

Getting to know some new CSS faculty Taylor, Lorek discuss teaching, living in Duluth

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In an effort to get to know some of the new faculty, The Script met with two of the College of St. Scholastica's newest professors to discuss the courses that they're teaching, their lives before CSS and the nature of a liberal arts education.

Dr. Andrew Taylor is an assistant professor in the Theology & Religious Studies Department. He is currently teaching three courses: "Women and Religion," "Intro to Spirituality" and "World Religions." He's also looking forward to teaching more Asian religion based classes in the future, touching on Buddhism, Hinduism and Taoism.

Taylor said he's very

excited to be back in the classroom, considering his previous college, University of Virginia, largely held asynchronous classes.

He said that he, too, was an undergraduate student at a small liberal arts college, and that "it's the most efficient way to educate people. You actually get to know the students and spend less time worrying about research."

Though he hadn't heard of Duluth, Minn., before moving to the Northland, he said it was a "welcome surprise and an amazing place."

Dr. Timothy Lorek is an assistant professor in the History and Politics Department. He currently teaches "Environmental

History of The Americas," "History of the World Since 1945" and "Politics of Globalization: Food and Agriculture."

Prior to moving to the College, Lorek spent time teaching courses at Yale and, most recently, he worked at the University of Michigan in a non-teaching staff role. He's been all over the country obtaining degrees and holding positions in various fields. He said, "I've been all over the place, let's just say that."

Given that Lorek teaches in the History and Politics Department, it's no surprise that he is especially excited to have people around. Lorek said it's "very

beneficial for in-person class discussions and debates." This is Lorek's second year at the College, though it's his first "non crazy year."

Lorek shared a very similar mentality when it came to the benefits of a small liberal arts college. He describes many different aspects of the education, such as the chance to teach interdisciplinary classes, a more well rounded education and a sense of community. This sense of community rubs off on faculty members too; he added, "It felt like I came home, I've lived all over the place, but I'm really happy to be here."

Poll: Campus improvements

What would you like to see?

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Have you ever heard of the expression "there's always room for improvement?" If so, you have probably been in a situation where there was an urge for enhancement in amenities, practice techniques or study habits.

What sort of improvements might CSS undergo? A formalized student union will be coming our way (stay tuned for the ground breaking).

The Script sent a poll to students with the following five questions regarding campus improvements to enhance student life, living and learning: Would you like to have an on-campus indoor garden/

plant area dedicated as a study/chill space?

Would you like to have more automatic water fountains on-campus and in living quarters?

Would you like to have more outdoor lighting around campus?

Would you like to have a private on-campus room for virtual counseling sessions?

Would you like to have a used textbook store on-campus to buy/sell textbooks from other students?

Based on the responses of 64 CSS students, all of these suggested improvements would prove a positive impact on our campus community.

Imagine having an indoor garden/plant area where students could study and hang out during the bitter Duluth winters. Having

a live plant wall or an indoor flower bed could really add a nice touch. Over 75 percent of student respondents favored the idea of having a space like this.

Aside from the student community's love of plants, students also need to stay hydrated to maintain their Benedictine balance. Although there are automatic water fountains on-campus that make you feel as though you are saving thousands of water bottles, perhaps more of these automatic water fountains could be placed throughout campus. Over 75 percent of student respondents favored having more automatic water fountains. Hydration is a top priority.

If there is one safety concern on-campus that

needs to be addressed, it is the need for more outdoor lighting. Walking back to the apartments in the dark evenings is uneasy. 59 percent of student respondents agreed that more lighting on-campus would be a well-received and much needed improvement.

Although school is back in-person (for the most part), the majority of counseling sessions are being conducted via Zoom. Some students have a difficult time finding a private space on-campus to hold their virtual counseling appointments. 45 percent of student respondents would greatly appreciate a private on-campus room designated for virtual counseling sessions.

The most favored improvement collected by

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student responses is the want for a used textbook store on-campus, where students can buy and sell used textbooks to their peers. 87.5 percent of students agreed in wanting a campus feature like this. Can you imagine how many fewer student community emails would be cut out by simply having an on-campus used textbook store for students?

Improvements on our campus improve the lifestyle and lifelong learning of students. As a student, use your voice to share what you would like on-campus that would improve your life and that of future Saints. Remember, there's always room for improvement!

What to do this weekend on campus and in Duluth

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On Campus

Fri, Oct. 15, 2021

Knitting and Nibbles
3:30-5:00 p.m.
Student Union, Tower Hall

Scholastica Biking Bash
4:00-7:00 p.m.
Register for location

Volleyball v. Hamline
7:00-9:00 p.m.
Reif Gymnasium

Sat, Oct. 16, 2021

Homecoming football game
1:00-4:00 p.m.
Public Schools Stadium

Buses to the Homecoming Game
12:30-1:00 p.m.
Reif lower lot

Post-game tailgating party
Catered by Famous Dave's

5:00-6:30 p.m.
Location TBD

Hiking, Hammocking, and Food at Wisconsin Point
12:45-4:00 p.m.
Wisconsin Point
Registration required

The Prism Concert
11:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.
Mitchell Auditorium
Free admission

Sunday, Oct. 17, 2021

Catholic Mass
11:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.
Our Lady Queen of Peace Chapel

Catholic Mass with Bishop Daniel Felton
6:30-7:30 p.m.
Our Lady Queen of Peace Chapel

SGA general senate meeting
8:00-10:00 p.m.
T3121

Off Campus

Friday, Oct. 15, 2021

Haunted Ship 2021: Terror in the Twin Ports
6:30-10:30 p.m.
William A. Irvin Museum

Lotus Creek Events Craft and Vendor Show
Friday, Oct. 15 at 10:00 a.m.-Sunday, Oct. 17 at 6:00 p.m.
Miller Hill Mall

UMD Theatre presents: "Maxa: A New Horror Musical"
Friday, Oct. 15-Saturday, Oct. 16
7:30 p.m.
Marshall Performing Arts Center, UMD campus
Ticket prices: \$25 adult; \$20 senior/UMD faculty/UMD staff/veteran; \$15 student; \$10 UMD student (advance) or FREE rush @ door

Two Harbors Fall Colors Tour Train
Friday, Oct. 15-Sunday, Oct. 17
Lake Superior Railroad Museum, Two Harbors, MN
Ticket prices: \$38 adult; \$22 children

Harvest Dinner Cruise aboard the Vista Fleet
Friday, Oct. 15-Saturday, Oct. 16
5:30 p.m.
Tickets available at www.vistafleet.com

Duluth Family Playhouse Theatre presents: "Matilda"
Friday, Oct. 15-Sunday, Oct. 17
Friday: 6:00 p.m.; Saturday: 1:00 p.m.; Sunday: 2:00 p.m.
Held at 211 East Superior Street in Duluth

Saturday, Oct. 16, 2021

Boo at the Zoo
10:00 a.m.
Lake Superior Zoo

Cider Saturdays at Glensheen
12:00-5:00 p.m.
Glensheen Mansion
\$5 grounds admission fee

Duluth Children's Museum's Night at the Brewseum
7:00-10:00 p.m.
Duluth Children's Museum, 2125 West Superior Street, Duluth, MN 55806.

Sunday, Oct. 17, 2021

Jason Owen @ Ursa Minor
1:00-3:00 p.m.
Ursa Minor Brewing