

Life at 22: Monica Marciniak, global, cultural and language studies lecturer

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Monica Marciniak has been teaching at the College of St. Scholastica for 22 years. Before that, she taught at the University of Wisconsin Superior (UWS) and the University of Minnesota- Duluth (UMD).

She earned her master's in education with a focus on American Sign Language and Deaf culture, and she is currently planning to earn her doctorate. Marciniak said, "Most people in my position only hold a master's due to Deaf oppression."

Marciniak was born hearing, but because of a hereditary condition, she became deaf at the age of 6. For school, she attended mainstream schools, which are the "normal" hearing schools, which, despite having a cochlear implant, a device designed to help create a form of hearing for people who are Deaf, was a struggle.

Marciniak realized that she wanted to teach hearing people more about sign language and Deaf culture when, in college, her advisor told her that she was a "danger because she was Deaf."

Marciniak started out teaching at the UWS and then started teaching at both UWS and UMD. After a while, she left UWS and

was only teaching at UMD. She then was approached by Diane Kessler, who at the time taught French and was the global studies department chair at CSS. Kessler asked Marciniak to teach at the College of St. Scholastica.

For a short time, Marciniak taught at both UMD and CSS until she and the department decided to grow the ASL program and create the ASL minor. Marciniak also said in the interview, "My mission is to provide the campus with information about Deaf culture and how to be more inclusive." She also would like to at some point continue to grow the ASL program and possibly make it a major or something similar.

As well as teaching, Marciniak is the advisor of the CSS ASL club. In addition, she is a Deaf mentor for others of the Deaf community and owns her own consulting company where she will meet with businesses for consultation on their Deaf accessibility.

She recently visited the Minnesota Institute of Art for a consultation, and they are planning, relatively soon, to incorporate a Deaf culture exhibit. Marciniak also does many workshops and trainings related to Deaf culture.

Oh, the Places You'll Know: The Boyer Professional Clothing Closet

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When preparing for an important event such as a job interview, your outfit must match the occasion. The Boyer Professional Clothing Closet, located in Somers Main Lounge, offers a convenient location for students to grab the attire they need to look and feel their best, all free of cost. The Script sat down with Mary Anderson, director of career services, to learn more about this valuable campus resource.

Anderson detailed how nearly five years ago, the former president of the Student Government Association, Monica Boyer, saw the need for a location on campus where students could access free clothing and accessories. A place was found in the Science Center, and the Boyer Professional Clothing Closet was born.

Anderson said, "The goal is to provide professional clothing that students could use for interviews, a job fair, a networking event or a conference so that having access to those things didn't become a barrier for someone."

All students can use the items in the closet, whether it be a financial hardship or simply because they only need to use professional attire for a single event. "Students are invited to borrow or keep the items, no questions asked," Anderson said.

During a stop at the Boyer Professional Clothing Closet,

students can be sure to find all they need to dress the part, including pants, shirts, blouses, button-ups, jackets, accessories, ties and shoes.

Due to the success of this resource, it was determined that the space needed an upgrade. Therefore, the closet moved to its current location in Room 190B of Somers Main Lounge two years ago. "It allows us to display the items and for someone to shut the door and actually try something on in privacy," said Anderson. The closet offers an open and inviting location for students to find the outfit that best suits their style. The efforts of recent volunteer groups contribute to the clean atmosphere of the space.

Last August, students from St. Scholastica's Community Service Orientation launched the project of reorganizing the closet. Sasha Howell's Dignitas class completed this task on Community Day earlier this month. "They went through and sized things, reorganized things, they put up nice new labels and signage," Anderson said.

Going forward, the Boyer Professional Clothing Closet plans to spread the word about this resource further and gain a more complete inventory



The Boyer Professional Clothing Closet offers an open and inviting space for students to fulfill all of their professional clothing needs. Script photo/Eva Kangas

of sizes and styles. Anderson mentioned, "We could probably use some more shoes, and I think we could use some more clothing, like dress shirts." The closet is primarily stocked through community donations. Anderson said that she plans to ask the Twin Ports for more items in the near future.

Students are encouraged to use the closet and spread the word about this convenient and valuable resource to their friends. To access the closet, students can pick up the key from the Residential Life desk. The Boyer Professional Clothing Closet is open from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Monday-Friday and 10:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday.

Getting Out There: Zachary Tackett Haunted Forest

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What is Halloween without scary thrills? Halloween is filled with lots of activities to get your horror thrills. One of these activities is the Zachary Tackett Haunted Forest located in Saginaw, Minnesota. This year is the haunted forest's eighth year terrorizing guests for charity. The haunted forest is held by the Tackett family.

Every year all of the proceeds go to a charity of the Tackett family's choice. Due to this, all of the actors are volunteers. This means that they are always looking for volunteers to help scare their guests. If you are interested in helping out, you can contact Caroline at (218) 340-3147 or Megan at (218) 343-8517.

The haunted forest is only open on weekends from



Zachary Tackett partaking in sending chills down his guests' spines in his terrifying haunted forest. Photo from StarTribune.

7:00 p.m. until 10:00 p.m. For this weekend, they will be open Oct. 29 until Oct. 31. Tickets vary in prices. For adults, which they consider 13 years and older, tickets are \$15. For children, which they consider 12

years and younger, tickets are \$10. Both ticket prices can be reduced by a dollar if you bring a non-perishable food item for the food shelf.

The haunted forest begins with a hayride from the parking lot to the forest.

Upon arrival at the forest, guests take a walk through the forest where they either get scared or laugh from watching their friends get scared. The haunted forest takes between 30 to 45 minutes to walk through, or

even less time if run through.

During Halloween weekend, the haunted forest has "extra events." On Oct. 30, they will be hosting a black out for adults 13 years and older from 9 p.m. until 11 p.m. The black out will be an event where the forest turns off their lights and guests only have a glow stick lighting their path. On Oct. 31, the haunted forest will be hosting a trick or treat event for children from 2 p.m. until 5 p.m. This event will be for kids. The characters will dress up and hand out candy rather than scare the kids.

If the Zachary Tackett Haunted Forest seems to be your definition of a happy Halloween, then travel to 7187 Saginaw Road, Saginaw, Minnesota. You will not want to miss your chance to get your pants scared off!

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