differ based on apologies, crisis severity, and team identification?* Paper accepted for presentation at the International Communication Association 2013 Annual Conference in London, England.

## Sara Potter

- ◆ Publication: Teaching Speech Writing, Delivery, and Reducing Communication Apprehension Using Ten 30-Second Speeches, *Journal of Communication Education*.
- ◆ Presentation: Potter, S. & DeBold, S.—*The Use of Systematic Desensitization for the Reduction of Communication Apprehension in Public Speaking Students* – presented at the National Communication Association conference or in Washington, D.C. fall 2013.

## Shelley Russell

- ◆ Directing: *Legally Blonde* (2013) and *She Kills Monsters* (2014); Costume Design: *Les Miserables* (2013), *Legally Blonde* (2013), and *She Kills Monsters* (2014)
- ◆ Performances: *Pippin* Lake Superior Theater, July 2014. Film/Video: *Northern Notebook*, Co-Host, 5 yrs. Various local commercials including: Swick Home Services, 2013 (actor and consultant since 2008), Superior Video for various local businesses, The Window Store, 2013.



## CAPS Faculty and Their Creative Works

### Mark Shevy, Associate Professor

- ◆ Publications and Creative Works: Authored one chapter and co-authored another in a groundbreaking book *The Psychology of Music in Multimedia*, on the psychology of music in movies, television, video games, and other multimedia, published by Oxford University Press, August 2013.
- ◆ Conference Paper: Shevy, M., Larsen, L., Tobin, C.. *The influence of story ending and music on perceived protagonist emotion, viewer emotion, and enjoyment*. Paper submitted to the International Communication Association conference, London, June 17-21, 2013.



### Jessica Thompson, Assistant Professor

- ◆ Lemieux, C.J., Thompson, J.L., Slocumbe, S. & Schuster, R. (2014). Climate challenge collaboration among natural resource management agencies: lessons learned from two US regions. *Journal of Environmental Planning and Management*. In press.
- ◆ Mullen, K., Newman, G. & Thompson, J.L. (2014). Facilitating the Development and Evaluation of a Citizen Science Website: A Case Study of Repeat Photography and Climate Change in Southwest Alaska's National Parks. *Applied Environmental Education and Communication*. In press.
- ◆ Thompson, J.L., Davis, S. & Mullen, K. (2013). Climate Change Communication Campaign Planning: Using Audience Research to Inform Design. *The George Wright Forum*, 30 (2), 182-189.
- ◆ Mullen, K. & Thompson, J.L. (2013). Graphic recording: Using vivid visuals to communicate climate change. *Electronic Journal of Communication*. In press.
- ◆ Commissioned Writing: SciDev.Net – UK online magazine – How to Communicate in an Interdisciplinary Team - <http://www.scidev.net/global/communication/practical-guide/how-to-communicate-in-an-interdisciplinary-team.html>

### Paul Truckey

- ◆ Directing (all in pre-production): *Little Shop of Horrors*, Forest Roberts Theatre (April 2015) in pre-production; *Panowski Playwriting Award*, Panowski Black Box Theatre (Sept 2014) in pre-production and *Comedy of Errors*, Panowski Black Box Theatre (Fall 2014).
- ◆ Acting (Representative): *Les Miserables*, *Jean Valjean*, Forest Roberts Theatre – Nov. 2013, *Guys and Dolls*, Nathan Detroit,

### Ansley Valentine

- ◆ Awards: The Telly Awards named a video that Order of Constantine Sig Ansley Valentine, WABASH 1990, created for Sigma Chi International Fraternity as a bronze winner in the 35th Annual Telly Awards' charitable/not-for-profit category. The piece is titled "Unchanging Principles: The Story of Sigma Chi".
- ◆ Committee Service: Graduate Programs Committee Chair, Northern Michigan University (2013-Present); Graduate Programs Committee, Northern Michigan University (2012-2013); College of Arts and Sciences Advisory Committee, Northern Michigan University (2012-Present) and Ethnic and Cultural Diversity Committee, Northern Michigan University (2010-2013).
- ◆ Other Associations/Memberships: Stage Directors and Choreographers Society (SDC); Alpha Psi Omega Honorary Theatre Fraternity; Sigma Chi Social Fraternity; Balfour Leadership Training Workshop, Recruitment Division Assistant Team Lead, (2009-Present); Balfour Leadership Training Workshop, Video Contest Director, (2009-Present); Mission 365 Recruitment Training Program Committee Vice Chair, (2011-Present); Mission 365 Recruitment Training Program National Facilitator, (2001-Present).

### Shaung Xie

- ◆ Publications: How neo-liberalism is expressed by programming strategies of Phoenix TV: A critical case study. *Global Media Journal*, 3 (1), 1-20.
- ◆ Cage J., Xie, S., & Cantrill, J. Close to the nature, hand in hand with Fuwa: Framing environmental issues in bidding and preparations for the Beijing Olympic Games. *Studies in Media and Communication*, 1 (1), 164-173. 2013.
- ◆ Park, S., Yun, G., Holody, K., Yoon, K., Xie, S., Lee, S. (2013). Inside the Blogosphere: A taxonomy and framing analysis of abortion weblogs. *The Social Science Journal*, 50( 4), 616-624.
- ◆ Yun, G., Park, S., Holody, K., Yoon, K., & Xie, S. (2013). Selective Moderation, Selective Responding, and Balkanization of the Blogosphere: A Field Experiment. *Media Psychology*.16 (3), 295-317.
- ◆ Media and Social Stratification in China. Paper presented at the 19th Conference of The Association of Chinese Professors in Social Sciences. Louisville, KY. November 2013.
- ◆ Presented *Action Research in the Media Classroom: A Comparative Study of American and Taiwanese College Students* at the International Journal of Arts & Sciences (IJAS) International Conference for Academic Disciplines in Venice, Italy (March 2014).

## 2013-2014 Student Awards and Scholarships

- ◆ **Rebecca Budesky**—CAPS outstanding graduating senior, in communication studies.
- ◆ **Cody Boyer**—CAPS outstanding graduating senior in, mass communication/broadcasting.
- ◆ **Meghan Marquardt**—CAPS outstanding graduating senior in, theatre and entertainment arts.
- ◆ The James A. Panowski Theatre Scholarship was awarded to **Ryan White**, a theater and entertainment arts major.
- ◆ The Mitzi Selin Scholarship was awarded to both **Daniel Zini**, majoring in media production and new technology and to **Emily Kinne**, a theater and entertainment arts major.
- ◆ The Rasmussen Scholarship was presented to **Holly Krzeminski** a communication studies major.
- ◆ The John P. McGoff and Karen Rademacher Scholarships were awarded to media production and new technology major, **Nicole Castillo**.
- ◆ The James L. Rapport Scholarship was awarded to theater and entertainment arts majors **Alycia Heckathorn** and **Alexandra Marks**.
- ◆ The Forest Roberts Family Endowment was given this year to theater and entertainment arts major **Alexandra Marks** and art and design major **Calen Liverance**.



## Theatre Awards

Outstanding Senior

**Alycia Heckathorn**

Outstanding Junior

**Alex Marks**

**James Porras II**

Outstanding Sophomore

**Ryan White**

Outstanding Freshman

**Laura Thompson**

**Jill Vermeulen**

Outstanding Newcomer

No award

Highest GPA

**Alycia Heckathorn**



## Upper Peninsula Radio Broadcast Alliance Broadcasting Scholarship

Two CAPS students have received scholarships this year from the Michigan Association of Broadcasters (MAB). For the first time, the MAB offered a scholarship opportunity specifically for Upper Peninsula college students in a broadcast-related program. The award is co-sponsored by the Upper Peninsula Radio Broadcast Alliance (IUPRBA).

This opportunity was separate from the general MAB Foundation

Scholarship (this year won by Daniel Zini, pictured in photo) and was awarded to one of our very own public relations students, Patricia Larkin (also pictured). Patricia works at WUPX FM as the public affairs coordinator. She was presented with a \$1,000 scholarship. Congratulations to both Patricia and Dan.



Seven Northern Michigan University students have won awards from the Michigan Association of Broadcasters. The team of Tyler Schwemin, Trent Bailey, Justin Berkel and Mikenzie Frost won first place in the College Sports Television category for their play-by-play and production of the NMU v. Ferris State Hockey series in November. The team of Tyler Schwemin, Cody Boyer, Jill Willman and Jenna Kirby completed the sweep by winning second place in the same category for their announcing and production of the NMU v. Alabama Huntsville series.

This is the third time in the past five years that students in Professor Dwight Brady's sports and special events class have won first place among all universities and colleges in Michigan, but Brady says this is the first time his students have finished first and second. "We have won an award in this category for five consecutive years, so we expect to do well, but a one-two finish was completely unexpected given the type of competition we are up against," said Brady. "Only four students were

## CAPS Students Take Top Honors

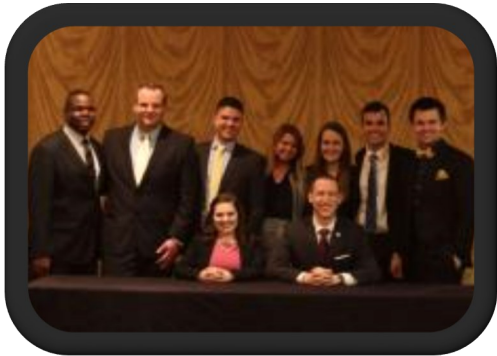
### In Statewide Competition

allowed with each entry, but all thirteen students in the class participated in the announcing and production of all five home football games and two home hockey series in the fall 2013 semester.



Director Jill Willman monitors multiple video inputs during the NMU v. Alabama Huntsville hockey game on November 23. Willman is joined by three other students controlling replay equipment, graphics and audio.

## The Public Relations Student Society of America



The Public Relations Student Society of America (PRSSA) announced the election of its 2014–2015 National Committee during its annual National Assembly in Charleston, S.C. The 2014–2015 began its one-year term June 1, 2014, includes two students from Northern Michigan University: Jordan Paquet (pictured back row far right) who is nominated vice president of member services and Immediate Past President Brian Price (pictured front row on right).

The PRSSA 2014 National Conference will be held Oct. 10–14 in Washington, D.C. Additional information is available at: [www.prssa.org/conference](http://www.prssa.org/conference).

## Advanced Audio Production



Students in the advanced audio production class taught by **Charles Ganzert** recorded and produced a live, in-studio performance by a traditional blues trio. "Harp, Hart & Bones" aired on May 3-5 on Public Radio 90. **Hans Ahlstrom** (WNMU-FM) hosted the program. The trio featured "Fast Eddie" Consolmagno on harmonica and slide guitar, Bill "Dock" Hart on resonator guitar and Randy "da Bones Man" Seppala on drums and folk percussion. Harp, Hart & Bones draw their material largely from the blues tradition that dates from the 1920s to the early 1950s.

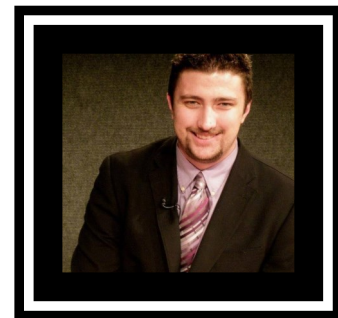
## Campus Involvement Helps Land Jobs

Many students join student organizations not realizing the impact they can have on their college career and beyond. NMU alumnus Will Burns, who graduated with a degree in communication studies in 2013, said getting involved beyond the classroom helps more than one might think.

At the time of this article, Burns was an anchor and reporter for ABC 10 WBUP in Ishpeming, Mich., and the managing editor for cover 32 Detroit, an ongoing NFL news website that

Burns said covers everything from game reviews, game previews, analysis and other news.

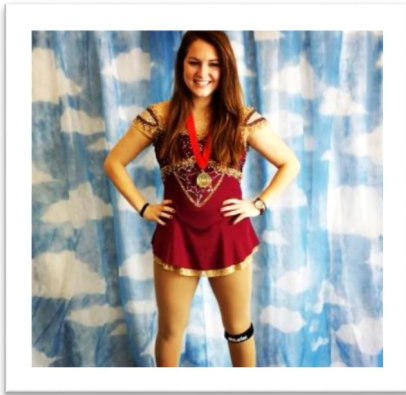
Burns said he attributes his current jobs to the student organizations he was involved in during his time at NMU. "I haven't even been writing journalism for a year yet and I'm a paid journalist. All three, Public Eye News, Radio X and The North Wind, collectively really started my career. Without that experience, I wouldn't have



the raw skillset to start my career in journalism and media production.

Today, Burns is working for Eagle Radio in Marquette. He is an account executive and sports announcer there for Northern Michigan University and Marquette Senior High School athletics.





### Student Spotlight: Mikenzie Frost

Junior Mikenzie Frost divides her time between being a resident advisor, president of the NMU Figure Skating Team and volunteering at Public Eye News, all while pursuing a degree in multimedia journalism, with a double-minor in criminal justice and art and design.

While Frost's favorite classes this semester are intro to multimedia journalism and sports and special events programming, her favorite experience right now is the time she spends at Public Eye News. "I love getting the hands-on experience in the field, and learning all the things that it takes to produce a news broadcast," she says.

When Frost isn't in class or down at Public Eye News, a large majority of her time

is devoted to figure skating. After her mom put her in Learn to Skate lessons at age 4 in hopes of Frost playing hockey, she has rarely left the ice since. "Once I saw the girls doing jumps and spins, I told them I didn't want to play hockey, I wanted to figure skate," she says.

Frost has been competing since age 7, and has been in roughly 95 competitions in the past 11 years. These competitions have ranged from being Michigan based, to most recently, the Nations Cup in Spain. When at home, she finds herself back at the rink as a Learn To Skate coach as well as a private coach, teaching other aspiring young skaters.

Though being the president of the NMU Figure Skating Team has its stressful moments, Frost loves it. Her job requirements include recruitment, organization of the team, registering, and entering the team in competitions, choreography, and organizing appearances to name a few.

Ultimately, Frost hopes to be a news anchor on a national news network. Her dream stems from her childhood, when her mom would turn the news on at night while she did homework. Even then, Frost thought they had the best job in the world.

"They (anchors) are the people that families trust to get their news; they trust them and allow them in their homes," she says.

She thinks her experiences in and outside of class will help set her apart from other prospective applicants. Her advice to other students is "to get involved as much as possible, and don't be afraid to go out in the field to find stories. Also, make as many connections as you can!"



### CAPS Department Receives New Production Mac Lab

According to CAPS department head James Cantrill, the new lab grew out of the needs highlighted by the academic program review process.

"The review, among other things, indicated that right now our students in broadcast production and public relations are hampered by the fact that we're limited to the PC platform of the Lenovo Thinkpad, whereas the industry standard is a Macintosh operating system," Cantrill said.

"The Mac lab is a response to requests

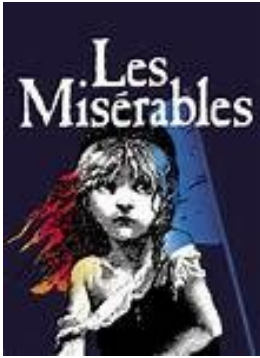
we've made for a long time to get a computer platform that was more useful to the production students. Many of our students require Macs for running software such as Protools or Final Cut Pro, and we haven't had much of that capability in the past," Shevy said.

"The new lab will have 17 work stations, all hooked up to a server, and all the software needed for production work," Cantrill said. "There will also be a high-end dual-screen ed-

iting suite in the room and an instructor station with an iMac, large LCD screen for viewing, editing and discussion in class."

The new lab will be located in room 318 of the Thomas Fine Arts Building. Cantrill anticipates the lab will be finished for the Fall 2014 semester.

"We owe this facility to the Provost Paul Lang, and especially Michael Broadway for leading this project," Cantrill said.



## “Les Miserables” Came to the Forest Roberts Theatre Main stage

Keeping it under wraps for most of last summer, Ansley Valentine, director of the Forest Roberts Theatre (FRT) and of this show said that he “believed that this play would be the highlight of the program this year,” and he was right.

“This was the first time that the rights to the full production of the play were made available and they were only made available for a limited time, so we decided it was probably best for us to seize the opportunity to

do the show while we could,” said Valentine.

“Les Miserables” is the story of Jean Valjean, a man released from wrong imprisonment but discovers only mistrust and mistreatment. He breaks parole in hopes of beginning a fresh life but is pursued by Javert, the local police inspector.

CAPS associate professor and NMU alumnus Paul Truckey played three different rolls on

and off Broadway in this play over a span of more than 15 years, but starred as “Jean Valjean” in our play here at the FRT.

Truckey said he was “excited to play Jean Valjean as he was an inspirational character.” Valentine said that “bringing Truckey’s experience and talent into the show was something worth seeing.”

## “A Kind of Alaska”

When NMU senior theatre major York Griffith first discovered “A Kind of Alaska,” he wasn’t anywhere near the Upper Peninsula or Alaska.

In fact, he was attending the School of Steppenwolf, a residency created by Chicago’s famed Steppenwolf Theatre Company.

“There were a couple girls there who were working on a scene from it,” Griffith said. “I thought it was really fascinating, and it’s kind of stuck with me ever since then.”

After a 15-year hiatus, Griffith returned to NMU in fall 2013 to earn his bachelor’s degree and chose to direct “A Kind of Alaska” as

his capstone project.

Written by Nobel-winning playwright Harold Pinter, “Alaska” tells the story of Deborah, a middle-aged woman who had been in a coma for the past three decades. Over the course of the play’s single act, Deborah tries to come to terms with a world that’s radically different from the one she remembers.

According to Griffith, one of the primary reasons he was drawn to the play was its deep, fully drawn sense of characterization.

“One thing that often happens with shorter plays is that they tend to rely on archetypal or stereotypical characters,”

Griffith said. “Thanks to Harold Pinter’s writing, this play is far from that.”

While Griffith was the play’s director, the creative process was one of collaboration. Instead of making every artistic decision for the production before rehearsals began, he and the play’s cast would work together to determine its creative direction.

“It’s one of the best short plays ever written by one of the most important playwrights of the last 50 years,” Griffith said. “I think it was a rare opportunity to see a very important play that isn’t performed often or done well.”

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*“The theater is so  
endlessly fascinating  
because it’s so accidental.  
It’s so much like life.”  
~Arthur Miller*

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## The Black Box Gets a Facelift

Audiences for the recent *Comedy of Errors* production were the first to experience the new seating in the James A. Panowski Black Box Theatre.

Ergonomically designed, padded theatre seats—complete with armrests—have replaced the folding chairs that once surrounded the stage.

According to Ansley Valentine, Director of Theatre, “it’s nice because you walk in now and it looks like a real theatre.” Before “the folding chairs weren’t all that comfortable and some older patrons couldn’t manage to sit for an entire production. That stopped them from attending shows in the black

box,” he said. “It was also becoming a safety issue. By fire code, chairs have to be locked together in groups. The folding chairs were worn out and damaged enough over time that they didn’t lock the way they should. So, through the good graces of our dean, we were able to secure the necessary fund-

“Overall, the chairs in their encore appearance seemed to be a hit,” said Valentine

## International Fraternity Video Earns Prestigious Telly Award

The Telly Awards has named a video that Order of Constantine Sig Ansley Valentine, WABASH 1990, created for Sigma Chi International Fraternity as a bronze winner in the 35th Annual Telly Awards’ charitable/not-for-profit category. The piece is titled “Unchanging Principles: The Story of Sigma Chi” and tells viewers about the

organization’s enduring values and principles, which continue to guide its members 159 years after the Fraternity’s founding.

With nearly 12,000 entries from all 50 states and numerous countries, the Telly Award is truly an honor for Sigma Chi and for Valentine. The Telly Awards were established in 1979

and honor outstanding local, regional and cable TV commercials and programs, the finest video and film productions and online commercials, video and films.

“The Telly Awards has a mission to honor the very best in film and video,” said Linda Day, executive director of the Telly Awards.

“Sigma Chi’s accomplishment illustrates their creativity, skill and dedication to their craft and serves as a testament to great film and video production.”

To view the video visit:

<http://outu.beRfpPXHow2Y>

## Alpha Psi Omega Comes to Northern

The Theatre and Entertainment Arts program at Northern has been approved to start a chapter of Alpha Psi Omega.

The student group--Student Performing Arts Association--will transform into Alpha Psi Omega Honorary.

Alpha Psi Omega is an American

recognition honor society for participants in collegiate theatre.

The Alpha Cast (Alpha Psi Omega’s term for “chapter”) was founded at Fairmont State College (now Fairmont State University) on August 12, 1925 by professor Paul F. Opp.

Membership is open to students (primarily undergraduate) who are

active in collegiate/university theatre at four-year institutions (full colleges and universities) but can also include honorary alumni.



### Inman and Lakanen Receive Outstanding Service Awards

NMU employees were honored for years-of-service milestones at the faculty and staff recognition luncheon on April 22. Distinguished Team and Excellence in Service Awards also were presented.

Excellence in Service Award winners, were (from left with former NMU President David Haynes): **Kathy Richards** (Facilities), for her leadership and technical expertise in managing one of the most aggressive construction periods in the past 20 years and for her dedication to NMU students; **Daniel O'Neill** (Housing and Residence Life), for his work ethic and time management skills in keeping Meyland Hall clean and welcoming for its resident students and Olympic Training Site athletes, as well as visitors; **Michelle Inman** (CAPS), for providing digitized classroom assess-



ment reports to faculty, interviewing students to serve as lab attendants and maintaining the CAPS website; **Chris Lewis** (Business Intelligence and Information Services), for increasing efficiency across campus by implementing technology solutions that have solved problems, automated manual processes and empowered users; **Mike Lakanen** (Learning Resources Division), for his attention to detail, professionalism and excellent work ethic that sets standards for all colleagues and students who work with him

on video production projects; **Susan Morgan** (International Programs), for her multi-faceted efforts to coordinate and ensure successful international experiences for students while also monitoring best practices in the field; and **Suzi Trdan** (Dining Services), for regularly exceeding budgetary targets and upholding the highest standards of customer service at Starbucks, which she has supervised for six years. Not pictured is **Susan Henderson** (Sociology and Anthropology/Social Work), for effectively managing the clerical and administrative responsibilities of two departments in separate colleges.



### Award Winning Dr. Ganzert—Michigan Campus Compact Award

Dr. Chuck Ganzert was selected as a recipient of the 2014 Michigan Campus Compact Faculty/Staff Community Service-Learning Award! This is a significant biennial award

Nominated by Judy Puncochar, Ganzert was designated by MiCC's president and peers as the person on our campus that made the most outstanding contributions in the area of community service-learning during the past two years. Chuck was recognized for those contributions and the positive impact they

have had on our students.

Participants/photo includes (from left to right): Charles Ganzert, Rachel Harris, David Bonsall, Hannah Lewis, Bryan McGown, Jon Barch, Lizzie Corser, Heidi Stevenson, Jennifer James-Mesloh and Judy Puncochar



## Alumni in the Spotlight

- ◆ **Nikki Nason** '02 BS in theatre, '13 MPA. She is artistic director for Lake Superior Youth Theatre (LSYT) and business manager for Lake Superior Theatre (LST). She formerly worked at the Marquette Arts and Culture Center and as an artistic intern in the theatre department here at NMU.
- ◆ **Megan Meddaugh** '13 BS in communication studies and public relations is working as a flight attendant for Delta Airlines.
- ◆ **Leanne Plath** '11 BS in public relations and **Josh Stoll** '11 BS in communications studies are getting married in 2014.
- ◆ **Amanda Boyle** '08 BS in public relations is working for a PR firm in Aspen, Colo.
- ◆ **Kerry Renger** '10 BS in communication studies— finished her master's program with Clarion University of Pennsylvania in mass media and journalism with a public relations Certificate in May 2014. She writes, "The Communication Studies program at NMU prepared me for not just my master's but also my internship and now my fulltime job. The wide range of classes from Public Address to Environmental Communication Theory equipped me for all the challenges I have had since graduation. When it came time to apply for graduate school, the NMU professors were more than willing to write a letter of recommendation for me. Attending NMU, the education and career path I chose are the best decisions I have made."
- ◆ **Bethany Pearson** '10 BS in public relations is Community Economic Development Director for the City of Charlevoix, Mich.
- ◆ **Barry Winslow** '13 BS in electronic journalism, spoke on stage with 10 other Michigan college students and recent graduates on March 18 during the introduction to the 2013 Governor's Economic Summit at the Cobo Center in Detroit, which discussed Michigan's economic circumstances and the disparities between available jobs in the state and the talent and education that is being provided in colleges.

## Heidi Hill and the DeVos Institute of Arts Management

**Heidi Hill** '11 BS in communication studies and a minor in theatre was chosen as one of 25 individuals from around the country who interned this past Fall at the DeVos Institute of Arts Management at The Kennedy Center near Washington, D.C.

During her time there, Hill worked with the DeVos Insti-

tute's Fellowship Programs that train executive directors for arts organizations around the world. She also helped the DeVos team build their new website, as well as had the exciting opportunity to attend weekly Arts Management seminars led by some of the Kennedy Center's head staff and leaders in the

Arts Management field.

After completing her internship, Heidi hoped to continue working in the DC area with non-profit arts organizations as a marketing and promotions specialist.



Heidi Hill

Photo courtesy of John Moore

**Northern Michigan University**

Communication and Performance  
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**Our Mission:** The disciplines represented in the Communication and Performance Studies (CAPS) Department share a focus upon understanding how messages are used to manage relationships with others in contexts ranging from "one-to-one" to "one-to-many" using personal, public and mass-mediated channels of communication. Although the goals for different majors may flow from specific arenas and methods of social interaction or performance, graduates of CAPS programs share a fundamental appreciation for what it means to live in a symbolic world, to engage in life-long learning, and acquire a suite of skills that can be transferred to a wide array of career options. Thus, students majoring in CAPS learn to critically examine the role communication plays in daily life, to embrace the multicultural foundations for human discourse, to work in teams as well as independently regarding the application of communication concepts to practical situations, and to use what they have learned in the practice of civic engagement.

We're on the web  
[www.nmu.edu/CAPS](http://www.nmu.edu/CAPS)

**Welcome New Employees**

This fall we will welcome two new employees to our department. Shawn Davis will be joining us from Fort Collins, Colo. as a two-year-term instructor for communication and performance studies. He will also dabble a little in public relations.

David Pierce of Bowling Green, Kent. will be joining us as a two-year-term assistant professor serving as both technical director and production manager.

