

Communication & Performance Studies



NORTHERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY

news

SUMMER 2019



Program News

Public Relations & Communication Studies, page 2
Theatre, page 7
Even more, page 17



Alumni Spotlights

Updates on our program graduates, Abbie Beekman '16 BA, fundraising in a new way at The Kennedy Center, page 13



Creative Works

Faculty publications, presentations and activities, page 18

'Dr. P' Leaves Seven-Figure Bequest to NMU

The legacy of James Panowski—known fondly as “Dr. P”—will endure for many years at Northern Michigan University. Before his death in May 2018, the former director of Forest Roberts Theatre designated a bequest of more than \$1 million to the Mildred and Albert Panowski Playwriting Award and the James A. Panowski Theatre Scholarship at NMU.

Panowski came to Marquette in 1977 and found a permanent home. During his years at NMU, Dr. P built an exciting, innovative and practical theater program, resulting in the launch of many related careers, decades of community entertainment and a foundation of self-assurance for students to build on personally and professionally. In 1994, he received NMU's Distinguished Faculty Award. A lifetime supporter of the arts in the Marquette region, he was a member of the President's Lifetime Giving Society, established the Mildred and Albert Panowski Playwriting Award and served as a member of the NMU Foundation Board of Trustees. In 2009, to celebrate his retirement, family and friends established the James A. Panowski Theatre Scholarship to provide support for undergraduate and graduate students who major or minor in theater. Dr. P. himself contributed significantly to this scholarship after his retirement.

Northern established a playwriting award in 1977, initially funded by the Shiras Institute, then in 1993, solely by Dr. P.



The purpose of the award is to encourage and stimulate artistic growth among educational and professional playwrights. It provides students and faculty the unique opportunity to mount and produce an original work on stage and the playwright benefits from seeing the production in front of an audience. The winning playwright also receives a cash award and serves as an Artist-In-Residence at NMU.

“The scholarship directly helps theater students complete their degrees and achieve their career goals. The support for the playwriting award continues to distinguish Forest Roberts Theatre as a place where inspiring, thought-provoking, entertaining new plays debut,” said NMU President Fritz Erickson.

COMMUNICATION STUDIES & PUBLIC RELATIONS

Using social media to communicate science

Allison Opheim was one of five NMU Honors Program students selected for a Lundin Summer Research Fellowship. Her project was titled "Communicating Scientific Research in a Social Media Age." The senior public relations major constructed a



CREATING A RESEARCHER'S TOOL KIT
Jes Thompson and Allison Opheim

communication tool kit for sharing research on social media platforms after reviewing existing resources and working with NMU research labs.

"After serving as a marketing intern for the Upper Michigan Brain Tumor Center on-campus, I realized there was a disconnect between members of the public and researchers," Opheim said. "Having the opportunity to create this tool kit with the financial support of the Lundin Fellowship was a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity that taught me how to simplify complex social issues, overcome challenges in academics and make a positive impact on others using my own skills and interests."

Opheim's communication tool kit is modified specifically for non-profit science groups or small labs that don't have the resources to hire a public relations representative. She built the kit as an interactive digital suite of tools and prompts for scientists to more effectively communicate and explain research findings. Opheim's final goal was to "pilot" the tool kit with the NMU research labs to identify what needs to be improved or modified.

Jes Thompson, associate professor in the Communication and Performance Studies Department, was Opheim's faculty mentor. Thompson teaches environmental communication as part of the PR sequence.

"Allison has a passion for improving science literacy and she recognizes that this work should start at the source," Thompson said. "She worked extremely hard in my public relations message design course and her attention to detail in building her website and online writing portfolio was evidence that she would be more than capable of doing this project. I'm honored to work with such talented students who are not afraid to address complex and pragmatic problems in public communication."

Anna and Rich Lundin created the Honors Summer Research Fellowships to support NMU Honors Program students who have proposed or are engaging in exceptional research.

NMU's new podcast series

NMU recently unveiled Something Curious, a new podcast series targeting current and prospective NMU students. The podcast aims to connect community through conversation, highlighting aspects of the university and the Marquette area. This series will address subjects that relate to NMU's core values: community, opportunity, inclusion, rigor, environment, connections and innovation.

Haley Bussell, a 2019 public relations graduate, started the podcast as marketing and production intern for the Marketing and Communications Office this past summer. While studying media trends, she found that podcasts were a relatively new trend at universities, but could provide an opportunity to connect with prospective students. "I thought, 'We can do this,' and that's when I started on Something Curious. My project over the summer was to create a podcast and come up with a brand, a tagline and what it would be based off of. The actual idea of basing the podcasts off of Northern's core values didn't come until the end of summer."

"The goal is to show people that Northern is a community that truly sets out to help each other. Having a podcast where you are getting people from the community—not just Northern but the Marquette community—and seeing that they go hand in hand really allows the prospective student to understand Marquette a little bit better. In addition, it's about showing that although Northern isn't a large school in size, you are given opportunities here that you wouldn't have elsewhere."

Listen at nmu.edu/mc/nmu-podcast or iTunes.





RAISING AWARENESS OF MICROPLASTIC POLLUTION IN THE GREAT LAKES

Micro plastics are tiny particles of plastic, measuring 5 millimeters or less, that are too small to be filtered by water treatment plants. The microscopic fragments are then eaten by fish and rise through the food chain to contaminate human food. They can also be found in bottled water, beer and other drinks.

Micro plastics, sometimes called mi-crobeads, come from common household items like exfoliates in skincare products, single use plastics, and even synthetic clothing. Larger plastics like plastic bags will break down in water and become micro plastics.

Molly Gaudreau, Megan Martin, Trystn Loos, and Alana McLeod, the students behind the campaign, are hoping to start an eco-art exhibit. They are looking for NMU art students and other local artists to use donated plastics to create works of art and educate the public on the effects of micro plastic pollution in the Great Lakes.

"We think raising awareness around the issue starting here at home is really going to help," said Molly Gaudreau, campaign organizer and public relations major. "A lot of people feel helpless when it comes to environmental issues, they think that, you know, one person what am I going to do? But, you can do so much by just researching and being aware of micro plastics in general.

◀ Before she graduated, public relations major Haley Bussell '19 BA (left) also wrote a song titled "Chosen Home" to remember her time at NMU and in Marquette. The AV Club had the honor of recording it. Check it out at nmu.edu/northernmagazine/chosen-home or on NMU's YouTube channel or Facebook page.



Presenting their findings

Pictured above are students Trystan Loos, Molly Gaudreau, Megan Martin and CAPS associate professor Jessica Thompson at a poster presentation in Jamrich Hall.

Best environmental research paper

Student Jose Aburto of Cicero, Ill., and professor Jes Thompson won the award for Top Paper in Environmental Communication for their research titled, "Ecosystem—What? Public Understanding and Trust in Conservation Science and Ecosystem Services." They presented at the National Communication Association Conference in Las Vegas in November.



Small Group Process Class puts philanthropy in action

CAPS Instructor, Sara Potter's SP120 class raised \$1000 this winter for a local elementary school student to attend a STEM camp at Loyola this summer. The class did a can-a-thon, collecting cans from the hockey games, local businesses, and even the dorms. They also sold pancakes in the dorms. When they presented the student with her scholarship money, she gave them a thank you speech.



COMMUNICATION STUDIES & PUBLIC RELATIONS

Becoming a Global Leader

Northern Michigan University student and McNair Scholar Marissa Bekkering is one of 20 students accepted into the Keith Sherin Global Leaders Program at The Hague University of Applied Sciences in The Hague, Netherlands. The Hudsonville, Mich., native will participate in the program from June 29-July 21.

Bekkering is a double major in international studies and communications with a minor in technical theater. She applied for the program due to her excellent interest in pursuing doctoral studies in intercultural communication after she graduates from NMU.

"I was completely in shock when I found out I was accepted into the program," said Bekkering. "I have been out of the Midwest a handful of times and I have never actually left the country, so it is very exciting to have this opportunity to go abroad and learn more about how I can make the world a better place."

The Keith Sherin Global Leaders Program is co-sponsored by the Council for Opportunity in Education and ECHO Center for Diversity Policy. It is accredited by The Hague University of Applied Sciences, an institute made up of 14 academies. The university offers 42 full-time undergraduate degrees, 21 part-time (nine taught in English) and 10 dual bachelor's courses. The university also offers nine master's degrees (three taught in English), has a student population of approximately 25,000 students and is known for the international characteristic of its student population, with about 146 nationalities represented on campus.

The McNair Scholars Program is a federal TRIO program funded at 151 institutions across the United States and Puerto Rico by the U.S. Department of Education. It is designed to prepare undergraduate students for doctoral studies through involvement in research and other scholarly activities. McNair participants have demonstrated strong academic potential and are either first-generation college students with financial need or members of a group that is traditionally underrepresented in graduate education.



My name is Marissa Bekkering I am majoring in communications and Spanish with a minor in technical theatre. I am from Hudsonville, Michigan, which is very close to Grand Rapids. I enjoy doing yoga, going on hikes, and reading books and novels of all sorts in my spare time. I would optimally like to pursue research correlating to the broad category of intercultural/international communication and potentially narrowing that focus on a specific component of intercultural/international communication. I am very open to different variations of research on topics relating to intercultural/international communication.

Scholarships awarded

Congratulations to the following students who were awarded the respective scholarships:

Rasmussen Scholarship
awarded to Madison G. Hummel

James L. Rapport Scholarship
awarded to Emily E. Baker

Mitzi Selin Scholarship
awarded to Joel R. Shinavier

Forest Roberts Family Endowment Scholarship
awarded to Emily A. Kendall

John P. McGoff Scholarship
awarded to Todd D. Rose

Communicating the transgender experience

CAPS communication studies graduate Madeline Wiles '19 will be presenting her paper, "Our Family's Journey: The Narrative Account of the Communicative Processes of the Transgender Coming Out Experience" at the Organization of the Study of Communication, Language, and Gender Conference in November. This was Madeline's senior capstone paper.

She'll be attending Southern Illinois University in the fall in the gender and sexuality master's program. She has a fully funded grad fellowship and teaching position.

Additionally, she and CAPS Instructor Sara Potter have put together a panel for the same conference that explores masculinity in the academy through the narrative retellings of Madeline's journey into feminist pedagogy and her transition as a transgender female. They will be exploring the complexities of context, relationship and identity.



COMPLEXITIES OF IDENTITY
Madeline Wiles



Students win broadcasting awards

Two sports announcing teams at Northern Michigan University won awards at the 2019 Michigan Student Broadcast Awards.

AND THE WINNERS ARE...

From left: Dwight Brady, Todd Rose, Sarah Jepson and Max Stevens

"This is truly a great accomplishment when you consider we are competing against much larger universities with significantly greater resources," said multimedia journalism professor Dwight Brady.

The team winning second place for Best Sports Announcing Team was comprised of Max Stevens (play-by-play), Don Ede (color commentary), Cali Hunter (sideline reporter) and Anne Ludwig (director). The team winning honorable mention was Max Stevens (play-by-play), Todd Rose (color commentary), Andy Ridolphi and Chandler Gaboury, who shared directing duties. The productions were created during the sports and special events class taught by Brady. Students announce the games, serve as directors and camera operators, and provide instant replay, graphics and audio for live streaming of NMU sports during the fall semester.

'Evolving Public Relations' presented in England

Graduates Abby Cook '18 and Jami Hogeboom '18, along with Professor Tom Isaacson '96, recently presented a case study on the evolution of public relations at the International History of Public Relations Conference in Bournemouth, England.

The case study was titled "Evolving Public Relations: The Role of Social Good and Tactical Changes in Historic and Modern U.S. Campaigns." It started as a PR Case Studies class project in the Communication and Performance Studies Department in 2017. Cook and Hogeboom expanded the class project and developed NMU's first-ever submission to the Arthur Page Society's Case Study Competition. Later, the case study was adapted into presentation form, enabling the graduates to travel abroad for the first time.

Hogeboom, Cook and Isaacson delivered the first presentation at the conference in the small seaside town.

"We felt confident and prepared to present our case study to several educators and students from the UK, Greece, Croatia, Iran and many more countries," said Cook. "Following our presentation, we attended two days of sessions, where we learned about the history within the field of public relations."

"This was the first time I've co-presented work with undergraduate students at NMU, but I was confident that Jami and Abby would be great representatives for NMU and the CAPS Department," Isaacson said.

"The students put in long hours preparing and updating their case analysis and were rewarded with great feedback from conference attendees, and even had Boston University faculty encouraging them to apply to its PR graduate programs."

Hogeboom said, "I am extremely



grateful to have been given the chance to travel abroad, share our findings and connect with other public relation professionals from all over the world. The insight I gained from not only the other presentations, but from conversations with educators and other students from countries such as Australia and Germany, were incredible and eye-opening."

The international presentation was made possible with internal support from Jim Cantrill, CAPS department head, and Rob Winn, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences.

COMMUNICATION STUDIES & PUBLIC RELATIONS

At the 2018 PRSSA National Convention in Austin, Texas

Eleven Northern Michigan University students attended the annual Public Relations Student Society of America (PRSSA) National Conference marking the 50th anniversary of the organization. The group traveled to Austin, Texas, and attended several workshops and sessions with internationally renowned speakers. Presenters included Robert Reich, former U.S. Secretary of Labor, and Jonathan Mildenhall, former vice president of marketing at the Coca-Cola Corporation and chief marketing officer for Airbnb who now owns his own firm, Twenty First Century Brand.

"When Jonathan Mildenhall walked out on stage I instantly had chills; he was responsible for Airbnb's successful campaigns for the past five years," said Sarah Schollmeyer, senior at NMU. "His presentation was on the 'Power of Purpose,' pertaining to his purpose in life and in his job. When he moved on to Airbnb, people thought he was crazy—that they were just an overnight success—but he eventually made a small budget stretch and created amazing campaigns. When he explained that his personal goals for equity, equality, creativity and humanity were present at companies he worked for, I knew I was in the right field. I was obtaining the right degree and I chose the right school."

While in Austin, students met with several NMU alumni, including Brian Price, former national PRSSA president. Price is corporate communications manager for Starwood Retail Partners, a retail real estate company that manages 30 shopping centers across the U.S. He



LEARNING FROM THE BEST

Presenters included Robert Reich, former U.S. Secretary of Labor, and Jonathan Mildenhall, former vice president of marketing at the Coca-Cola Corporation and chief marketing officer for Airbnb who now owns Twenty First Century Brand.

Brianna Sartin, Sarah Schollmeyer, Katie Stewart and Myah Tatay. The students were accompanied by NMU professor Jessica Thompson.

"I was delighted to attend the conference with such a professional and polite team of students," Thompson. "The students were attentive, engaged and showed endless enthusiasm for this dynamic learning opportunity."

directs all public relations and digital marketing efforts. Students were given a new perspective on career opportunities and where the communications field can lead.

"Attending this conference opened my eyes more than I could have imagined," said NMU student Molly Gaudreau. "Before the conference, I had a general understanding of what Public Relations was, but it wasn't clear. Now, seeing the PR professionals that were in front of me, talking about all the different things they do and the avenues they have been down, I came back to school motivated, hopeful and so excited. I went to Austin thinking I was set on sports PR. Now, I have a strong interest in crisis communications and management. PRSSA is a life-changing pre-professional society and I am excited and honored to be a part of something such as this."

Student attendees included: Haley Bussell, Cody Cesarz, Kelsey Doucette, Molly Gaudreau, Chloe Gerathy, Trysten Loos, Megan Martin,

East of the Sun, West of the Moon” — a new level of performing

by Jackie Jahfetson and Isabelle Tavares

Which lies “east of the sun and west of the moon?” The land of the trolls, they say. A place where an evil queen resides and where a prince remains trapped in the imprisonment of her lair. The White Bear, or prince, suffers from the enchantment casted upon him and he only assumes his human identity during a full moon. With only witches and four winds, will a girl risk it all to find the kingdom and save her prince from the wicked Troll Queen?

In an original ballet production called “East of the Sun, West of the Moon,” the Scandinavian story, adapted from the Norwegian fairy tale collected by Peter Christen Asbjørnsen and Jørgen Moe, this production was the first full-length ballet to ever take the FRT stage and it happened this winter.

The ballet, directed and choreographed by NMU Instructor and Dance Minor Program Director Jill Grundstrom, featured original music by local composer Griffin Candey. Grundstrom and Candey have been “harvesting” the idea for five years, and it finally took flight.

“It has this lovely heroine who meets adversity in her path and powers through and I think it’s such a lovely story for right now of course. But at the end of the day [with] all of the characters in the story, it’s about taking a risk,” Grundstrom said. “It was the same kind of idea for Griffin and I. This was a risk. [But] it presented itself as a wonderful opportunity.”

With over an hour of music to fill, it was a “big endeavor” for this piece to be as flawless as possible, Grundstrom said. Actors are used to having their words, but ballet uses pantomime which generates actions through the accompaniment of music, alone. At the moment, NMU does not have a class that teaches this, so this production presented itself with a lot of “firsts,” Grundstrom said. This was a challenge for the cast because not only were the actors stripped of their words, the essence of time was no longer at their disposal, she said. The movements had to stay with the music in order to keep the storyline moving forward, she noted. When it came to the music, a live orchestra playing in the pit of the stage, Candey took the lead from the work that had already been done by the story adaptation. So, every piece had to capture a very specific moment.



“I started writing late spring through the summer and into the fall, once the story was laid out scene by scene I went to work,” Candey said. “Writing a ballet is very much like writing a movie score. I’ve been wanting to write for dance the entire time I’ve been writing.”

To see the show finally come to light is something that Candey is still trying to come to terms with.

“It’s kind of a surreal feeling. It’s a weird process to see and hear something that has been in your head the whole time,” Candey said.

The ballet, directed and choreographed by NMU Instructor and Dance Minor Program Director Jill Grundstrom, featured original music by local composer Griffin Candey.

Though rehearsals began at the end of October, the holiday break put a damper on things, she said. The entire cast of 34 dancers, the chamber orchestra of 12 musicians and the rest of the crew had only 12 days to put this together, Grundstrom said.

But this production was the “full package,” she continued. There’s nothing more complete than how live music and dance can complement each other and what that experience can deliver to an audience, she said, adding, theatrical technology was another component to this process and it shows what the FRT is capable of doing.

THEATRE AND ENTERTAINMENT ARTS



Sweeney Todd—dark musical theatre

Sweeney Todd is a story of a man who loses everything. A wife, a daughter, a "life before" that we never really get a glimpse of—and yet we get a sense that it was something to be cherished. He's so exiled—and evil judge is the culprit—that upon his return to London, Sweeney sets forth on a journey for vengeance, revenge, or many say, justice. He connects with other broken people suffering from their own losses, and together they promenade and seizure their way through the rigors of the human condition.

Sweeney Todd has been one of Forests Roberts Theatre's more controversial, unique shows ever, not only for its content but also for the level of involvement from the university's theatre majors.

Special shout-out to our four incredible senior capstone students (above) who worked on the production!

From left to right and top to bottom:
A.J. Stephens – Acting
Regan McKay – Costume and Makeup Design
Hannah Cormier – Properties Design
Jacob Stipe – Sound Design

These four theatre majors worked tirelessly on this show, and we are so proud of all of their hard work! Hats off to director Keli Crawford-Truckey, Bill Digneit, theatre director, David Pierce, technical director and all of the community members and students that helped turn the Forest Robert stage into something straight out of Broadway.

Berens Brings 'Manitowoc Minute' to NMU

Comedian Charlie Berens (pictured above), the camouflage-clad host of the popular "Manitowoc Minute" online video series, brought a live version of the show to Northern Michigan University in the fall.

The Wisconsin native discussed local headlines, "da Packers" and all things Midwestern during the Marquette stop of his "Oh My Gosh Tour."

Every Monday, Berens releases a minute(ish)-long installment of "da Manitowoc Minute" that pokes fun at everything from national and Wisconsin news stories to a free frozen rabbit and other items available on Craigslist. Recent episodes have touched on Vladimir Putin's new jets, Aaron Rodgers' perfect pass "to some dude on a boat," 911 calls over sausage, bears stuck in basements and Paul McCartney being a fan of the show.



Combining theatre and ornithology

NMU senior Abby Persoon found a unique way to combine her zoology major with her theater minor by matching different bird species to each of the principle characters in the Forest Roberts Theatre production of *Sweeney Todd* back in the fall 2018.

Persoon worked closely with FRT director Keli Truckey to base each character on a bird to capture an underlying theme of bird imagery that most people aren't aware is included in the play.

"Keli gave some direction, like 'I want Sweeney to be a bird of prey,' or 'I see the Beadle as a vulture,'" Persoon said. "Once I had a little direction about what she was looking for, I dove deep into both the behaviors and the European mythology behind the birds. For example, Mrs. Lovett's character is based on a Silkie Chicken. We chose that breed specifically because, unlike other chickens, Silkies have black muscles, organs and skin. In other words, they're black all the way through, just like Mrs. Lovett.

"Once we determined different birds for each character, the actors were able to incorporate some of the movements and other behaviors in their characters. Keli wanted to be sure that there was the idea of the bird there, but also that the actors weren't actually playing a bird. If you watch Paul Truckey, who plays Sweeney Todd, he will have claw-like hands or very focused stares. This is because his character is based on a White-Tailed Eagle, a bird similar to the Bald Eagles we see here in the United States."

The ensemble also uses birds as inspiration. All members have birds based on their individual characters, but they also work as a "flock," Persoon said.

"There are moments in the show where you can see the ensemble imitate songbirds forming a flock or watching the audience like vultures watching their meal from a tree. They also use some bird noises during a few of the scenes, so keep your ears open."

Sweeney Todd's music is filled with bird influences, from Johanna's song, "Green Finch and Linnet Bird" to the orchestrations, Persoon said. There is also a lot of imagery of caged birds in the show, including Johanna trapped in Judge Turpin's house and the Birdseller with her many birds. The bird theme also extends to costume, set design and props.

Persoon started by looking at different birds that are native to London, the setting for the play. After making a list, she talked with Truckey about what the FRT wanted for each character. She also helped with the inspiration for costume designs in the show. Audience members will notice feather patterns of birds in the costumes, which also feature a steampunk theme.

Currently, Persoon works with biology professor Alec Lindsay in the NMU Zoology Museum where she focuses on the preparation and preservation of museum specimens.



BIRDS OF A FEATHER

Persoon at her internship at Disney's Animal Kingdom

"I prepare avian specimens that come in to the museum to be used in research all over the world. I have also studied abroad in Zambia, where I did research on conservation statuses of birds that we saw in three different national parks," she said.

Persoon chose a zoology major with a minor in theater because she has always loved animals and theatre.

"Before this project, the most crossover I had of my major and minor was doing presentations at the different zoos I worked at," she added. "Because of my work in Dr. Lindsay's lab and my travels to Zambia and London, I was able to help with *Sweeney Todd*."

THEATRE AND ENTERTAINMENT ARTS

Women Well-Represented in FRT Scene Shop

Men typically outnumber women in theater technical production jobs, but this underrepresentation is not an issue at Northern Michigan University's Forest Roberts Theatre. Ten of the 15 students working at the FRT scene shop on *Scrooge!* and other productions are women who handle everything from lighting, set and sound design to props and even technical direction.

A study by the League of Professional Theatre Women revealed that in nearly 700 productions from 2010-2017, women were underrepresented in all areas of theater production, except for costuming and stage management. David Pierce, FRT's technical director and production manager, said the disparity in technical jobs is due to perpetuated assumptions that women can't handle the physical demands of working with the equipment. Also, the white male-dominated industry is reluctant to break away from antiquated divisions of duties along gender lines.

"I've been trying to not only give female students the basic tools to be able to stage-manage, construct and paint, but also give them the mental tools that they need and open their eyes to the world that's around them," Pierce said. "A lot of it is instilling in them the confidence that they belong in a shop just as much as their male counterparts. Once they go out into the world they're going to go further as a confident woman. It's unfortunate that it's almost like they still have to prove themselves, or why they belong where they are."

Pierce said male-dominated crews lead to situations where "shop talk," or inappropriate banter can happen with no regard for fellow coworkers. He also said men do not always realize when conversations in the studio might be uncouth, or when having a take-charge attitude can create an environment where women feel incapable of doing physical work. He recalls letting male shop members go for inappropriate behavior, including one who "would never let a woman cut a piece of wood on the saw." By hiring more females, Pierce said it is less likely for toxic masculinity to be present in the scene shop.



Hannah Cormier, a senior theatre and entertainment arts major, said because theater continues to be such a male-dominated field, more equal representation and women empowering other women are important.

"When you see other people like yourself doing these kinds of things with arts and culture, it instills in you that maybe I can do that too," she said. "It's not just for men. It's not just for a certain type of person." Although Cormier is doing physically challenging work along with other things related to production, she said it's important to "know your limits"

and ask for help if needed.

Other FRT students like Emily Baker, a junior theatre and entertainment arts major, have not allowed themselves to be limited by the notion of gender roles in their duties. "In the scene shop we basically do everything but costuming for the show," Baker said. "So we build the sets, we do all the lighting, sounds, props—everything you would see when you come to a production, we're involved in some way shape or form. You don't just have to do costumes, makeup or acting onstage. You can do backstage work and still be heavily involved."

In addition to female underrepresentation, a July report by the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees (IATSE) shows that gender wage disparities, along with sexual harassment and other forms of gender bias, are prevalent. A gender parity movement in performing arts has prompted a call for industry-wide reform. Gender parity is defined in this instance as the ratio of males to females in any given level of production in theater and equitable pay.

"I can recognize now in theater the advantages I've had being a white cisgender male," Pierce said. "I feel like it's my responsibility to support women and also people of color within theater. By doing that, it's showcasing their talents and giving them a platform to essentially show the rest of the world they are part of this. I get to be a part of the conversation to try to convince other white cis-gender males that this is now the norm; get used to it."



Field Studies in London and Paris

NMU Forest Roberts Theatre and Dance Faculty members Bill Digneit, Jill Grundstrom, and Paul Truckey adventured with 15 NMU students to London and Paris in May 2019.

A project that was in the works for a couple of years, the faculty lead the students on theatre and dance excursions that ranged from traditional to avant-garde, as well as historical and cultural experiences.

On the list of highlights were two Shakespeare performances at the Globe and Royal Shakespeare Theatres, as well as a visit to Shakespeare's birth place, a walking tour of London's West End theater district, a full-length ballet at the Royal Opera House, experiential theater in which the group was transported into 1920's New York for

The Great Gatsby, Underbelly Festival Southbank, Moulin Rouge and a Can-Can dance lesson, Palace of Versailles to learn about the beginnings of formal ballet history, and sight-seeing galore!

Important on the schedule were opportunities for students to discover the culture of the places they visited. Many students took outside excursions to places that piqued their interests or spent time in local gardens and public spaces experiencing life outside of the United States. The NMU Forest Roberts Theatre and Dance program will travel to New York City next May (2020) for a Field Studies experience and plan on heading abroad again in May 2021.

BIRTHPLACE OF THE BARD

Students and faculty at Shakespeare's birthplace in Stratford-upon-Avon.

Get better tickets

Northern Michigan University has launch a new online ticketing system for athletic, theater, music and community events. The shift to University Tickets software simplifies and enhances the user experience through upgraded technology. It includes the following features: electronic ticket delivery; a "handoff" feature for texting a ticket to someone else if the purchaser can't attend; views from seating sections in each venue; and options to add events to personal calendars and share on social media. The hope is that this modernized system will reduce paper tickets and box office traffic, particularly for high-demand events such as hockey playoffs.

"The landing page has a very appealing look to it," said Robin Burke, associate director of Intercollegiate Athletics and Rec Sports. "One of our main goals was to simplify the process and offer a frictionless online experience with fewer clicks to complete a purchase. You simply select the event and desired seats, put in your cart and everything appears in one place on the checkout screen, where you can see your order and verify the payment method. It's very similar to the major brands' online shopping and reservation systems. We're hoping that this will change the mindset of those who were reluctant to buy tickets online before."



Season ticket holders will be able to renew their seats and get playoff tickets online. The new software also benefits community organizations such as Superior Arts Youth Theatre and the Marquette Symphony, which contract with NMU to sell tickets to their events.

tickets.nmu.edu

THEATRE AND ENTERTAINMENT ARTS

Forest Roberts 2019-20 Season Lineup

SEASON PREMIERE PARTY, AUG. 29

A red-carpet season kickoff featuring Alpha Psi Omega, the First Nighters Club and FRT faculty. This free event is designed for students and community members to learn more about the opportunities available at FRT.

BUFFETT BASH SEPT. 13-14

Enter Margaritaville for favorite hits performed by a Jimmy Buffett cover band.

THE FULLY MONTY, OCT. 11-19

Based on the 1997 film of the same name, this raucous, pop-rock musical follows six unemployed steelworkers from Buffalo, low on both cash and prospects, who decide to present a strip act at a local club after seeing their wives' enthusiasm for a touring company of Chippendales. A 10-time Tony nominee, this cult classic is full of laughter, friendship and plenty of heart.

A SERIES OF OPENING NIGHTS, NOV. 7-9

A collection of various dance pieces, including a collaboration with NMU science and a piece with a live band.

A CHRISTMAS STORY, DEC. 11-15

This festive adaptation of the original 1983 film brings Ralphie Parker's quest for the ultimate Christmas gift – a Red Ryder BB gun – to life on the FRT stage. A Christmas Story is fun for the whole family, and with all the iconic elements of the motion picture, including a department store Santa Claus and the infamous leg lamp, this classic tale is sure to light up your holiday season.

HALFWAY PARTY, JAN. 16

A mid-season gathering of those involved in the FRT to touch base, enjoy food together, and get ready to start the new semester by learning about unique opportunities and exciting upcoming events!

SIGNIFICANT OTHER, FEB. 13-22

The search for Mr. Right is on this Valentine's Day with this lively new play. The plot concerns Jordan and his trio of close girlfriends as they pursue relationships in 21st century New York City, trying to navigate love as best as they can. As funny as it is genuine, Significant Other is the perfect night out in our intimate Black Box Theatre.

CATS, MAR. 27-APR. 4

Leap into the magical world of the Jellicle Cats with the fourth-longest -running Broadway show of all time! This smash hit musical brings together a tribe of fascinating felines who must decide which of them will be reborn. Based on T.S. Eliot's whimsical collection of poems, *Cats* is a mystical, moving, and often hilarious glimpse into the lives of others told through the perspective of a diverse and talented company.

DRAMA PROM AND THE JIMMY AWARDS, APR. 30

This annual formal event celebrates the hard work of our theatre and dance students throughout the year. Enjoy an evening of food, dancing, and recognition of some of FRT's biggest stars.

Season tickets will be available later this summer at nmu.edu/tickets. For more information, contact the Forest Roberts Theatre Box Office at 227-2082 or frtbox@gmail.com.



NEW ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

Congratulations to Forest Roberts Theatre Director Bill Digneit and his wife, Meghan, on the birth of their second baby boy, Houston John, born on June 12, 2019, joins big brother Hawkins.

Dane Wurmlinger joins Oregon news teams

Dane Wurmlinger '18 joined KVAL and Oregon's FOX Television in February as news anchor after nearly two years of anchoring and reporting in Michigan's Upper Peninsula at WBUP/WBKP.

Originally from Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, Dane traveled across the country to Michigan to pursue a college education in media. He graduated from Northern Michigan University where he studied media production, theatre and art and design.

He grew up in his family's Bed and Breakfast listening to stories of strangers that would soon become friends. After beginning to perform in community and professional theatre, Dane knew he was destined to tell

stories, whether it was on a stage or in front of a camera. Dane started his journey into broadcast journalism with an internship experience at NMU's Public Eye News (see below with some of his other cast and crew members), where he performed a wide variety of roles, from anchoring the shows, to eventually working up to producer/director of the live, daily newscasts.

Known for being extremely involved in every community setting, he is dedicated to bringing his viewers quality stories, information and newscasts that matter to them every day. Now he's getting to know the



WEST COAST ANCHOR

Dane is pictured during his NMU Public Eye News days sixth from left

Eugene/Springfield, Oregon, area. In his spare time, you can often find Dane acting in local community theatre, exploring hiking trails, finding good craft beer, and in the winter months, skiing the slopes.



Jen Nelson, VP of Business Leaders

NMU alumna Jen Nelson '99 BS is vice president for public policy and economic development at Business Leaders for Michigan, the state's business roundtable. Her position includes overseeing BLM's policy efforts related to economic and workforce development and K-12 education.

She formerly served in several leadership roles at the Michigan Economic Development Corporation (MEDC), including executive VP and chief business development officer, chief operating officer, and legal counsel. Nelson also practiced as an attorney in Dykema Gossett's public finance corporate group. She earned a speech communication degree from NMU.

NO MATTER WHERE YOU GO, YOU'RE STILL A WILDCAT

Pictured here are three NMU graduates living in Maine and finding the time to explore Acadia National Park together in October. Their excursion was an opportunity to network and fondly reflect upon their days at NMU. No matter where you go or how long you're gone, you're still a Wildcat!



Pictured from left to right are:

Abigail Roche (BS Public Relations, 2015) a PhD student at the University of Maine, Tabitha Boze (BS Sustainability, 2018), master's student at the University of Maine and Megan Crowder (BS Public Relations, 2015), who currently works as a social media strategist at Marshall Communications in Augusta, Maine.

ALUMNI NEWS

Distinguished Alumni Award goes to Scott Schloegel

Scott P. Schloegel is a native of Menominee, Michigan, and a graduate of Menominee High School. He began classes at NMU in 1986, initially majoring in business. Midway through his sophomore year, Scott became a Resident Advisor in Gant Hall, serving in that role for his junior year as well. In his junior year, Scott switched to a communications major and graduated from NMU in 1990 with his bachelor of science. Scott was involved in many organizations and activities including First Impressions, the Center for Excellence in Leadership and Personal Development, alumni office academic intern and ASNMU. He earned the Outstanding Resident Advisor Award and the Center for Excellence in Leadership & Personal Development's Leadership Intern Award in 1989. In 1998, Scott received NMU's Outstanding Young Alumni Award.

After graduation, Scott served for two and a half years as a legislative aide for state representatives Bart Stupak and Ken DeBeaussiaert. After Stupak was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives in 1992, Scott became the congressman's district administrator, opening six offices and managing the staff, constituent casework, and outreach activities. In the summer of 1997, Scott became the congressman's chief of staff, and he and his wife, Kirsten, moved to Washington, D.C. He was chief of staff until 2011. From 2007 through 2011, Scott also served as an investigator and professional staff member for the House Energy & Commerce Committee's Oversight & Investigations Subcommittee, which Congressman Stupak chaired. This work included a wide array of investigations ranging from top secret cyber security at the Department of Energy's nuclear weapons labs, to investigating the Deepwater Horizon oil platform disaster in the Gulf of Mexico.

In January 2011, Scott joined the Obama Administration as the senior vice president of Congressional Affairs at the Export-Import Bank of the United States (EXIM). He was later promoted to EXIM chief of staff and in January of 2017, he was appointed the acting first vice president and vice chairman of the Board at EXIM to assist in transitioning the bank from the current to the incoming administration. He eventually became EXIM's acting president and chairman in December 2017.

During his tenure at EXIM, Scott traveled to more than

20 countries across the globe giving speeches, securing sales of American exports, and meeting with foreign dignitaries ranging from Ministers of Finance, to royal princes, to prime ministers and presidents.

Scott retired in April of this year after more than 25 years of service in the federal government.



SCHWEMIN EXCELS IN SPORTS VIDEO PRODUCTION

Tyler Schwemin '14 BA has held a number of video production positions in the professional and college sports arenas since graduating from NMU. For the past year, the Marquette native has worked as a graphics operator and video production technician for Professional Bull Riders Inc.

He previously served as production assistant and later director of video production for the Charleston (S.C.) RiverDogs, the Class A affiliate of the New York Yankees. Schwemin also was a video producer at The Citadel, assisting in video production for a number of Bulldog athletic events. His freelance projects have included directing ESPN3 broadcasts of Citadel basketball, directing College of Charleston basketball games for the Charleston Sports Network and working for PBS's "Charleston After America" documentary.

HOOPER EARNS ADMISSIONS PROFESSIONAL AWARD

Kate Hooper '10 BA, a regional admissions counselor for Northern Michigan University, was awarded the Admissions Professional of the Year Award from the Wisconsin Association for College Admissions Counseling. She is based in Madison, and works with prospective students in central and southern Wisconsin. Hooper earned her degree in public relations with a minor in communication studies. She has worked for NMU for five years.



The WACAC award honors college/university admission professionals who exemplify excellence and dedication to serving the needs of students in the transition from high school to college.



Beekman Ascends Ladder at Kennedy Center

Abbie Beekman '16 BA has advanced rapidly in a career that allows her to apply her double major in public relations and music at the nation's premier cultural and performance venue: the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington, D.C. After a recent promotion, she is helping to lead fundraising efforts for multiple programs and genres, including jazz, her favorite musical genre.

Beekman is assistant manager of designated campaigns on the Corporate and Foundation Relations team. "This is a brand new fund-raising area within the entire development department at the Kennedy Center; no position on my team had existed before," said the Oconto, Wisconsin, native. "They wanted to develop the Designated Campaigns team to strengthen current fundraising efforts and to innovate new strategies and partnerships to support genres and programs across the institution. I'm excited to help lead the charge on jazz because I love that style of music and that's where my heart is."

Beekman played alto saxophone with the NMU Jazz Band, Jazz Combo and Saxophone Quartet. She was a vocalist with Lake Effect Show Choir, Arts Chorale, Madrigal Choir and University Choir. Shortly after serving as student soloist at commencement, she traveled to Washington, D.C., to begin a special

events internship at the Kennedy Center. Beekman helped to plan high-profile televised ceremonies such as the Kennedy Center Honors and the Mark Twain Prize for American Humor.

"I also worked those events as they happened," Beekman said. "At the opening celebration concert for the Smithsonian National Museum of African American History and Culture, I got to be a 'seat filler.' When

people go up on stage or leave their seats for any reason, they have people ready to fill them temporarily so when the camera shows the auditorium, there aren't any empty seats. I got to sit briefly in front of Tom Hanks and behind Will Smith. My mom saw me on TV. It's kind of fun to have rewarding moments like that because managing events can be hard work."

The Kennedy Center is home to both the National Symphony Orchestra (NSO) and the Washington National Opera (WNO). When her internship ended, Beekman secured a full-time assistant position that revolved around the WNO and combined special events work with service as a liaison to the opera's board of trustees. She later rose to the rank of assistant manager in that role before assuming her new duties in corporate fundraising through her recent promotion.

Beekman said her PR courses at Northern, along with her vice president positions with the NMU Chapter of the Public Relations Student Society of America (PRSSA), have proved integral to her job. She writes proposals, grants and other materials, delivers presentations on programs and collaborates with the Kennedy Center PR and marketing departments. Her music background also helps Beekman promote jazz programming.

Outside of work, she is head coach of the Kennedy Center softball team, called "KC at Bat." She has also returned to performing, as a singer and sax player with a swing band that most recently entertained veterans awaiting their Honor Flight from D.C. back home.

"It was one of the coolest performances I've ever been a part of," she said. "Seeing those veterans get up and dance to their favorite swing tunes, or move as best they could in their chairs, was so special. It brought me to tears and brought all of us immense joy. My grandfather and dad were vets, too, so it really hit home for me. We're doing a few more performances this summer."

Beekman credits NMU's "high-caliber" professors for their effective guidance. Through mentor Erin Colwitz of music, she was put in touch with someone who completed a fellowship at the Kennedy Center and told Beekman about the internship program.

"Jes Thompson of [Communication and Performance Studies] also taught me so much. When we talked about what I wanted to do specifically—combine PR and music—she told me, 'You may not go on a traditional trajectory with that, but when you find a job that's the right fit, you'll know it.' Now I see what she meant. I didn't set out to work in fundraising. Like many of my colleagues, I stumbled into it after learning more about it, getting my feet wet in that area and realizing one of my strengths is building relationships with people."

Beekman lives in the U.S. capital with her partner, NMU alumnus Andrew Salley '14 BS in environmental studies and sustainability. He is an instrumentation technician at EnTech Engineering PC. The company is working on a massive tunnel project for DC Water to control combined sewer overflows into the District's waterways. The infrastructure and support program is designed to capture and clean wastewater during rainfalls, before it reaches rivers.

ALUMNI NEWS

Taking on environmental issues in Asia

By Kim Yoo-chul, courtesy of The Korea Times



ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION

Lee Young-jong, the founder of Action for a Clean Environment, speaks during a recent forum in downtown Seoul in this file photo.

Courtesy of Action for a Clean Environment

aware of environmental issues. The head of a recently-launched business said he will actively promote corporate social responsibility (CSR) activities to integrate growing environmental concerns with its business operations and aid to needy people in underdeveloped countries.

"We regard the growing air pollution issue in Korea as a wake-up call in terms of focusing more attention on environmental issues not just at home but in countries which need help. We are planning to initiate lots of relevant campaigns in countries in Southeast Asia," Lee Young-jong, the founder of Action for a Clean Environment (ACE), said in a recent interview.

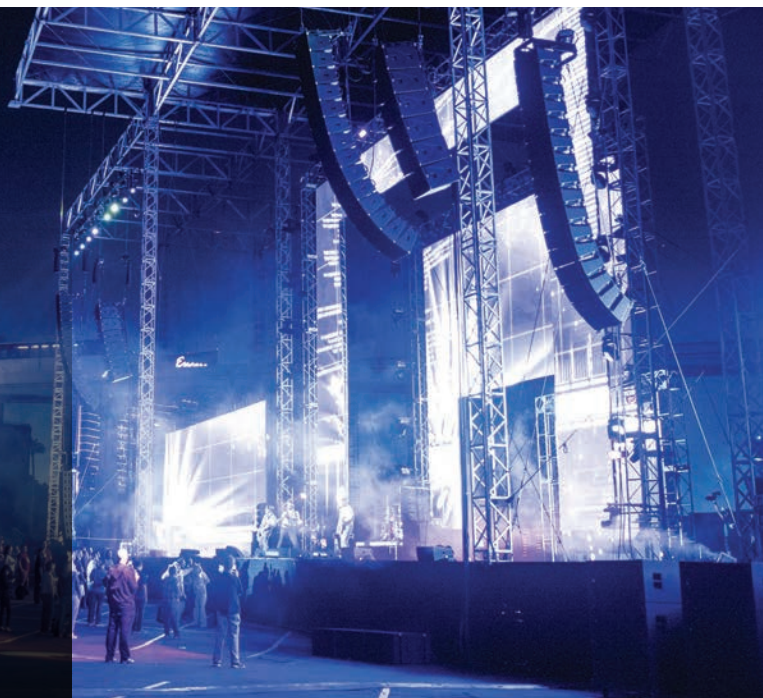
Lee, a former CAPS student at NMU and a graduate of Northwestern University, said the

organization plans to launch its first "Wash Your Hands" program in Myanmar. Details have yet to be finalized, however. Lee said ACE is considering partnering with South Korean companies operating there for the program. The main aim of the initiative is to boost awareness and better educate the public on the importance of hand washing in order to achieve a cleaner and healthier Myanmar, Lee said. "The core points that ACE will focus on are ethical responsibilities and philanthropic responsibilities. We will try to avoid harm by offering various assistance programs consistently and in a timely fashion. The second point is calling for us to provide resources to communities in order to improve the quality of life. Good hand washing practices are needed for protection against disease." Lee said that hand washing is still not seen as a priority by many and that is especially true for children in underdeveloped countries. Data from the World Health Organization said one of the leading causes of death of children in some developing countries is diarrhea with over hundreds of thousands dying every year due to unhygienic practices.



Name Jacob Stipe
Major Theatre
Hometown Houghton, MI

“ This semester I was able to work as an intern at a conference for LDI (Live Design International). This conference is the meeting of all top lighting and audio technicians from around the world. While at this event I was able to witness the world record for most lasers used at one time (412!). The information I was able to receive from these industry professionals is incredibly valuable for me as I progress through my college career.”



Music, Theatre, and Dance On Tour

Director of Theatre Bill Digneit and Director of Choirs Dr. Erin Colwitz spearheaded a new student experience and recruitment process this past spring break.

NMU students from music, theatre and dance went on tour in Illinois and Wisconsin to nine high schools in four days to show potential students the amazing opportunities available to them at NMU.

They sang, danced and performed their way through the Midwest showcasing the best that NMU has to offer and were able to talk one on one to future Wildcats!



ULTRA Music Festival 2019

Director of Theatre Bill Digneit took students from both theatre and media production to intern for three weeks in March at Ultra Music Festival in Miami, Florida.

Students worked with professionals from the lighting, sound, and staging world.

They excelled within the internship program and took this pre-professional experience to spring board their careers post graduation. Students will be going back next year and we look forward to a growing relationship with AG Productions and Ultra Music Festival.

**"Teamwork is the fuel that allows common people
to attain uncommon results."**

— Andrew Carnegie

FACULTY CREATIVE WORKS AND AWARDS

DWIGHT BRADY

Completed an intensive three day workshop for journalism instructors at the Poynter Institute in Petersburg, FL (Summer 2018)

JIM CANTRILL

Institutional:

- Educational Policies Committee, Northern Michigan University, 2018 – present.
- Director of the General Education Program here at Northern.

Text Chapters and Contributions:

"Communication is (Often) 'Placed'." In Adam Tyma and Autumn Edwards, *Communication is...*

Journal Articles:

- "Home Waters Run Deep: Leveraging Coldwater Conservation and Place Attachment to Promote Climate Change Adaptation." *Human Dimensions of Wildlife*, (co-author Rebecca Budesky and Bryan Burroughs).
- "Blended-Landscape Communities and Forest Fragmentation: Accounting for Perceptions of Place beyond the Urban Fringe." Forthcoming.

Conference Papers & Presentations:

- "The Coming Diaspora: Survival and the Impact of Solastalgia on (Dis)Placed Identities." The National Communication Association annual meeting, Baltimore, MD, November, 2019.
- "Citizen Led Restoration on Cooks Run." Invited presentation to Partners for Watershed Restoration 5 Year Celebration, Sidnaw, MI, June, 2018.

Grants, Honors, and Awards

- Paul Harris Fellowship Award, Rotary International, 2019.
- Kenyan Development Project, Rotary International Grant Recipient, 2018.
- "Trees for Trout" Restoration Project, Eagle Mine Grant Recipient, 2018
- BotEco Fundraising Starter Funding, Marquette Community Foundation Grant Recipient, 2018.

BILL DIGNEIT

Specialty Skills, Training and Education

- Knight of Illumination USA Awards Las Vegas, Production Manager, 2018 – Present.
- ATHE Leadership Institute: Graduated

from the Association of Theatre in Higher Education Leadership Institute, 2018.

Service to Community and University

- Internal Campaign Planning Committee at NMU, 2018-Present.

JILL GRUNDSTROM

Professional Experience:

- *Peter Pan*, Superior Arts Youth Theatre, choreographer; NMU Dance Concert, NMU, director/choreographer/performer; *Tarzan*, NMU, choreographer; *Dancing with our Stars Pro Dance*, choreographer/performer (2018).
- *East of the Sun, West of the Moon*, NMU, director/choreographer/costume designer (2019).

Consulting, Guest Speaking,

Adjudication, Workshops:

- American Ballet Theatre—consultant on ABT NTC: Character Dance Curriculum and Oakland Dance Festival, workshop presenter and adjudicator, 2018.

VIC HOLLIDAY

- *Anatomy Of A Murder* – Historic Vista Theatre – August 2018 – lighting design
- *Fringe Festival: Fighting For The Arts* – FRT/NMU – October 2018 – scenic and lighting designs
- *Scrooge* – FRT/NMU – December 2018 – scenic design; lighting design coordinator
- *Elf Jr.* – Historic Vista Theatre – December 2018 – scene design
- *East Of The Sun, West Of The Moon* – FRT/NMU – January 2019 – scenic and lighting designs
- *Beauty And The Beast* – FRT/NMU – April 2019 – scenic design
- *Joseph And The Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* – Historic Vista Theatre – May 2019 – scenic design
- *Collection* - FRT/TaMaMa Dance Company – June 2019 – lighting design
- *What A Glorious Feeling* – FRT/NMU – August 2019 – scenic and lighting designs

TOM ISAACSON

Institutional

- Northern Michigan University—Promoted to Associate Professor, August 2018

Conference Papers & Presentations:

- Cook, A., Hogeboom, J., & Isaacson, T. *Evolving Public Relations: The Role of Social Good and Tactical Changes in Historic and Modern U.S. Campaigns*. Presented at International History of Public Relations Conference in Bournemouth, England, July 2018.

DAVID PIERCE

Professional Experience:

- Technical Direction and Production Management—Northern Michigan University, for: *What a Glorious Feeling* (2019), *Legally Blonde, Jr.* (2019), *Mamma Mia !* (2019), *Collections* (2019), *Beauty and the Beast* (2019), *Medieval Dinner Theatre* (2019), *East of the Sun, West of the Moon* (2019), *Scrooge* (2018), *Sweeney Todd* (2018) and the *Fringe Festival* (2018).
- Lighting Design—Northern Michigan University, Marquette MI for: *Mamma Mia!*, Shelley Russell director, (2019) and *Sweeney Todd*, Keli Truckey director, (2018).

SARA POTTER

Conference Papers & Presentations:

- "Motherhood as a Jointly Constructed Narrative" Paper presented at the Organization for the Study of Communication, Language, and Gender Conference, Lake Tahoe, CA, October, 2018.
- "OSCLG Vice President Panel• Thriving through Persistence: Potential Paths" Panel hosted at the Organization for the Study of Communication, Language, and Gender Conference, Lake Tahoe, CA, October 2018.

Articles Under Review:

- Potter, S. (2018) "A Feminist Culture-Centered Approach to Understanding Humanitarian Aid in Puerto Rico: Using Samaritan's Purse as a Case Study for Understanding Structure, Culture, and Agency." *Journal of International Humanitarian Action*, 2018.

Professional Development:

- Completion of Online Teaching Fellows Program 2: QM course review—2018. • Successfully completed and passed a full internal course audit of my SP100 Public Speaking course. Participated

as a reviewer on two external course reviews.

- The Top Paper in Undergraduate Honors Caucus, OSCG—2018 Reviewer

SHELLEY RUSSELL

Professional Experience

- Directing musicals including: *Mamma Mia!* (2019), *Beauty and the Beast* (2019) *Beacon on the Rock* (2018), and the *Theater Fringe* (2018).
- Costume Design: *Beauty and the Beast* (2019)

MARK SHEVY

Professional Experience/Creative Works:

- Viano String Quartet studio recording and interview. (2018). Audio promo for use in NMU social media and broadcast. Involved advanced audio production students in the process. Long format version in production.
- Video producer for *Flow* (2018). Artistic water videos for integration with live dance performance in TaMaMa Dance Company's long-form work entitled *Flow*.
- Audio producer for *Flow* (2018). Studio music recording and arrangement in collaboration with choreographers to create the soundtrack for TaMaMa Dance Company's long-form work entitled *Flow*.
- Poster photographer for *Flow*. (2018). Photograph selected as the main promotional image for TaMaMa Dance Company's work entitled *Flow*.

Additional Training/Education:

- University courses to develop intercultural communication and pedagogy abilities.
- Completed a graduate-level course in Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL) Methods and Materials. Currently taking CHN 101 Elementary Chinese I (2018).
- NMU Online Teaching Fellowship. Completed a semester-long program based on Quality Matters standards to develop an online course in Health Communication and Media. (2018)
- NMU Grant Writing Workshop Series.



INVOLVED FACULTY

Bill Digneit shows a student the intricacies of the theater's A/V board.

Completed a series of four workshops by NMU's Grant Office on how to find grants and create successful grant proposals. (2018).

Service to the University and/or Department:

- Faculty Adviser for NMU AV Club. (2018-present); NMU Virtual Reality Advising Group. (2018).
- Audio Studio Renovation Coordinator (2017– present)
- Videographer for Forest Roberts Theatre performances of *Sweeney Todd* (2018) and *Tarzan* (2018).
- Recorded and edited Forest Roberts Theatre performances.

JESSICA THOMPSON

Honors and Awards:

- Faculty Leadership Award, Northern Michigan University (2018).

Manuscripts In Preparation:

- Thompson, J.L. (2020). *Environmental Campaign Design*. Wiley-Blackwell (Under contract; In Preparation).
- Thompson, J.L., Houseal, A. & Cook, A. (Eds.). (2020). *America's largest classroom: What we learn from our National Parks*. (In Review). University of California Press.
- Fernandez-Gimenez, M.E., Reid, R., Laituri, M., Thompson, J.L., Allegretti, A., Fassnacht, S.R., et al. (2018). *Sustaining interdisciplinary collaboration across continents and cultures: Lessons from the Mongolian rangelands and*

resilience project. In *Collaboration Across Boundaries for Interdisciplinary Environmental System Science*, to be published by Palgrave in November.

- Carlson, J.M., Lehman, B. & Thompson, J.L. (2019). "Climate change images produce an attentional bias associated with pro-environmental disposition." (In Review). *Cognitive Processing*.
- Lehman, B., Thompson, J.L., Davis, S. & Carlson, J.M. (2019). "Affective images of climate change." (In review at *Frontiers in Environmental and Science Communication*)

Invited Presentations, Outreach and Other Accomplishments:

- "Effectively Communicating Climate Change." Michigan State University Extension Climate Outreach Team Monthly seminar. (Sept. 2018)
- "Let's Change the Conversation about Climate Change." Marquette Economic Club of Marquette County invited keynote address. (Dec. 2018).
- "Women's Role in Repairing the Environmental Crisis." Invited presenter. Marquette Women's March. (Jan. 2019)
- "Bold Leadership on Climate." Invited panelist. Michigan Climate Action Summit. Hosted by the Michigan Climate Action Network. (Feb. 2019).



COMMUNICATION AND PERFORMANCE STUDIES

Northern Michigan University
1401 Presque Isle Ave.
Thomas Fine Arts
Marquette, MI 49855
Phone: 906-227-2045
Fax: 906-227-2071
E-mail: caps@nmu.edu



Join the group NMU CAPS
Students and Alumni

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 lifelong 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.



NORTHERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY
COMMUNICATION AND PERFORMANCE STUDIES

1401 Presque Isle Avenue
Marquette, MI 49855