

Phillips Campus Expands to Meet Community's Needs

Thanks to an expansion and remodeling project at NTC's Phillips campus, manufacturers in northern Wisconsin will soon get their wish: more skilled workers.

Industries depend on the college to provide their workers with technical and other skills. Due to space constrictions, many of the technical courses are currently held off-campus at MarquipWardUnited.

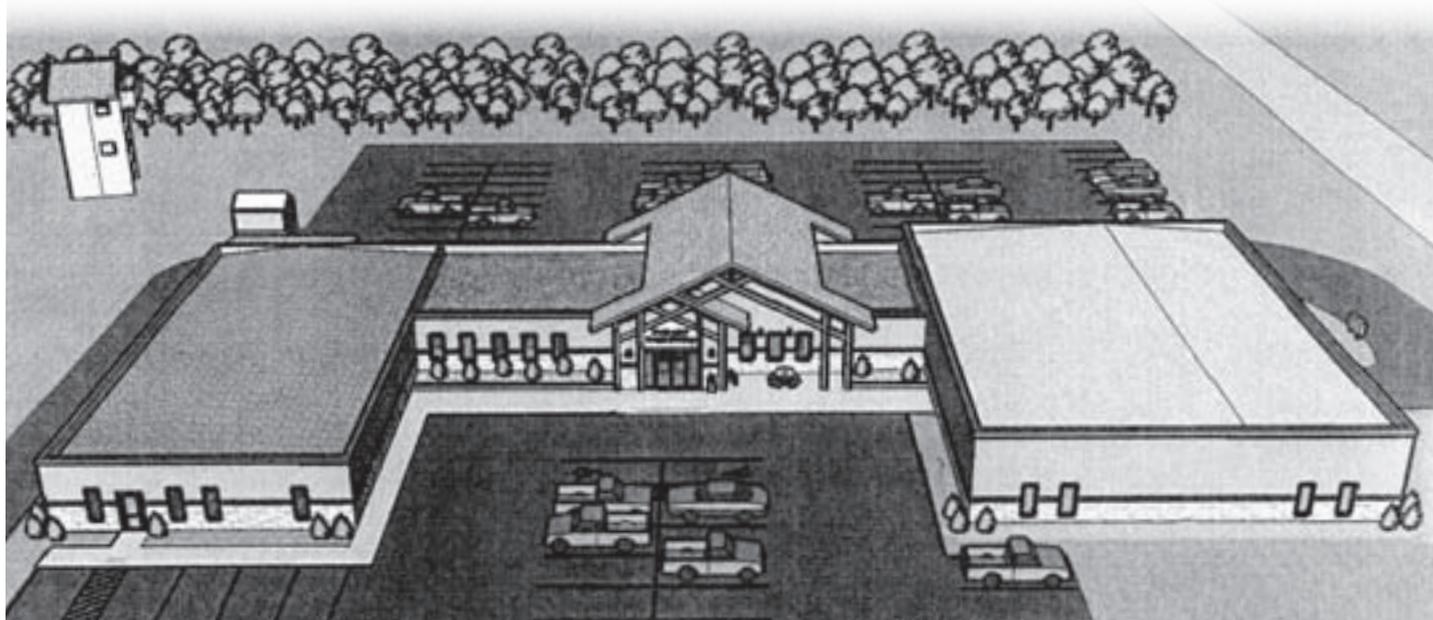
Now in the planning stages, the project is expected to begin this spring, with completion slated for spring 2010. It encompasses the construction of an addition to connect the original facility to another building recently donated by Phillips Plastics. The existing building will be remodeled.

The addition's design is based on a concept developed by students from NTC's Light Commercial Design classes. The

entire project will increase campus size from 5,000 square feet to 17,500 square feet and cost an estimated \$1.5 million.

Linda Michek, Dean, North Region Campus since September 2008, looks forward to the changes. "Right now we are very limited on classroom space. The expansion will allow us to increase our course offerings and to add a manufacturing center, where we'll be able to offer more opportunities for welding, electromechanical courses and, in the future, a plastics certificate. We will also be able to offer more in-person classes and increase our ITV courses, as well as our general education courses."

Along with the manufacturing center, the facility will house a new student lounge, student services area, job center, testing room, and dedicated nursing lab, as well as a job center, learning center and alternative high school.



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Marketing Club Marks 50th Anniversary

Fifty years ago, advertisers were busy promoting the Barbie doll, Chevrolet's El Camino, and the first commercial copier from Xerox. Taking it all in were members of NTC's new Marketing Club, the next generation of business and marketing professionals.

Established during the 1959-1960 academic year, the club is NTC's student chapter of Delta Epsilon Chi, a national organization formed to provide students with the educational opportunities to practice leadership skills and prepare to be successful in their careers.

Those opportunities include going up against other college marketing clubs in regional and state competition. "Competition consists of solving real-world challenges," explained Thor Burntvedt, marketing instructor and Marketing Club advisor. "It might be developing a strategic marketing plan,

solving a sales problem, or promoting an event." Students have one hour to prepare before facing the judges, who rate them on their creativity and professionalism. The students hold fundraisers to help pay their way to the events.

Community service is also an important component of the club. "Marketing Club members assist with fundraising for organizations such as the food pantry. We also participate in NTC's Student Government Board by helping to provide funds for other student organizations and for campus events," noted Burntvedt.

Whatever field they pursue, the hands-on experience gained by participating in the Marketing Club gives members the competitive edge they need to be tomorrow's business and community leaders.

Jack Froom, a member of the Marketing Club in 1959, is shown in the art department of the J. Walter Thompson Advertising Agency during a field trip to Chicago.



Early club members pose with Maria Beale Fletcher, the reigning Miss America in 1962, during a national leadership conference in Chicago. Club members are (left to right) Donald Kohns, Robert Peterson, Melvin Patterson, Dennis Berens, Fred Zuelke, Thomas Polzer, and Rick Petzold.



Residential Design Instructor Retires After 33 Years

After 33 years of teaching residential design at NTC, Dale Wurdeman has traded in his grade book for golf clubs and a pair of downhill skis.

Wurdeman, who retired in December 2008, is proud of the program he was a part of for so long. "The Residential Design Program was created to help the lumberyards and related industries, which needed designers, estimators, and other professionals to serve their clients in the architectural community. To our credit, we kept that focus the entire time I was there."

Wurdeman cited energy-conscious building design and computer aided design (CAD) as the biggest changes during his 33 years of teaching. "Before that everything was done on a drawing board with a parallel bar and triangles."

What will Wurdeman miss the most about teaching? "When you have a student who is struggling and struggling, and all of a sudden they just get it; when you finally reach that one who you know needs to turn a corner and they finally do, I'll miss that."

Wurdeman is confident that the faculty will continue to help students succeed. "The program is in good hands," he said.

Just a few months into retirement, Wurdeman is already enjoying his new, carefree lifestyle, which includes golfing trips, skiing, spending time with family, and riding his Harley.

Collaboration Benefits Manufacturing, Communication Programs

Students who might have shied away from a career in the field of manufacturing and trades just might want to rethink their plans.

Last March, the U.S. Department of Labor awarded NTC a multimillion dollar grant to focus on increasing skilled labor in our region. The grant provides free tuition for 250 eligible students to earn 440 credits in the areas of welding, machine tool, and wood manufacturing.

The first step to implementing the grant is promoting it to students, and that requires helping them to see manufacturing in a whole new light. "There are some advertising dollars in the grant to work at changing people's idea of what manufacturing is—from the dark, dirty factory of yesterday to the bright, clean environment it is today with sophisticated technology and highly skilled workers," said Mike Berry, Associate Dean of Technology and Trades.

Berry put the task of changing manufacturing's image in the hands of students from the Graphic Communication Technologies Program. The students created a variety of products for him, including a packet detailing the process of applying for the grant and everything that the grant entails.

"The class is running a live print shop right here on campus," explained Bud Young, instructor for the Graphic Communication Technologies Program. We have the same capabilities and equipment that a commercial print shop has, although all of our customers are strictly internal. We don't do any outside printing," said Young.

The shop gives students hands-on experience working with customers. "They meet with the customer to get information for the job; cost it out and do the layout and design; get it approved by the customer; then they run the job, finish the job, and bill and deliver the job," Young said.

The shop's equipment includes a brand-new KODAK Nexpress 2100 five-color digital press, which enables students to hone their skills in digital printing, the fastest-growing segment of the printing industry.

"The graphics program students put out a very fine product to help us promote the manufacturing grant internally," Berry complimented. "I'm really impressed with what they've done."



Mark Your Calendar!

Northcentral Technical College's 2nd Annual Transfer Fair:

Turn Your Associate Degree into a Bachelor's Degree

Wednesday, March 18th, 2009
1:00-5:00 PM in E101 & E102



All Alumni Welcome to Meet Private and Public College Representatives from Wisconsin

Questions: Contact Xang Lee at leex@ntc.edu or check our website - www.ntc.edu

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Alum Profile: Ben Zelazoski

When Ben Zelazoski of Antigo was deciding which college to attend in 1968, his criteria were simple: He wanted a good education. He needed it to be affordable. And he didn't want it to take four years. "I chose NTC because it offered a solid educational background, was geared for those who wanted to get out in the workforce, and was much cheaper than a four-year college," Zelazoski explained.

Zelazoski attended NTC's Wausau campus and graduated in 1970 with an associate's degree in accounting, which he said prepared him well for his professional career. "NTC taught the best practices of accounting and gave me a good overview of cost accounting, inventory control, payroll—everything," he said. "It gave me a strong foundation so I could adapt to the procedures of any employer."

Zelazoski put that knowledge to work at Zelazoski Wood Products, Inc., the family business. He implemented formal

accounting procedures, such as preparing monthly statements, balance sheets, and cash flow statements to better track costs and income. These new efficiencies were invaluable as the company grew and expanded.

Today, Zelazoski is co-owner of the business, which is an important part of the area's wood manufacturing industry. To help ensure that there will be enough skilled workers to meet the future needs of the industry, the Zelazoskis have offered the use of their facility for class space during the construction of NTC's Regional Wood Technology Center of Excellence. Their generosity is making it possible for classes to begin in the fall of 2009. The center is slated for completion at NTC's Antigo campus in 2010,

For Zelazoski, getting an education wasn't the only life-changing benefit of attending NTC. While there he met his wife, Carrie, who was pursuing an associate's degree



in secretarial science. The couple has been married for 37 years, and have three children and three grandchildren.

When not crunching numbers, Zelazoski enjoys downhill skiing, relaxing in the woods, singing in the church choir, and golfing.

Interested in being featured in our alumni profiles? Send an email to us at foundation@ntc.edu.