Champions

In March, the women’s basketball team went where no Tech team has gone since the glory days of hockey: a national championship game. From left, starters Lucy Dernovsek, Sam Hoyt, Lisa Staehlin, Angela Guisfredi, and Lindsey Lindstrom celebrate at the end of the Elite Eight semi-final against Northwest Missouri State in St. Joseph, Missouri. Their astonishing run was achieved with no repeat starters and a brand-new head coach, all while maintaining a team average GPA of 3.64.

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Cover

Guard Sam Hoyt composes herself before a free throw. Mariusz Nowak photo

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Let us entertain your brain

by Jennifer Donovan

Georgi Garza gazes at the children wiggling their bare hands in the oobleck tank. Her own fingers twitch eagerly as she edges closer to the sloppy trough of sticky white goo.

Georgi, like thousands of other children, has come to the Michigan Tech MIND TREKKERS booth at the Einstein Project Science Expo in Green Bay to learn to love science.

“I don’t know about loving science,” the sixth grader confesses as she plunges her hands into the tank of non-Newtonian fluid, “but if it’s gooey or muddy, I like it.”

MIND TREKKERS, a science road show run by Michigan Tech student volunteers and Youth Programs staff, is making a splash wherever it goes. And it isn’t just the oozing oobleck that’s making it such a hit. In Detroit, in Grand Rapids, in Washington, DC, and at the national Boy Scout Jamboree, MIND TREKKERS is proving to kids across the state and nation that science is tons of fun.

“We are the Michigan Tech MIND TREKKERS,” booms big Ed Leonard Jr., a physics and mathematics major from Fond du Lac, Wisconsin. “We’re here to entertain your brain.”

Nearby, Tech students Tom Katerberg and Ashvin Vekaria use great steaming bursts of liquid nitrogen to make instant ice cream. Their demonstration is entertaining the small fry and their parents alike. It only takes sixty seconds, a quart of half-and-half, some chocolate or strawberry flavoring—and a blast of liquid nitrogen that cools the mixture to minus 320 degrees Fahrenheit—to make ice cream that is not just edible, but also delicious.

MIND TREKKERS’ goal is not modest. “We want to reverse the deficit of bright young Americans going into the STEM [science, technology, engineering, and math] fields,” says organizer Steve Patchin ’98 ’03. Compared to many other nations, this country ranks at attracting its next generation into science and engineering, he points out. The World Economic Forum ranks the US forty-eighth in quality of science and math education.

A large part of the problem is that children seem to get turned off by science in school. “Science is not presented in a fun and exciting way in today’s classrooms,” MIND TREKKER volunteer Katerberg says.

Meanwhile Tom Maynard is demonstrating a Van de Graaff generator, which must be very fun and exciting, judging by the lines, which are long and getting longer. Youngsters large and small clamber up on a plastic bucket, grip a large metal ball, and feel their hair stand on end as the equivalent of twenty thousand volts of static electricity strips them of their electrons without hurting them a bit.
Madyson Rothe, a second grader from Ashwaubenon, Wisconsin, plays with oobleck.
As a tow-headed 7-year-old reaches for the generator, Maynard stops him. “Do you have any electronics?” the Tech student volunteer asks. The last thing the MIND TREKKERS want to do is fry somebody’s cell phone.

Danny Meier nods solemnly. “Yes,” he replies. “Take them out of your pocket, and hand them to your dad,” says Maynard.

“They’re not in my pocket,” the literal-minded youngster explains. “They’re in my room at home.”

Ashley Lemmen and Madyson Rothe are ecstatically experimenting with oobleck, making dripping strings and clutchable lumps as they pound it fast or slow. “They both love science,” says Ashley’s mother, Chris Lemmen, as she watches her daughter and the girl’s best friend. “They always have. They started doing Einstein Project activities when they were in kindergarten, and they couldn’t wait to come today.” Ashley would like to become a veterinarian, her mother remarks.

Jennifer Gregorich is making the rounds: Van de Graaff generator, oobleck, liquid nitrogen ice cream. Now she’s stuffing graham crackers frozen in liquid nitrogen into her mouth, busily chewing and blowing “dragon’s breath” out her nose. “She begged me to go to this science expo,” her mother remarks.

The look on kids’ faces as they unravel some of the mysteries of science is what keeps volunteer Liz Fujita trekking with the Youth Programs troupe. “Their eyes get wide, their faces light up, and even though the results aren’t new to me, their amazement is constantly refreshing,” says Fujita, a double major in math and social sciences from East Lansing.

MIND TREKKERS sprouted from a seed planted by another Michigan Tech science show called the YES! (Youth Engineering and Science) Expo. Wildly successful for five years, the YES! Expo filled Ford Field in Detroit with up to twenty thousand school children each fall. Science and engineering companies, schools, and organizations vied to produce the most colorful, thrilling, hands-on activities, and a multimedia stage show featured science superstars like Bill Nye the Science Guy and Steven Squyres, chief scientist on NASA’s Mars Rover Project.

As popular as the YES! Expo was with teachers, parents, and school children, when the economy soured and corporate sponsors grew scarce, the production ground to a halt in 2009. Around the same time, Steve Patchin joined Michigan Tech as head of Youth Programs, now called the Center for Pre-College Outreach. A veteran of middle and high school classrooms as well as industry, he’s a Michigan Tech alumnus who returned to the campus with a master’s degree in educational leadership and seemingly boundless energy, bursting with ideas for hooking youngsters on science, technology, engineering, and math.

Within just two years of its inception, MIND TREKKERS is becoming a name in science education circles. It was the only university-based group invited to exhibit at the gigantic Boy Scout Jamboree in Virginia in the summer of 2010. The Detroit Science Center highlighted the Michigan Tech group at its Engineers Week celebration in February 2011 and brought them back for its SciQuest science expo in March. And AT&T provided funding to take the science show to a series of expos across the Upper Peninsula of Michigan.

Wherever it goes, MIND TREKKERS is changing the attitudes of America’s next generation of college students. “Science has gotten a bad name, because ‘cool’ sounds better to younger students,” says Fujita. “What they don’t realize until they get to a MIND TREKKERS program is that, out in the rest of the world, science is cool.”
Tech students have long been able to spin their own tunes over the airwaves, or at least through the electrical outlets. Beginning in 1956, the residents of Wadsworth Hall were privy to WVRW, as in “The Voice of Radio, Wadsworth,” a “carrier-current” AM station just for Wads. Plug your transistor radio into the wall and pull up your bobby sox. The outlets were the transmitters, no FCC license required.

When WVRW went airborne, it changed its call letters to WRS (Wadsworth Radio Service) and broadcast to all the residence halls. It was located in a small room opposite the old Wads mailroom.

Don Robinson ’63 recalls “cueing” records. “Put on headphones, twist [cue] the record to the beginning of the song, and then let her rip,” Robinson says. “I played rock and roll and jazz; pretty much free form and whatever felt good at the moment. Great times and a great experience.”

Jerry Myers ’68 remembers bringing his own 45s to his rock/folk/chatter show in 1963–64. “The station had one record that I really liked,” he says. “‘Flamingo Express’ by the Royaltones of Detroit. It was a Michigan-only hit, and I made it my sign-on and sign-off theme.”

Myers says there were no engineers on duty; the DJs did it all, and more. “I did homework during the records,” he says.

Becky Christianson ’74 was one of the few female DJs. “The ratio was nine guys to one gal,” she recalls. “The guys who managed the station and the DJs were great to work with. The managers moved me to Sunday mornings from my night shift because it
meant fewer suggestive phone calls. Even then, I wasn’t allowed to talk because I’d get these heavy-breathing callers. It was hilarious. I remember we also had George Carlin LPs with Xs through various tracks, since he said words we couldn’t air.”

WMTU (WRS got new call letters again in 1975) attempted news and sports, according to Russ Kerlin ’80. “I would go to the [campus public radio station] WGGL studio and tear newswire stories that sounded interesting off the teletype printer,” he says. “The daily news broadcasts lasted ten to fifteen minutes, and I helped create and record commercials.”

Kerlin also helped “broadcast” hockey games.

“Tech had a license with a local station, so we weren’t allowed to do play-by-play. We did summaries between periods and at the end of the game. I don’t know if anyone got value out of them, but it was fun being up in the press box with the ‘real’ sports journalists and radio personalities. We had an excellent view and, best of all, there were free hot dogs.”

Being a WMTU DJ wasn’t always exciting, according to Matt Leipnitz ’90 ’94. “I would often ask for people to call in to request songs for a hint that someone was actually listening,” he says. “One early Wednesday, around 5:00 a.m., I was particularly frustrated with the lack of a single caller. I was tired and stressed about upcoming tests, so I announced, ‘If you’re listening, call in to let me know, or I just may leave the station to get some sleep.’ The phone rang within a minute, and the voice on the other end said two words that kept me going and lifted my spirits: ‘I’m listening,’ is all she said. Then she hung up.”

Together alone

WMTU and its predecessors weren’t alone on the air. There was another student station, WDHH, as far back as 1957–58, according to one of its creators. Like the Voice of Radio Wadsworth, it was a carrier-current station. Unlike WVRW, it sometimes infiltrated radios beyond Tech’s borders, a quality that proved to be its undoing.

“I built the electronics with a bunch of guys,” says Pete Rankin ’59, an electrical engineering major. “Don Korb, John Taylor, Frank Swenk, Ora Flanningam … We strung the transmitter output cable through the attic to a basement power box supplied to us by dorm maintenance, where it was capacitor coupled to the dorm power system. Although it was pretty low power, the signal did jump the dorm power transformer and travel downtown along the power lines all the way to the bridge. We picked the signal up in a car during testing.”

William Gates ’66 recalls working at WDHH “in a closet with two turntables and an adequate library of albums. It was a good place to study or play cribbage or pinochle. My show was titled Wee Willy with the Sounds of Song and ran about three hours on Tuesday and Thursday nights.”

“The ten-watt carrier-current rig was a constant source of problems,” John Baker ’71 says. “With all the electrical engineering majors hanging around, someone rigged a half-dipole antenna in the attic. Thus we were ‘broadcasting’ a fairly decent signal within a ten- or twenty-mile radius. Remember, this was before [campus public radio station] WGGL went on the air in 1968, so this sort of made us the de facto Michigan Tech radio station.”

Until . . .

“Someone either was not aware of the fact that the signal was reaching more than a few hundred students inside the building or perhaps knew exactly what
they were doing: they played Rusty Warren records,” he says.

In 1960s Keweenaw, not everyone found the risqué comedienne amusing. “Unfortunately, some little old lady up in Calumet heard what was going out over the airwaves and called the school to complain, and that was the end of that,” Baker says, “I think it stayed off the air for at least a few years until someone rebuilt the carrier-current rig, bringing it back up to FCC regulations.”

The FCC pulled the plug on WDHH in 1977 for reasons unknown, but WMTU has survived unscathed, for the most part, since the days of Elvis and Sinatra.

The station went cable FM in 1977, over-the-air FM in 1994, and on the web via RealAudio in 1998. WMTU has also become one of the largest student groups on campus, with one hundred—plus students kicking out the jams.

Taking care of business

But there’s more to be done, according to co-advisor Darrell Radson, dean of business and economics and jazz deejay. In other words, less dead air and more professional shows, fewer insider jokes and more relevant information. Automation is one solution, Radson says, and moving music from all those CDs onto a server makes that one step closer.

More online possibilities abound, Radson says, and co-advisor Andrew Grohowski, a Michigan Tech staffer, agrees. “I’d like to see more online streaming of events,” Grohowski says. “Concerts are an obvious choice, but I’d like to see students go out and do the MLK rally, gauging the vibe and then reporting on the air.”

Both Radson and Grohowski cited news and sports as potential growth areas. “News that is relevant to students,” Grohowski adds. “And arts in the Rozsa Center, for example, a broader presentation of news, arts, and events at Tech.”

For example, the Lode Sports Talk Show has aired on Saturday mornings for five semesters, with a distinctive student slant. It’s getting noticed. Fifth-year scientific and technical communication major Stephen Anderson is co-host and enjoys the challenge.

“Invaluable playing, coaches, and administrators live on the air is a whole new ball game,” he says. “I hope that more students will take advantage of the opportunity to break out of their shell and try something new in front of a potentially worldwide audience.”

Grohowski notes that students do their jobs, on the air and behind the scenes, for free. “And working with the students amazes me,” Radson says. “They are intelligent and funny, and, through their music, they bring such diversity to the local offerings. We have students that play old R&B, and hip-hop, and metal, and on and on.”

Corey Abate, a fourth-year undergraduate from Saginaw, was working solo in the studio, mixing genres and proving Radson’s point. “Punk, alt [alternative], and more,” he said to describe his show this Tuesday afternoon. “I’m playing REM now. I’d love a morning show, but not like the 4:00 to 6:00 AM Sunday that I had to take first.”

While airing the 1980s and 1990s alternative rock icons, the mechanical and electrical engineering major appreciates the freedom the station affords him. “It’s cool to have so few restrictions,” he says. “I like that we can play whatever we want.”

Well, almost. Woe betide the DJ who breaks out those old George Carlin tracks. ■
A bumpy ride in the bush in an off-road vehicle has paved the way for the industrial readiness of engineering students nationwide.

It’s called the Mini-Baja, and Bill Shapton, professor emeritus, has been a driving force behind this vehicle-design competition, which is sponsored by the Society of Automotive Engineers (SAE).

Shapton’s involvement was so pivotal that today he is called “the father of Mini-Baja.”

The program, which now has students building and operating an all-terrain vehicle, helped transform engineering education.

In the late 1960s and early 1970s, there were several collegiate automotive competitions. However, they all emphasized design at the expense of dirty hands. Shapton says, “Everybody designed vehicles. No one built them. They were missing a huge part of the industrial process.”

Student interest in engineering was lagging, in part, Shapton believed, because universities were shedding that practical experience. “Mechanical engineering programs became very math-oriented and theoretical in the sixties and seventies as we entered the space program,” he said. “Many universities dropped most of the labs and hands-on activity.”

In response, Shapton, then at the University of Cincinnati, co-organized a series of competitions to design and build what he called “Recreational-Ecological Vehicles.”

His aim: to familiarize students with how things are done in industry. Thus, the effort: duplicate the industrial model—design it, build it, test it, and compete with it.

The competitions began in 1973 and were held at Michigan Tech’s Keweenaw Research Center. There were some potholes early on: two vehicles caught fire, a third ended up in the drink. (Those circumstances prompted Shapton to include the student competitors on his homeowner’s policy.) But it was affordable; Briggs & Stratton donated free engines. That, plus the fun of it all, made the program popular among students. And, Shapton says, “It looked great on their résumé.”
Meanwhile, Shapton lobbied the SAE Board of Directors to sponsor its own competitions. He was serving on the Student Activity Committee when the SAE launched its first collegiate design competitions, Mini-Baja and Formula SAE, in 1976.

Tech has participated in Mini-Baja (now simply Baja SAE) every year since, hosted it twice, and won it once. Shapton himself came to Tech in 1979 and co-advised University Mini-Baja teams in the 1980s.

The inaugural Mini-Baja began with six schools. Now there are three regional Baja SAE competitions held annually in the US involving 3,300 students each year. “It grew fast,” Shapton recalls, and it trained generations of students to translate classroom concepts to real-world engineering. “It had a huge effect on academics,” says Shapton.

The Mini-Baja so appealed to students that faculty were almost forced to get involved. Because SAE programs required students to build a vehicle, Senior Design expanded from a term project to a yearlong learning experience. At Tech, the competition has grown to four years of Enterprise, the Blizzard Baja SAE.

Mini-Baja and the ensuing SAE design competitions—Formula, Supermileage, Aero Design, and the Clean Snowmobile Challenge—have changed the lives of student engineers and their faculty advisors “in a major way,” Shapton says, and the effort has paid off in graduates that are better prepared for the workplace.

The SAE has also benefited; since the competitions began, he says, student membership in the society “has skyrocketed.”

Speaking is a man with extensive connections with the workaday world. Shapton has twice taken sabbaticals to work in industry. In one, he was involved in the development of the first industrial robots. In another, he helped develop groundbreaking tests for the measurement of vehicular noise and vibration. He also has been instrumental in educating automobile draftsmen to become design engineers.

**“Mechanical engineering programs became very math-oriented and theoretical in the sixties and seventies. Many universities dropped most of the labs and hands-on activity.”**

He has served on eight committees at SAE and has received four of the organization’s awards. In 1989, Shapton was awarded the SAE Medal of Honor, largely for his involvement in Baja.

He also has received the SAE’s Excellence in Engineering Education Award for his efforts to bring engineering activities to public schools.

And, for his contributions, overall, to education, industry, and the society, Shapton was named an SAE Fellow in 2010.

John Leinonen, a former president of SAE, nominated Shapton to be an SAE Fellow. He says Shapton’s role in launching the Baja program was complemented by his stature in industry, his passion for teaching, and his concern for students.

William Predebon, chair of the Department of Mechanical Engineering—Engineering Mechanics, also nominated Shapton for SAE Fellow. He says Shapton receives “enormous respect” from students and colleagues and “esteem” from alumni. The fellowship, Predebon says, “is overdue.”

Shapton is modest about his pioneering role. It was circumstances—languishing interest in engineering and a decline in hands-on education—not vision, he says, that prompted his efforts. He’s just happy it’s all worked out so well.

“Students like the competition part,” Shapton says. “Unfortunately, just one team can win, so it’s largely a no-win game.” But, he adds, “It makes life a lot more interesting.”

The bottom line: all the student engineers, from the winners on down, leave with something far more valuable than a trophy, says Shapton. “They have acquired the tools to actually design and build something.”
Mission: build a great northern railway

by Jennifer Donovan

Pasi Lautala’97 ’07 knows about cold climates. He’s from Finland, where it snows much the way it does in Houghton. He knows what arctic temperatures and freezing or thawing ground can do to railroad tracks and ties: heaving them, twisting them, turning them dysfunctional in a dozen different ways.
And as director of Tech’s Rail Transportation Program, Lautala has some pretty good ideas about addressing such problems. So when alumnus Paul Metz ’68—now a professor of mining and geological engineering at the University of Alaska Fairbanks—was asked to head a feasibility study on connecting existing Alaskan rail lines with those in Canada, he turned to his alma mater for help.

Lautala’s task: to look at what other countries with arctic railroads are doing, define the challenges, and identify solutions that have been tried, successfully or unsuccessfully.

To do that, he had to roam the globe, examining the design, construction, and maintenance practices and problems of cold-climate railroads. The study took him to Alaska, Russia, Scandinavia, Canada, and China, where he examined rail lines in places as remote as Siberia and Tibet.

First he needed to determine what has worked and what hasn’t. So he talked with rail industry leaders and with the people who actually build and maintain the tracks.

What Lautala learned surprised him.

“I was amazed to discover that many countries are planning or building new rail lines in very cold climates,” he said. “And mostly they aren’t for passenger travel. They are related to natural resource development, particularly transportation for the mining industry.”

That’s exactly the kind of rail line that Alaska and Canada are considering.

From Fort Saskatchewan to Fangshan, from Omsk to Lhasa, Lautala found that most of the key challenges of building and maintaining railroads under arctic conditions are the same: how different types of permafrost affect the substructure under the track; problems with drainage, ice, snow, and wind; and constructing track in transitional situations—from ground embankments to bridges and back to embankments, from permafrost to non-permafrost, between marshy bog and rock-bound soil.

Another challenge—less tangible but no less important—turned out to be a lack of data or inaccurate data. “There is a wealth of information in the railroad industry that has never been written down or compiled,” Lautala explains. “This is not a well-researched academic field.”

Although he returned impressed with the cold-weather engineering accomplishments of many lands, for Lautala, China’s Qinghai-Tibet Railroad took the prize. “It is the most recently built cold-climate railroad, and it is a stunning engineering...
feat,” he said of the world’s highest railroad. Rising to 16,640 feet above sea level, more than 80 percent of the journey from Golmud to Lhasa is at elevations above 13,000 feet. The railroad also boasts the highest tunnel through permafrost in the world, at Fenghuoshan.

The Qinghai-Tibet railroad took four years to build, opening in 2006. All sorts of special equipment had to be designed: oxygen outlets for passengers and special insulation for the cars, which must climb approximately eight hundred miles of wind-blown track through temperatures that can dip to forty degrees below zero.

It nearly took Lautala’s breath away. “In the middle of nowhere, suddenly you have this magnificent railroad,” he says.

Lautala visited the sky-high railroad at the invitation of a British film group that was filming a documentary for National Geographic International. He spent two weeks in China with a film crew that followed his train journey from Beijing to Tibet. The documentary, the second in a series of four focusing on megastructures, is slated to air in mid-2011.

While Lautala identified the problems facing cold-climate railroads, he also assessed a variety of innovative solutions. Dry bridges, crushed rock embankments, insulation, and heating pipes called thermosyphons are among the engineered answers to cold-climate questions that he evaluated.

Lautala submitted his report to Metz, who is incorporating it into his larger study on connecting the Alaskan and Canadian rail systems. The University of Calgary is a partner in the study, as well as Michigan Tech and the University of Alaska Fairbanks. The report also goes to the Rails to Resources Commission, appointed to assess the costs and revenue-producing potential of a rail line linking northern Canada with Alaska.

Meanwhile, the enormous project is progressing, says Metz. “One environmental impact statement is done; another is being done for a track connection to a port, and the money has been appropriated for the first hundred miles of track,” he reports. A joint project of the US and Canadian governments and private industry, the northern rail line is estimated to ultimately cost between $7 billion and $10 billion.

Lautala directs the Michigan Tech Transportation Institute’s Rail Transportation Program, which educates students in railroad engineering and urban rail transit in partnership with industry leaders CN, CSX, and Union Pacific. Learn more at www.rail.mtu.edu.
Model railroads
The right way to build a railway

While Pasi Lautala visited cold-climate rail lines for the Alaska–Canada railway study, two other Michigan Tech researchers—Robert Shuchman and Colin Brooks at the Michigan Tech Research Institute (MTRI) in Ann Arbor—were building models. Not model trains—computer models to estimate the railroad’s future revenues.

Their model (called the Mineral Occurrence Revenue Estimation and Visualization, or MOREV, tool) can estimate the profitability of a mining project based on where the railroad might be located, while accounting for carbon output, Brooks said. Specifically, it can show users how different railroad routes might affect a mine’s bottom line and its environmental impact.

That’s important for the railroad as well as for entrepreneurs and investors, since the railroad’s economic health will depend largely on how efficiently it moves the region’s abundant natural resources to market.

“There are many proposed rail projects for Alaska, and this will help decision makers select what should be built and which ones should be prioritized,” Brooks said.

MOREV incorporates the Alaska Resource Data File and exhaustive data on mineral resources in Alaska, Yukon, and British Columbia provided by Paul Metz of the University of Alaska Fairbanks. Most of those resources are metallic, such as copper, gold, and molybdenum, a key ingredient in certain steel alloys.

“What we’ve done is combine Paul Metz’s expert knowledge with our GIS and modeling skills,” said Brooks. “We’re looking at different routes in Alaska, figuring out the value of the resources that are along the way and the amount of freight they will generate.”

While the impetus for the model was the Alaska–Canada rail link, MOREV also incorporates potential freight routes out of Alaska. “If someone is looking at shipping resources to customers in China or Japan, or to the lower forty-eight, they can select that,” he said.

The model also provides information on a route’s carbon footprint. “If a rail project is going to be done, it should be done in an environmentally responsible way,” Brooks said. “Our Transportation Carbon Accounting Module can pick the best route in terms of minimizing total carbon dioxide emissions, which is a critical part of assessing the environmental impact of mining activity.”

An upcoming version of the model will help determine a given route’s potential for military and national security use and how it might enhance emergency response in the event of natural disasters.

More information about their MOREV tool is available at www.mtri.org/mineraloccurrence.html.

The potential pay-offs are many. Building and maintaining the rail line will create jobs. It will enable mines to open and make consumer goods more accessible in remote locations. There is even a potential for passenger service, although that is not the primary focus of the planners.

But whatever is finally done with his data, Lautala had fun gathering it. “There are a couple of aspects of our cold climate railroad research project that have really fascinated me,” he says. “Cold-climate railroads represent perhaps the most complicated version of rail transportation. Not only are they in remote locations where just getting there may take days, but they also face the most drastic changes in environmental conditions year-round. The ability of these railroads to provide reliable service even during the harshest winters is plain spectacular.

“It also was fascinating to see the difference in approaches various countries have used to solve similar challenges,” Pasi says. “One country may simply add granular materials to the railroad bed each year, while another has developed very sophisticated engineering solutions to avoid most annual maintenance. As far as I can see, there is really no consensus which approach is better, so I guess we still have some work to do.”
“Resurgence”
Full spectrum
Alumna’s path balances concrete and abstract

by Robyn Ross

It’s a rare gray day in Central Texas, but the walls of Leanne Venier’s gallery in South Austin are radiant with the rich colors of her art.

“I nto the Depths” glows a deep shade of garnet. Brushstrokes of cobalt and indigo in “Ageless, Boundless, Timeless” suggest the undulation of seagrass.

The center of “Duration” is belted with a thick cream-colored line dividing the eggplant hue above it from the burgundy below. Venier thinks she may have painted the line, vaguely reminiscent of a horizon, because she likes landscape photography. But it might also be a visual depiction of the conscious and unconscious mind. She points to the lower half. “There’s so much that goes on in our unconscious minds that we’re not aware of. And a lot of the time it’s calm on the surface, and all the interesting activity is happening below.” She relies on all this “interesting activity” to create her abstract oil paintings.

The white band itself might have emerged from the unconscious mind; Venier painted it one day without thinking. She liked the effect and kept it. “If I’m liking what’s happening on the canvas, and then something unplanned happens, I don’t go back in and erase,” she explains. “I just say, OK, I’ll go in this direction, then.”

It’s an outlook that also characterizes Venier’s professional life. Trained as an engineer at Michigan Tech, she’s worked in fields that might seem disconnected, from engineering to art. Yet as in her paintings, each new vocation has built on the previous layer.

The way she learned to think at Michigan Tech has informed them all. “Michigan Tech was all about teaching critical thinking, so you not only had to learn information, you had to really understand it,” she remembers. “On tests, you’d get off-the-wall problems that were not in any textbook and hadn’t been brought up in class, and you’d have to figure out how to solve the problem.”

“Basically, we were taught how to teach ourselves.” It was a skill that would prove useful many times.

After earning a BS in Mechanical Engineering in 1987, she worked in San Diego, California, on Deep Submergence Rescue Vehicles, small submarines that rescue people from disabled full-size subs. After her group was laid off, she helped out in a friend’s catering business and then moved to Florence, Italy, where she taught English and investigated alternative healing—particularly herbology and Chinese medicine. “I was very interested in the root cause of illness, not just resolving the symptoms but understanding what was going on at a psycho-emotional level,” she explains.

She returned to the US and took her first painting class, in 2003. Her teacher, artist Phillip Wade, has watched her work evolve ever since. “Leanne knew what she wanted to paint from the very start,” he remembers. “The much larger work I saw at her new space in South Austin is far better but not much different in theme from what she was doing then.”

After that first class, Venier earned a master’s in oriental medicine and opened a practice, treating cancer patients through the use of shiatsu and acupuncture with an emphasis on color healing.

In 2006, she enrolled in a second art class and began to develop her style in earnest. Almost immediately, her work began to sell. She was a finalist for the Hunting Art Prize, a Houston-based...
competition with a $50,000 purse. Galleries called, offering to show her paintings.

A curator for local restaurants placed Venier’s work in a café in Austin’s Hyde Park neighborhood. The paintings had been up for a few weeks when she received a surprising call: two of her 16-by-20-inch canvases, each worth several hundred dollars, were stolen during business hours.

Venier kept calm. The thief had left the frames. And in a way, it was a compliment that someone liked her work enough to risk going to jail for it.

Then, another painting was stolen. “Presumably it was the same woman who stole the first two, and she wanted to add to her collection,” Venier laughs. The woman had strode purposefully into the deli with a garbage bag, stood on a booth to reach for the painting, almost dropped it on an astonished patron, stuffed the painting into the bag, and left.

“I realized, OK, the universe is telling me something,” Venier remembers. She whipped up a press release, titling it “Hyde Park Art Thief Strikes Again.” Local television stations and newspapers picked up the story. Then David Stein, a prominent area patron of the arts, bought several of Venier’s pieces for his own collection and offered to show her work in his gallery. “She’s wonderful, an up-and-coming artist, and very popular in Austin,” he says.

At every show, guests would say they were drawn to paintings in one particular color. The blues were always “calming,” the reds “energizing.”

Over time, Venier noticed that one color—not always the same one—prevailed. “People always want to tell me what their favorite pieces are, so I get this sense of collective consciousness,” she says. She speculates that world affairs affect people’s emotions on an aggregate level, accounting for the appeal of certain colors at particular times. Early in 2010 people were favoring her works in teal, but by the end of the year, the preferences changed to red. “I feel like everybody’s a lot more optimistic about the state of the economy,” she says. “It makes sense that they’d be drawn to red, because it’s a catalyzing color, and it gives you that courage and self-confidence to move forward.”

To better understand this phenomenon, she is researching color therapy in Western medicine. Guests in her gallery can read a poster listing such practices as the use of blue light to treat jaundice in infants and full-spectrum light therapy to treat seasonal affective disorder.

She’s not the only one seeking to connect these two worlds: staff at the University of Texas Health Science Center in San Antonio asked her to show her work at the school this spring; the exhibit runs through June 30.

To Penelope Borchers, the special collections librarian who coordinates the exhibits, Venier’s biography is as compelling as her art. “I was really impressed with her work, and when I looked into her background and saw that she’d been in engineering, I saw that she herself is in balance,” Borchers says. “That balance of the concrete and abstract is very appropriate for our environment at the medical school. It’s a balance of science and art—and we can all use more balance in our lives.”
Tech’s Keweenaw Research Center (KRC) has been testing how vehicles perform on their world-class snow-and-ice test course for decades. It’s been tougher to measure performance at Siberian temperatures.

“I’ve always had a little cold lab, 10-by-20 feet, but the biggest vehicle we could ever put in there was a snowmobile,” says Russ Alger, who directs the center’s Institute for Snow Research. For anything larger, they rent refrigerated trucks, “but that’s inefficient and expensive,” says KRC director Jay Meldrum.

Next winter, however, KRC will boast one of the coldest spots this side of International Falls. A $220,000 gift from alumnus Stephen Wuori will underwrite the construction of a cold lab the size of a four-car garage.

“Michigan Tech did a lot for me, and I had a desire to recognize that,” said Wuori, a 1980 civil engineering graduate and president of liquids pipelines for the Canadian oil company Enbridge. “In particular, the real-world experience I got through the co-op program gave me a readiness to tackle the business world.”

Secondly, Wuori said, the gift honors his father’s cold regions work, which dates back more than fifty years and is intimately connected with the Keweenaw Research Center.

“I am told my dad is Employee Number One at KRC, if you trace the DNA back. So my wife, Jackie, and I both felt it would be nice to do something to help the program,” he said. “So my wife, Jackie, and I both felt it would be nice to do something there that would help the program.”

Back in the 1950s, the US was fighting a cold war with an even colder place, the Soviet Union, and the federal government was looking for chilly locations to conduct military research. Michigan Tech student Al Wuori was asked to assess nearby sites for a research base. A Korean War vet who had served as a meteorologist in the Army Corps of Engineers, Wuori picked a plot of land near the local airport to build what would become the Keweenaw Research Center.

He went on to conduct research there and, later, at the Cold Regions Research and Engineering Lab (CRREL), in Hanover, New Hampshire. In the late 1980s, he was lured out of retirement and returned to the Keweenaw to manage research programs at KRC for five years. Those connections made sponsoring the cold room a natural fit for his son.

“CRREL had cold rooms that went to forty below, and a similar cold room at KRC could draw in more research dollars,” Stephen Wuori said. “I really hope it creates excitement around the KRC program, raises its profile, and attracts vehicle manufacturers interested in testing cold-weather performance.”

It’s already creating excitement at KRC. “We’re so grateful. This is something we’ve wanted to do for years and years, and to have Steve financing it makes it especially meaningful,” said Alger. “His father is a world-renowned name in cold regions and snow testing, and he’s been my mentor since I came here.”

The cold lab will be a reminder of the senior Wuori’s contributions, said Meldrum. “He determined where KRC would be, and he’s had a lot to do with its success over the years,” he said. “We consider him the founder—he’s Employee Number One.”

As for Al Wuori, “I was 100 percent supportive,” he said. “They need a building where they can expose vehicles to very low temperatures. With all the snow you get, that added capability will make KRC an even more attractive place for research.”

by Marcia Goodrich
Head coach Kim Cameron
It’s a moment that won’t soon be forgotten: hundreds of Michigan Tech fans cheering the arrival of the Huskies at Civic Arena in St. Joseph, Missouri, for the NCAA Division II Women’s Basketball National Championship game.

The 2010–11 Huskies have put together thirty-one wins, Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference regular season and tournament titles, and the school’s third straight NCAA Midwest Regional Championship.

Now they’ll play the biggest game in school history.

But with zero returning starters and a first-year head coach, who saw this coming?

Kim Cameron did.

“We knew we had a lot of talent on the roster,” she said. “We just needed to trust and believe in each other.”

The thought of playing for a national title was probably the furthest thing from Cameron’s thoughts, however, in the minutes and hours following her collegiate head coaching debut at Notre Dame on November 2.

The Division I power Fighting Irish had just handed her Huskies a 102–30 loss in a preseason exhibition—not how she had envisioned her first game at the helm of one of the most successful Division II women’s basketball programs in the country.

Despite the tough start, she still knew she was in the right place.

“I believe in everything the Huskies stand for,” said Cameron. “This is a great school with great people and a great women’s basketball tradition. I want to give others the same experiences I had as a student-athlete.

“I can’t imagine anyone else doing this job.”

That confident mind-set wasn’t yet in place when an 18-year-old Cameron opted to follow her older brother, Matt, in playing basketball at Michigan Tech.
“I cried the whole way here when my parents brought me to campus as a freshman,” said the Alpena native. “They just left me, but they knew that was the right thing to do.

“It took less than a day to know this was where I was supposed to be.”

Cameron said then–head coach Darla Olson and assistant coach Sara Ferris made the transition an easy one, checking in daily to make sure everything was going well.

Kim spent 2001–05 as a role player in the Huskies lineup, helping Tech compile a 71–42 record with a trip to the NCAA Tournament her senior season.

John Barnes took over as coach for Cameron’s final two seasons and hired the fresh college graduate with a bachelor’s in business administration as his assistant coach in 2005.

The next five years were some of the most successful in school history. Barnes and Cameron recruited four eventual one-thousand-point scorers and posted a 119–36 record. Tech advanced to the NCAA Elite Eight each of the last two seasons with a combined 58 wins.

When Barnes announced he was leaving for Wisconsin in June, Athletic Director Suzanne Sanregret handed Cameron the top job. She began as head coach on June 17.

Michigan Tech bounced back from the game at Notre Dame (which would go on to play for the Division I national championship) and felt the sting of defeat only twice in twenty-five regular season games.

The Huskies’ postseason run began with three home wins in the GLIAC Tournament. The Black and Gold went on to host the NCAA Midwest Regional.

After a 69–57 victory over University of Wisconsin–Parkside, Cameron cut down the nets for the Huskies’ third straight regional title. Tech became the first team from the Midwest to win three consecutive regional crowns.

The team peaked at the right time, playing its best basketball of the season at the Elite Eight. The Huskies upset No. 1-ranked Arkansas Tech 69–58 in the national quarterfinal before sealing the best season in school history with an 89–78 victory over Northwest Missouri State in the semifinal game.

The run did not last. Tech ran into a talented Clayton State team in the title game and was defeated 69–50 in front of a national television audience on ESPN2.

“The experience of playing in the championship game was awesome,” said Cameron. “Not a lot of teams get a chance to do that. I think we learned a lot, and we still have things to improve upon so we’re ready to win a national championship next time we get the chance.”

Cameron, 27, was named GLIAC and Midwest Region Coach of the Year. Still, she knows it’s about more than winning.

“I want to be a positive influence for the student-athletes I recruit to Michigan Tech,” she said. “I want this program to be one that the University and community are proud of.”

That demands success on court and in the classroom. This year’s team boasts a 3.64 GPA with every player on the roster above a 3.0.

As far as the future, Cameron says, “My goal is to learn and get better every day. That’s what I try to do, and what I expect from my team. Work to get better each day.”

There are no doubt more unforgettable moments to come.

To hear more from Coach Cameron and see her team in action, go to www.mtu.edu/born-to-coach.
Ever wonder how they do that?
Two shooting stars break down the moves that brought the Huskies to St. Joe.

### How to make a three-pointer

*by Sam Hoyt, guard*

There are a lot of things to think about when shooting a three-pointer. When you catch the ball, the first thing to think about is getting your feet square to the basket and far enough apart so you have good balance.

Then, make sure the seams are lined up (meaning the lines on the ball are perpendicular to your fingers).

Next, get the ball in the correct position so you can shoot it. This differs from person to person, but I like to put it in front of my right shoulder. That way I have everything I need lined up (my right foot, my right elbow, the ball, and my eye).

After that, bend your knees and then jump up to shoot. As you jump, you will start to raise the ball and extend your shooting arm completely, finishing with the follow through (snapping your wrist downward).

Then the ball swishes through the net! Just remember, it takes a lot of practice, but if you work hard at it, you can become a great shooter.

### How to shoot a lay-up

*by Lisa Staehlin, center*

The lay-up is the easiest shot in basketball.

The footwork is the trickiest part. Normally, taking more than one step is whistled as a traveling violation, but lay-ups allow you to take one and one-half steps. If you are shooting a right-handed lay-up, the left foot is planted on the ground, and as your right arm goes up to shoot, the right knee is elevated. Raising the right knee accounts for the extra half step. These steps allow you to balance yourself and have an explosive jump toward the hoop. The same procedure follows for the left-handed side, with the right foot planted and the left knee elevated.

Once your footwork is correct, you have to have a good angle at the backboard. Nearly all lay-ups use the backboard for a nice, soft bank shot. It is important to be on one side of the basket and aim for the top corner of the white square on the glass.

Post players play right under the basket, so they shoot most of their shots as lay-ups. The most common, and arguably the easiest, post move near the basket is called a drop-step. This uses a power dribble towards the baseline, making a strong, aggressive move with the basketball. Moves such as this bring you close enough to the basket to shoot a lay-up.

Basketball players must be comfortable shooting with either hand when close to the basket. Experienced players can also choose to shoot reverse lay-ups as well.

The lay-up is one of the highest percentage shots to take. So if you have the urge to pick up a basketball, practicing the lay-up is the best place to start.

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### Glossary

- **Baseline**: the boundary of the court, behind the basket
- **Power dribble**: the player takes the ball in two hands and dribbles it once forcefully while taking a step
- **Reverse lay-up**: a lay-up done with your back facing the basketball hoop

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Six-foot-one Lisa Staehlin (14) led the team with 428 points for the season, many of them earned under the net.

All five feet, five inches of Sam Hoyt (21) dazzled with her long-distance shooting. She and stellar forward Lucy Dernovek each earned 405 points this year, tying for second place in team scoring.
Transition and tradition
Seventy-five years of forestry at Michigan Tech
It began as a school for foresters back in 1936, preparing skilled professionals for the Upper Peninsula’s logging industry. Its first department head coached football and hockey and just happened to have a master’s in forestry.

Seventy-five years later, Michigan Tech’s School of Forest Resources and Environmental Science is a research powerhouse. It brings in more grant funding per faculty member than any other unit on campus. The School ranks number one among all US forestry programs in the number of research citations per faculty member, a measure of the quality of their science.

And yet, its faculty and staff still slog about in the mosquito-y woods with undergraduates, passing on the finer points of timber cruising just as they did three-quarters of a century ago.

“It’s been a great ride,” says Margaret “Peg” Gale ’77 ‘81, dean of the School.

Conception

Back when a forestry program was twinkle in the eye of Tech president Grover C. Dillman, there was even some doubt as to whether it was legal under the college’s charter. At the Board of Control’s request, Michigan’s attorney general verified that what was then the Michigan College of Mining and Technology could indeed broaden its curriculum to include a radically new field of study. Then athletic director Ubald J. “Bert” Noblet took the reins of the new Department of Forestry.

The fledgling department attracted a handful of students and graduated its first class in 1940. Charles Rollman ’41 left his home in Green Bay to come to the college in 1937. “We were just pulling out of the Depression,” he says. “We didn’t have many students, five, six, or seven to a class.” Noblet and R. C. Miller were the only teachers, and forestry students took classes in Hubbell Hall, sharing space with engineers.

Tech didn’t have a training camp for foresters, so students attended Michigan State University’s facility on the Saint Mary’s River, in the eastern Upper Peninsula. “They wanted me to transfer to Michigan State, but I didn’t,” Rollman recalls. “Noblet said Tech was a natural place for forestry, and he was right. This is a nice, wild place, with not too many people around to ruin it.”

A camp of their own

The department acquired Camp Pori, located fifty miles south of Houghton, in 1946. In the department yearbook, the 1950 Forester, Noblet called Pori “as fine a summer forestry camp set-up as one could wish.”

Apparently, the bloom faded quickly from the rose. “We are not satisfied with our present Camp Pori,” Noblet wrote in the 1953 Forester. “It needs too much attention and repairs for a permanent set-up.”

What he did not say was that he and Ted Rogge were laying the groundwork for one of the most important acquisitions in the department’s history.
Rogge managed the Ford Motor Company operations in the UP, including the company town of Alberta. Now a dot on US 41, it then provided lumber for Ford vehicles, but as the need for wood declined, it was becoming a relic.

“He and Bert Noblet were pretty close, and my dad came up with the idea of donating Alberta and about two thousand acres of timberland to the University,” said Ted’s son, Roger Rogge. In 1954, the Ford Motor Company Fund turned the keys over to Michigan Tech.

The Ford Center complex now houses the School’s undergraduate practicum known as Fall Camp and a conference center. But in the 1950s, it was a hotbed of applied forestry research.

“That research is essentially what put Michigan Tech forestry on the map with the big boys, like the University of Michigan, Michigan State, Yale, Harvard, and New York’s School of Forestry at Syracuse,” said Roger Rogge, who managed Ford Center operations from 1972 to 1984.

“Alberta became the biggest user of computing equipment on campus,” he said. “The UP’s big sawmills, in South Range and Shingleton, were built based on our database. People said you can’t make a living cutting them damn little trees, but we proved you can.”

The University was delighted to get the Ford Center. There was only one hitch: it would not be part of the Department of Forestry. “Dillman wanted it to be a stand-alone department,” Rogge said. “He didn’t want it buried in academia because he wanted Ford to see benefits. That really ticked Bert Noblet off.”

Years later, Noblet would be vindicated. In the interim, the department would focus on earning accreditation from the Society of American Foresters (SAF) in 1958, only to have it rescinded four years later.

A new tree house

The fire marshal had condemned the department’s headquarters, the old Hubbell School, and forestry would not regain accreditation until 1968, when the new (and current) Forestry and Wood Products Building was completed.

Noblet retired in 1961, with classes still being held in a condemned building. Judy (Wuebben) Hesterberg was secretary for the new department head, Gene Hesterberg, whom she would wed years later. “The Hubbell School was kind of neat; all the classes were there, and I think that’s one reason we were so close knit. But it was such an old building, we always said if there was a fire it would go down like kindling wood.”
Norman Remington ’61 also remembers the old Hubbell School. “I’ll never forget, the steps to the second floor were very worn,” he says. “If you had conditions like that in this day and age, you wouldn’t have students.”

Issues like the building’s questionable state of repair were eclipsed by the department’s culture of camaraderie. “Gene [Hesterberg] was Gene, and I was Norm to him. The faculty were concerned about your well-being,” says Remington. “Gene went to the trouble of lining up jobs for people. Bert Noblet, Gene, Bob Brown, Dick Crowther, Vern Johnson—and Hammer [Helmut] Steinhilb! Hammer was one of the boys. It was absolutely amazing to have a relationship like that with your professors.”

Hesterberg in particular labored to insure his students’ future. “He couldn’t stand the thought that his students would leave without a job,” said Judy. “Some said they were about to quit school, and he talked them out of it. If he didn’t remember their names, he called them ‘Pard.’”

Growing pains

Hesterberg spearheaded reaccreditation and propelled the department into a new era.

SAF accreditation hinged on more than buildings, remembers forestry professor Marty Jurgensen, who joined the faculty in 1970. The department was transforming from a top-notch school for foresters into a full-fledged academic unit, and the faculty did not all reflect that transition. Trained to train foresters, not everyone was prepared for the looming expectations to conduct research. “That’s why Hesterberg made a big push for PhDs,” Jurgensen remembers. “He hired new faculty who had doctorates, including me, and they sent various faculty off to get their PhDs. That’s why we got accredited again.”

But the zeitgeist never waivered. “SAF accreditation team members can’t believe how well we get along together,” says Jurgensen. “It came from Hesterberg. He had an open-door policy, and we were all on a first-name basis.

“That’s always been the culture,” Jurgensen says. “We’re not a big land-grant school, and for us to be as successful as we are, at this location, at this kind of university, is phenomenal.”

In 1964, MCMT became Michigan Technological University, leading to its reorganization into colleges and schools. The School of Forestry and Wood Products served as an administrative umbrella for the Department of Forestry, the Ford Center, and the independent Institute for Wood Research. Eric Bourdo, the first dean of the School, said the reorganization, “perhaps more than anything else, has precipitated the development at Michigan Tech of one of the finest and largest forestry education and research centers in the country.”
However, reorganization did not mean collaboration. “The Ford Center mostly did research, and they were independent,” Jurgensen said. “And the Institute for Wood Research was separate. We called the wall between us in the Forestry Building the Wooden Curtain.”

Perhaps it was just as well, because the forestry faculty had their hands full. Enrollment skyrocketed in the 1970s, as veterans returned from Vietnam and interest in the environment blossomed. Women began to enroll, and in 1976, there were more undergraduates majoring in forestry—722—than in any other program on campus. A new MS in Forestry program was under way, along with BS degrees in Wood and Fiber Utilization (later Wood Science) and Land Surveying.

Almost as quickly, the bottom fell out of the job market, and student numbers collapsed. Hesterberg retired, and, with state support dwindling, the dean’s position was left vacant after Bourdo’s retirement in 1981, Lindo Bartelli was named department head, and the Ford Center merged into the forestry department.

Bartelli soon retired, and in 1984, W. Ed Frayer came to the University. As dean, he assumed the role of both dean and department head, and the administrative distinction between the department and the School dissolved. Frayer was immediately faced with a quiet crisis. In the 1986 *Forester*, he wrote that the School needed 160 forestry majors, 60 wood and fiber students, and 40 or 50 grad students. “We have half of that,” he noted.

Things got so bad, Jurgensen remembers, that some suggested the School be dissolved and its resources transferred to the engineering disciplines, which were eyeing those forestry faculty positions longingly.

“Frayer really saved us,” Jurgensen says. “He was able to convince the administration to take a chance on us and give us more faculty. Ed’s philosophy was to get good people and leave them alone, and it worked.”

**An age of discovery**

With fewer students, a new PhD program in Forest Science, and all those good people, research began to flourish. “The Institute for Wood Research was absorbed into the School during Ed’s time, student numbers were down, and we had growing biotechnology and forestry research,” Dean Peg Gale recalls. “Ed brought in a new group of researchers, starting in 1986.”

Research may have been essential, but it was not paramount. “Ed always emphasized that if you weren’t a good teacher and a good researcher, we weren’t interested in
you,” Gale said. “That didn’t always set well with some longtime faculty, but over time we melded into a unit. We had a philosophy that we would not set up a class system of teachers and researchers. That’s what Ed created.”

Under Frayer’s leadership, the wood science degree was suspended, the School’s surveying degree moved to the School of Technology, and new, more popular undergraduate programs were added in applied ecology and in wildlife ecology and management. Faculty members launched major research initiatives in forest science and biotechnology, putting the School on a competitive footing with larger, well-established forestry programs.

Student advisor Mary (Frantti) Jurgensen came to the School in 1968 and witnessed the expanding curriculum. “Our graduates have so many career choices now,” she said, from environmental law and construction to nature education and, of course, forestry. “And before, the only graduate degree we had was a master’s in forestry. Now we have two PhD programs, one in forest science and another in molecular genetics and biotechnology.” The School’s Peace Corps Master’s International program in Forestry has inspired half a dozen similar programs throughout the University.

After Frayer’s retirement in 2000, forestry professor Glenn Mroz assumed the deanship, guiding the School through another four years of research growth. Enrollment stabilized and now approximates Frayer’s 1986 wish list. The School’s name was changed to its current School of Forest Resources and Environmental Science, and remodeling on the forestry building was completed; the building was expanded to include Hesterberg Hall and Horner Hall. It was renamed to honor Noblet, the coach who started it all.

Peg Gale assumed the leadership of the School in 2004, when Mroz became president of Michigan Tech. Not long after, the Chronicle of Higher Education ranked the School as the top forestry program in the nation for scholarly productivity.

A natural balance

It’s a much different place from when Bert Noblet took Charles Rollman’s Class of 1941 to Michigan State’s forestry camp on the St. Mary’s River. Still, the old traditions flourish.

“Having graduated from this program myself in the late 1970s, I can see there’s just as much camaraderie and love of the outdoors, the same quality teaching and caring for students as when this program began,” Gale said. “Some people question, ‘If you go heavy into research, how can you do good teaching?’ But we’ve managed to do that, and do it very well.

“This is still a great place, and it’s still a great ride.”
Tech reflections

Having returned home from yet another exceptional Winter Carnival, I’m thinking about the many generations of my fellow alumni who have experienced this unique tradition of ours and what other special connections we have in common. Your alumni association’s mission statement is “Celebrating Traditions. Creating Connections,” and I believe this is a great theme for my letter to each of you.

When each of us reflects upon the things that make our alma mater special, it’s exciting to think about what has changed over the last 125 years, versus what has remained the same. All generations of alumni can certainly relate to certain constants: the rigorous curriculum; extraordinary bonds and lifetime friendships formed with classmates; individual attention from engaged, world-class faculty; the third-snowiest city in the country (and all the challenges of traveling to and from it, in the long winter!); and a campus size that has remained basically the same.

One item of fond personal note that has been a campus tradition for over fifty years is our very own radio station, WMTU. I warmly recall my own late night shifts behind the control board, playing requests from fellow students (and local residents) and staying awake with pots of coffee.

On the other hand, a return trip to “the Tech” might surprise you, as many differences exist for current students as compared to even our younger alumni: current technology is dramatically transforming the classroom experience (especially for long-distance students); many new buildings have been steadily added to campus over the last twenty years; and a much heavier personal financial load is being carried by today’s Huskies.

Alumni financial support is crucial to the University’s continued success. Your generosity to the Generations of Discovery campaign can help ease our students’ financial burden in the face of decreased state funding and ensure success for many more generations of Huskies.

I challenge each of you to find your preferred method to reconnect with Tech in a meaningful way, whether by donating to the campaign, attending a local alumni association event, visiting campus, mentoring a student, cheering for our Huskies sports teams, proudly wearing Michigan Tech apparel, or just spreading the word about our alma mater!

Paul J. Ninefeldt ’96
President, Michigan Tech Alumni Association
Home again  After over a decade of exile, the Michigan Tech Alumni Association headquarters has returned to its longtime home. Alumni Relations director Brenda Rudiger, left, joins Beth Hoy ’96 and Jacque Smith ’85, members of the association’s Keweenaw chapter, in the cozy, spacious front room of the Alumni House. Everyone is welcome to drop by to chat and reminisce; there’s always a pot of coffee brewing.

Don’t miss the 2011 Michigan Tech Alumni Reunion

Summer is a great time to visit the Copper Country! Michigan Tech Alumni Reunions are truly celebrations because they are about people reconnecting to a special time and place from their past. Join your fellow alumni and friends for a few days of reminiscing and sharing stories during the 2011 Alumni Reunion, which gets under way Thursday, August 4, and runs through Saturday, August 6.

The featured classes will be the Golden Ms (those who graduated fifty-plus years ago) and the classes of ’61, ’71, ’81, ’86, ’91, and ’01. Other special group reunions are planned for the volleyball, cross country, track and field, and Nordic skiing teams. The School of Forest Resources and Environmental Science is celebrating its seventy-fifth anniversary with some great events, and Varsity Singers alumni and several fraternities are hosting special gatherings as well.

The reunion schedule provides plenty of time to visit with classmates and friends. You can learn more about the interesting research taking place on campus and experience the Keweenaw with a historical mining site tour and canoeing, golf, and hiking outings. The schedule is available online at www.mtu.edu/alumni/reunion.

To receive a reunion registration package, please email the Office of Alumni Relations at reunion@mtu.edu or call 906-487-2400 or 877-688-2586 (toll free).
Alum’s two-click calendar a Mac app hit

by Marcia Goodrich

Back in high school, 17-year-old Craig Otis ’10 didn’t much care for any of the calendars he used to keep track of his schoolwork. “I didn’t like how complicated they were,” said Otis, who earned a bachelor’s degree in software engineering. “You had to type in all kinds of information. I wanted something that could do everything I wanted with a couple of clicks.”

So Otis built his own electronic calendar. A Mac fanatic, he designed it to run on OS X and named it iProcrastinate at the suggestion of his little brother, who knew a thing or two about the study habits of teenagers.

That was back in 2006. Now, his iProcrastinate for Macs is among the top-ten free downloads in Mac App Store, where it is described as “the ideal task manager for anyone who doesn’t want their to-do list to get in the way of actually getting things done.”

His iPhone version of iProcrastinate, which synchronizes with the Apple version, is a pricey ninety-nine cents; you’ll find it in the iTunes App Store in the “Productivity” category. “I never expected it to get as big as it has,” Otis admits. “It’s just a hobby that has taken off. To see so many people benefiting from it, recommending it, is incredible.”

Otis lives in Rochester, New York, and works as a software engineer out of his home for the Hancock-based IT firm Lasalletech. In addition to his day job, he puts in ten or fifteen hours a week working on iProcrastinate, including providing technical support. He’s not rich, but there are rewards. “This beautiful app has helped me get better grades in school,” one elated customer wrote on the Mac App Store site. “I still can’t believe it’s free.”

HuskyLink online alumni community makeover

Celebrating four years of creating connections

Launched in February 2007, HuskyLink has more than 14,600 members and has attracted over 109,000 unique visitors from 142 countries. HuskyLink’s success stems from its alumni features that complement Michigan Tech’s presence on mainstream social networks such as Facebook, LinkedIn, and Twitter. And now, with a new makeover, it’s easier to use than ever.

HuskyLink is the only place where you can access the entire Michigan Tech alumni family, thanks to its versatile online directory, which has received 197,000 hits. In addition to standard directory fields, alumni and students can network by searching class year, major, and employer. Other features include our professional mentoring program, which lets students connect with alumni for career guidance.

To celebrate the success of HuskyLink and its new makeover, all alumni have a chance to win some exciting prizes.

Enter before May 31 by . . .

• updating your information
• submitting a class note
• using the directory (send email)

Prizes!

• 1st—New Husky-themed iPad
• 2nd—Reunion 2011 ticket package and lodging for two
• 3rd—$200 Campus Bookstore gift card
• 4th—$100 Campus Bookstore gift card
• 5th—$50 Campus Bookstore gift card

“No lie! It really is easier.”

—Dennis Walikainen ’92 ’09
1950s

**Robert Carnahan** ’53 discovered an old _Lode_ photo that brought back memories. “Experiences like this, along with a great dedication and friends, brought me back to MCM&T from Minnesota, a life and career decision unmatched. Tech’s growing stature—the Enterprise Program and the queens of the basketball court—hopefully make us all proud to be Huskies.”

**Norm Rautiola** ’54 and Sarah-Binah announce the October 8 birth of Gabrielle Rautiola. Norm is president of Nartron, which is developing new applications for its capacitive touch screens and has a new lab for developing C language for embedded systems.

1960s

Photographer and author **Boyd Norton** ’60 was recently selected as “One of the 40 most influential nature photographers from around the globe” by _Outdoor Photography Magazine UK_. Appearing in their Christmas issue, the article cites those “who we feel are the most influential; those who are prepared to go that extra mile to make an impact in the world of conservation.”

**Norman Remington** ’61 has been retired for fourteen years from the Michigan Department of Agriculture. “Celebrating our fiftieth reunion this year from the School of Forestry, now the School of Forest Resources and Environmental Science. SFRES is now celebrating its seventy-fifth anniversary. Hope to see a good turnout for the reunion from the Class of 1961 School of Forestry.”

**Paul Fritz** ’65 has retired after a forty-three-year career in the petroleum refining industry. He and Mary are living in Winter, Wisconsin.

**Jim Olson** ’66 (forestry) retired July 1, 2009, with 37 years in forestry, 17 in private industry as a procurement forester, and 20 with the Delaware Forest Service in various positions. He moved back to the Houghton area in June 2010 and says he is loving life and enjoying retirement.

**Sanna Rolling** ’67 is a schoolteacher and founder and resident of Dream Catcher Stables Inc., a therapeutic riding program in Spring, Texas. “My Tech years gave me a great professional start,” she says.

1970s

**Kathleen Davies** ’70 says, “Thanks to MTU, I enjoyed forty years in medical technology. I acquired the level of laboratory manager in my last five years of employment. I send sincere wishes for success to the new med tech grads.”

**Edward “Ted” Ellis** ’71 has started a website for displaying his Tech photos from 1967 to 1971: http://members.cox.net/ted-ellis. Comments, corrections, and/or updates are appreciated. So far he has found 349 Kodachrome slides that he shot while at Tech. Ted is now retired in Mesa, Arizona.

**David Brule** ’72 is now semi-retired and living in the Iron Mountain area. He’s taking cooking classes at the French Culinary Institute in New York City.

**Michael Binder** ’75 is working at D&K Engineering, www.dkengineering.com/Careers/Career-Opportunities/Current-Listings. “We are now hiring!” he says. “Please email me—I get a bounty if I refer you.”

**Rodney Cencich** ’75 says, “Both Barb and I are now retired, and we highly recommend it.”

**Dean Luplow** ’76 says he just turned 60 and expected be a grandfather for the first time April 17.

**Richard Meese** ’77 retired from federal civil service on December 31 after more than twenty-nine years with the Department of Defense.

**Ann (Lorenz) Seyfert** ’78 retired from Mercury Marine in September 2008 after thirty years in labor relations. She says, “I’ve been enjoying myself, volunteering and playing with my grandson Gary; I spend lots of time at our cottage in Eagle River, Wisconsin, during the summer.”

**Richard Hancheck** ’79 is working as a plant controller for the Saint-Gobain Performance Plastics plant in Portage, Wisconsin.

**Thomas Neil** ’79 is teaching high school math part time at Providence Classical School and hopes to have a full-time position in fall 2011.
Steven Weirauch ’80 is working as the hospital safety officer and emergency management coordinator for El Camino Hospital in Mountain View, California.

Michael Smaby ’80 is a program leader at Kimberly-Clark.

Russell Kerlin ’80 visited his daughter at Tech and went snowshoeing on a trail up by Eagle Harbor. “Reminded me of the first time I went snowshoeing during my freshman year. We went to Hungarian Falls with a couple guys across the hall who had gear for rapelling. So, not only did we snowshoe, but we rapelled and traversed the river gorge . . . while wearing snowshoes. Very cool!”

James Rathbun ’81 says, “It all started with ’The Husky Hustle’ 32 years ago. I’ve been running off and on since then. This fall I qualified for the Boston Marathon, and I’m looking forward to running it on April 18. I’m still in Amway’s Project Engineering group in Ada. I’m married to Shawn (Johnson ’82), and we are very proud of our three Tech kids: Aimee ’05, Walt ’08, and Matt ’12. We’re five for five!”

Scott Hartz ’81 says, “After two-and-a-half years in a very challenging economy, the GriffRex Group is doing better than could be expected due to a great group of domestic and international clients!”

Jodi Bondy ’82 is nursing a broken leg back to health. “Winter in Indiana is nothing compared to my Tech winters, but I can thankfully say I never broke a bone while in the UP. Glad I did not have to miss work, since I work from home as a Creative Memories consultant and educational consultant.”

Daniel Luchay ’82 was recently invited to become a board member for International Healthcare Volunteers, a nonprofit organization that travels to Ghana every summer and provides medical services to women in need.

Robert Bayer ’83 has spent twenty-five years with the US Forest Service, the last twenty on the Green Mountain National Forest in Vermont. He is project coordinator for the first wind-energy development project on Forest Service lands.

Timothy Hicks ’83 is senior director of vehicle engineering with Packer Engineering in Naperville, Illinois. He performs forensic engineering consultation, expert witness investigations, and accident reconstruction for many industries.

Evelyn “Evy” Dudey ’83 (BSEE) is a consultant engineer in the technology group of Frontier Communications, in Everett, Washington. She attended the MTU Alumni gathering in Seattle in February and had a great time.

Mark Moen ’83 joined HBK Engineering LLC in August, 2010. He is a senior project manager in their Chicago office. Projects include public and private utility infrastructure improvements and site civil engineering.

Charles Dodge ’83 is living in northern Virginia, just outside Washington, DC, “a great environment for family, with great opportunities for business. I’m really enjoying the change.”

Carrie Richards ’84 says, “Come celebrate the School of Forest Resources and Environmental Science’s seventy-fifth anniversary August 4-6, 2011, in Houghton!”

Carol Wiitanen ’84 says, “Who can forget Chemistry with Doc B. or Economics with K. Alexander? Not me!”

Steven Foster ’85 was named global vice president of quality at ArvinMeritor in Troy in January 2008. Steve says he has used his degree in materials science and engineering nearly every day during his twenty-two years at ArvinMeritor, an axle, brake, and suspension systems supplier for commercial and military vehicles.

David Laske ’85 says, “Our second generation student is in the thick of an ambitious college (and budding professional) career. Evan has throttled back from dual-degrees to just double-majors, but he is going full-throttle.

How to live to be 100

David Jig ’38 celebrated his 100th birthday this January. The first life-changing technological breakthrough he remembers is electric lights.

After a long career as an electrical engineer with the federal government, he now lives in his own home in Silver Spring, Maryland, with Teri, his wife of over sixty-three years. Family members look in on them occasionally, but he walks without a cane, and, despite using a hearing aid, converses ably.

Want to be like Jig?

1. Exercise.
2. Seriously, really exercise. “That’s why I’m alive,” he says. And don’t just amble around the block. Jig swims five days a week at the local YMCA for about twenty-five minutes, a habit he adopted after retiring thirty-one years ago.

3. Eat your vegetables. Jig says he eats lots of them.

4. He also enjoys fish and chicken in moderation.

5. Steak etc.? He indulges in a few bites from time to time, but you won’t find him scarfing up a porterhouse. He’ll raise a glass of wine on festive occasions (like his last birthday), but has never smoked.

So far, Jig is pleased with the results. “I’m happy to have lived so long,” he says.
Marcia Kearney Kobman ’85 is celebrating twenty years as a programmer/analyst at Frankenmuth Insurance, in Frankenmuth.

Charles Lemont ’86 is an acoustics engineer on the GM full-size truck product line. He helps set noise standards, works with the design community to assure designs meet those standards, and tests the hardware to minimize noise and assure it meets requirements.

Valerie Leveille ’87 is teaching high school science at Salem High School in Canton.

Peter Larson ’88 says, “On my last visit to Houghton, I was struck by two things: how many things had changed and how many things were still the same.”

David Creery ’88 was recently promoted to chief administrative officer for the city of Woodstock, California.

David Wilson ’88 earned an MBA at the University of Detroit Mercy.

Jeffrey Korman ’89 celebrated twenty-one years at his workplace, Neff Engineering in Grand Rapids.

Lt. Col. Mark Allen ’89 retired from the Air Force after almost twenty-one years of active duty. He is now the chief of engineering and construction for the Army Corps of Engineers in Detroit.

Donald Beery ’89 announces the launch of their first wireless electronics product in the healthcare market. “We are working with a great OEM partner, and I am really excited about this new product arena for us.”

Jeffrey Tafel ’90 continues his eight-year career with the International Facility Management Association, headquartered in Houston. Jeff serves on the Strategic Leadership Team, which conducts the business of the association.

Christine (Diehl) Boehm, DVM, STC ’91 is now a diplomate in the American College of Laboratory Animal Medicine.

C. “Buzzy” Winter ’92 says, “Our first boy (he has four older sisters) Nicholas Joseph was born December 8, 2009.”

Lisa and Marc Baines ’93 (BSMY) and Coralyn (3) welcomed Greyson into their family in August 2009. The Baines family are enjoying their crazy, wonderful life and reside in Vrchlab, Czech Republic, where Marc has been promoted to managing director for the Flight Systems European Group. Marc is expanding the environmentally friendly remanufacturing business, targeting growth electronic markets.


James W. Allison ’94 (EME), of Wichita, Kansas, is a liaison engineer for Liebherr Aerospace, working on the integrated air management system for the Learjet 85 business jet. He is attending graduate school in industrial engineering at Wichita State University. He lives with his wife, Kimberly, and five sons, ages 3 to 11 years.

Suzanne Reamer ’94 is checking in to say hi to her classmates.

Jonathan Leinonen ’94, program director at MTEC SmartZone, is seeking to connect entrepreneurs in Houghton and Hancock with industry professionals who can provide technical or business coaching and industry networking.

Michael Formenti ’94 was recently promoted to manager for the System Level Dynamics Precision Alignments test groups in Space Systems Company.

Eric Obermeyer ’94 ’97 and his wife, Jenny, announce the October 2010 birth of their triplet daughters, May Anastasia, Grace Alexandra, and Kyra Faith. Eric began working as a senior sourcing engineer for InSinkErator in January.

Mary O’Conner ’95 teaches Algebra 1 and 2 at Sault Area High School in Sault Ste. Marie.

Glenn Austin ’95 was recently issued US Patent No. 7,854,548, “Integrated Total Air Temperature Probe and Electronics.”

Paul Hastings ’95 is working for Hamilton Sundstrand on the Ares Upper Stage Turbine Pump Assembly.

Jeanette (Foley) ’95 and Aaron Albright announce the birth of Weston Weis on April 20, 2010. He was 9 pounds, 6 ounces, 21 inches, and was welcomed home by Ethan (3) and Grace (2).

Tina Poquette ’96 and Ryan Funk were married on October 17, 2009, in Marinette, Wisconsin. The couple resides in Warren, where they both work for General Motors.

Colleen Rosenbrock ’96 works for The Dow Chemical Company in Midland as an environmental delivery specialist. She and her husband, Jeremy ’96, have three children: Jack Richard (born January 20, 2005), Kathryn (Katie) Lynn (born November 23, 2006), and Sawyer Anthony (born November 7, 2009).

Scott L. Hudson ’96, PE (BSCE) has accepted a position as senior civil engineer-trackwork with Huitz-Zollars Inc. in Dallas. Scott will be responsible for the design and management of transit, freight, and industry trackwork projects nationwide. Scott and Karma Hudson are proud to announce the birth of their second child, Jack Riley, born April 26, 2010. Big sister Lily is happy to have someone to boss around besides her parents!

John Tenpas ’97 has founded Riverside Engineering LLC, a civil engineering and consulting firm based in

1990s
Hamilton. The firm specializes in storm water management, floodplain management, and hydrologic and hydraulic modeling for municipal and private clients throughout Michigan.

**Rebecca Becker ’98** says, “I REALLY wish I could win that iPad!”

**Matthew Prater’98** began taking classes toward an MSEE in 2011.

**Jason Bowens’98 (ME-EM)** married Pamela (Zeciri) on July 3, 2010. He earned a master’s degree in engineering from Purdue University and an MBA from Indiana University (Kelley School of Business).

**Andrew Becker’98** says, “I love iPads.”

John and **Jennifer ’99 (Prochaska) Dluzak** were blessed with the birth of their first child, Julia Rose, on March 24, 2010.

**Janna** and **Eric Roome** (both class of ’99) welcomed Janna Kate Roome on November 8, 2009. She and her big sister, Piper, get along great.

Lydia and **Ross’99 Hubbard** celebrated the birth of Gavin Dale on September 30, 2010. Gavin was also welcomed to the world by big brother Roman and big sister Maya. Ross was recently promoted to senior environmental engineer for Flint Hills Resources, with responsibility for chemical plants in Joliet and Peru, Illinois.

**Shannon Hancock’99 and Scott Knight’93** are engaged to be married on September 3, 2011.

**Kelly Jost’00** announces the arrival of Zackary Douglas Jost, born on May 23, 2010.

**Angela Hammond’00** says she and her husband, Cory, “welcomed a new Ham, ahem, Hammond to our family on April 25, 2010. Her name is Kate Elizabeth after our great-grandmothers and my maid of honor, Elizabeth Bekkala. She looks like Cory and has my personality, poor kid.”

**John Karpus’00** is “keepin’ on keepin’ on.”

**Eric Stemen’00** has recently joined the City of Marquette as facility manager and resides in Chocolay with his wife, Kristi. They are proud to announce the birth of their first child, Madelyn Mae, born March 4, 2011.

**Benjamin’01 and Lisa (Beckering)’01 Aldrich** announce the April 20, 2010, birth of Parker Donald.

On November 21, 2010, Valerie and **Aaron Hilshorst’00** welcomed their second son, Miles Nicholas, to the world.

**Ignacio Bellver’00** is living in Puerto Rico. “Feel free to contact me if you are interested in moving down here or are just planning on visiting.”

**Matthew Sohrweide’01** has earned an MBA from the University of Wisconsin–Oshkosh with an emphasis in project management and entry to the International Honor Society Beta Gamma Sigma on December 18, 2010.

**Ryan’02 and Nicole (Cleveland)’02 Olszowny** announce the December 16, 2010, birth of Greysen Ryan.

JD Gessinger was born on July 23, 2010 to proud parents Jane (Brunkow) Gessinger’02 and John Gessinger.

**Kimberly Renken’02 and Patrick Deibel’03** were married on May 29, 2010. They live in Minneapolis.

**Jacob Huggard’05 and Sara (Flessert) Huggard’04** announce the birth of their first child, Fiona Valentine, born October 24, 2010.

**Eric Seguin’04** asks, “What is everyone’s favorite memory of Houghton in the spring? Mine has to be listening to Gary Tunstall on the deck of the Downtowner while enjoying the two or three sunny weeks of weather in the spring!”

**Sze Kwan Cheah’04** says, “I’m getting married soon!”

**Alysia Renshaw’04** says, “Hooray! I passed the April 2010 PE Licensing Exam in Illinois!”

**Timothy Wolf’05** “just wanted to announce that I married my best friend, Colleen, on New Year’s Eve 2010 in Traverse City.”

**William Steward’05** is “hoping all the Master’s International grads are doing well, where ever they are.”

**Jeremy Eckerman’06** announces his engagement to Johana Castillo of Dearborn Heights.

**Russell Gyde’06** is starting a new career in programming.

**Matthew VanSlembrouck’06** says he is “hopefully headed back to Tech for their MBA program! Excited to be a part of Tech’s progress.”

**Matthew Barkley’06** has a new position as a clutch engineer at Chrysler.

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**Be in Class Notes! Win an iPad!**

But hurry. The entry deadline for winning an iPad and other great prizes is May 31. To find out more, read the story on page 32.
Jacob P. Woolbright ’06 has joined Howard & Howard Attorneys and will practice out of the firm’s Royal Oak office, focusing on intellectual property law with an emphasis on patent preparation and prosecution. After graduating cum laude from Tech with a degree in chemical engineering, he earned his JD magna cum laude from the Michigan State University College of Law.

Lynn Czarnecki ’07 announces she is marrying Jason Makela ’04 ’10 on August 13, 2011.

Derek Dykens ’08 is working for Target Corporation in Minneapolis as a project manager within Target Technology Services.

Dan ’09 and Caitlin (Couture) ’08 Gezon were married April 10, 2010, in Grand Rapids.

Kyle Grassmid ’08 invites alumni to visit www.consumersenergy.com/content.aspx?id=1236 to find ways to join the Consumers Energy Team.

Alicia Hemenger says that after graduating in 2010 with an undergraduate degree in biomedical engineering and mechanical engineering technology, she began a career with Beckman Coulter. “My current position as a field service engineer is exciting, challenging, and exactly the type of job I was hoping to get while I was studying at MTU.”

David Allen ’09 is working as a powertrain control module electrical engineer at Chrysler Group LLC.

Andrew Hodges ’09 says, “After spending two wonderful years together while at Michigan Tech, I’ve taken my MTU degree and my lovely girl back to California where we are now married!”

Chad Daavettila ’09 married Adena Ryynanen of Chassell on July 31, 2010.

Nathan Treague ’08 and April Rhoden ’09 announced their engagement to friends and family on October 5, 2010, in Green Bay, Wisconsin.

Alan Little ’09 says, “I have started my career in the working world. I have been employed by Dominion, working at the Kewaunee Nuclear Power Station, just outside of Green Bay, Wisconsin.”

Michael Krug ’09 tells students, “Join the Enterprise Program. There is nothing that will prepare you better for the working world than doing projects for the companies that will be hiring you.”

Samuel DeGroot ’09 found a job in Iowa shortly after graduating, but he “can’t wait to move back up north.”

2010s

Nathan Miller ’10 shares a harrowing experience at “Keg and Eggs,” a bacchanal involving students at SUNY Albany, where he is earning a master’s in urban and regional planning. “Shenanigans like this make me miss Tech,” he said. To read more, visit HuskyLink.

Justin Slis ’12 “returned from Salt Lake City from the OAP [Outdoor Adventure Program] spring break snowboard trip, unharmed and with lots of footage!”

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In memoriam

The Michigan Tech family extends condolences to the relatives and friends of those who have passed away recently.

1938
Peter G. Perla, PE
1939
Donald M. Ross
1941
Joseph C. Andreini
1942
Robert S. Begole
Stuart F. Belhumeur
Robert O. Oksanen
Donald W. Rauls
Dr. Charles S. Robinson, PE
Robert M. Stuckey
1943
Wilfred S. Bobier
Edward P. Laumer
Joseph B. Mihelich
Elenora D. Taylor (Bryus)
Michael P. Trainor
1944
Edward J. Flewelling Jr.
1946
Daniel J. Maykuth
Jack R. Scott
1947
Oliver I. Hoff
Lane E. Lyberg
1948
Dr. Robert A. Janke
Donald T. MacRae
John B. Silverwood
1949
Rudolph J. Berg Jr.
Joseph Davis
James E. Dobbins
Bernhardt H. Petersen
William G. Ringler
1950
John S. Anderson
Raymond D. Flynn
Thomas J. Griffith
Paul E. Nelson
George L. Wiltanen
1951
William H. Clark
Walter J. Clink
Howard L. Heinen
Emanuel A. Huun
Earl E. Meddaugh
Roy H. Winnen Sr.
1952
Joseph C. Cenich
William R. Mercer, PE
Rodney K. Pertile
John J. Russell Jr.
Donald G. Sprigings
Robert E. Stevens Jr.
1953
George A. Durfee
1954
John A. Dlouhy
Gordon S. Soine
William M. Vlasak
1955
Floyd J. Godward
Gary A. Larsen
Glenn R. Nordbeck
Delvin R. Weiland
1956
Frank Bizjak
1957
Robert F. Fabbro, PE
Earl E. Johnson
John W. Olson
Glenn F. Rizzie Sr.
1958
Donald J. Krall
Lt/Col. Eugene P. Maloff (Ret.)
Robert A. Simpson
1959
Henry L. Auge
William O. Keljo
1960
Per E. Brathe
Albert E. Keskimaki
Rene A. Kitching
Dr. Gerald J. Scott
1961
Agnar Farestveit
1962
Ronald W. Baslock
Michael H. Fianagan
1963
Lyman M. Jensen, PE
Delbert D. Nelson
1964
David R. Lintner
1965
Nathan A. Carlson
Harvey W. Dewey
Ronald G. Rajala
1966
Sharlene E. (Werner) de Beaubien
1967
David M. Lang
Terry K. Spitzer
1968
Jan B. Bjerke
1969
Michael A. Gabriel
Juri J. Nurmberg
Thomas G. Verlinde
1970
Terry A. Anderson
Jeffrey R. Linna
1971
Charles M. Chambers
James D. Jacobitz, PE
Gerald C. Schroeder Jr.
1973
Michael J. Nixon
Michael P. Wade
1974
Major Glenn E. Tapio
1975
Dr. Mark A. Hansen
Lawrence A. Pietrantonio
1976
Diana L. Buzzell (Nelson)
1977
Michael J. Sankovitch
1978
Marie J. Gaston
Mark S. Spiegel
1979
Barbara A. Bonefeld
Art D. Ettlinger
James B. Lee
Donald L. Workman
1981
Ruth M. Feira
James G. Mapes
Steven A. Marek
1983
Rocky A. Farrell
1985
Richard W. Stafford
1986
Terrence W. Kimber
1987
Stephen D. Davies
1988
Gerald F. Hyrka
Bob A. Rimpela
1989
Dominique E. (Sliwack) Feblowitz
Alice A. (Pouttu) Karsama
1994
James A. Dietrick Jr.
1998
Ronald G. Oberle
2003
Gary W. Van Lingen
2004
Nicholas R. Lightfoot
2009
Hampton B. Waring

Correction
Jerry Archer ’52 was incorrectly included in “In Memoriam” in the winter 2008–09 Michigan Tech Magazine. Jerry is very much alive. We apologize for the error.
Damoder “Pati” Reddy ’62 understands the value of education. It was education, made possible by his parents’ sacrifices and his own hard work, that took him from a poor village in India to Michigan Tech and eventually to a successful career with Agbabian Associates in California. He also credits his wife, Soumitri, for her support.

Now retired, Pati has structured some of their estate assets, including an IRA and life insurance policies, to benefit Michigan Tech. In addition, Pati and Soumitri make annual gifts to provide current scholarships and fellowships and to build two endowment funds that will carry on this support after their lifetimes.

“I am very fortunate to have gone to Michigan Tech; it gave me a leg up,” says Pati. “All I have accomplished is due in part to Michigan Tech, so I feel that I have to give back as much as possible.”

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