

**WOMEN'S STUDIES CELEBRATION**  
Women's History Month 2006

**NOMINATION: Papers and projects done in completion of course work for Spring, Summer and Fall 2005 eligible for nomination. Students do not need to be enrolled Fall 2005 or Spring 2006 to be eligible.**

(Students are encouraged to identify works they would like nominated and approach their professor to initiate the process.)

Instructor Jodi M. Thesing-Ritter Dept. Student Development & Diversity

Course Number and Name Community Action Semester completed On-going

Title of Nominated Work \_\_\_\_\_

Pick one-

**CATEGORY:**

**Sampson:**

- Undergraduate Research Paper
- Undergraduate Project
- Graduate

- See
- Olson
- Kessler
- Turell

Belter

(The judges retain the right to reassign categories for all nominated works.)

**STUDENT INFORMATION:**

Name Marcy S. Reynolds

Email reynolms@uwec.edu Year/Major Senior, Social Work

Local Address 415 7<sup>th</sup> Street, Eau Claire, WI 54703

Local Phone 262-384-1247

**\*\*WHY DO YOU, THE INSTRUCTOR, RECOMMEND THIS AS AN EXEMPLARY STUDENT PAPER/PROJECT? (Attach a separate sheet.)**

As the nominating instructor, please notify the student and ask them to turn in the paper, or attach to your nomination form.

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**Awards are sponsored by the UW-Eau Claire Foundation, Helen X. Sampson Fund, and by private individuals. Research involving human subjects must conform to the guidelines given by the Institutional Research Board. Contact Research Services, 836-3405, with questions.**

**Submission deadline is February 13, 2006.**



# University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire

105 Garfield Avenue • P.O. Box 4004 • Eau Claire, WI 54702-4004

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January 26, 2006

Women's Studies Awards Selection Committee:

I am pleased to nominate Ms. Marcy Reynolds for the Cecelia M. Belter Award for Community Action. I have had the privilege of working with Marcy on a number of community action and diversity awareness projects. The most notable of those projects is the UW-Eau Claire V-Day Campaign which includes the production of the Vagina Monologues. Additionally, Marcy has worked diligently to promoting issues of diversity on our campus and in our community. She has served as a Peer Diversity Educator, President of MOSAIC, and is currently working on advancing the rights of lesbian, gay, bi-sexual and trans-gendered people in our community and the state.

Marcy served as the President of MOSAIC, which stands for Making Our School an Intercultural Community. This campus diversity organization has as its primary mission the promotion of understanding about diversity issues. MOSAIC is responsible for the major diversity programs: Tunnel of Oppression, the Diversity Conference, and Vagina Monologues. Additionally, under Marcy's leadership they developed a very popular series of "fire-side" discussion sessions of topics such as gay marriage. These sessions were very popular among students and as such were well attended. They proved to very helpful in promoting understanding among students on challenging issues affecting our campus.

Marcy also served as the Producer for the Vagina Monologues. This is a remarkably challenging position that requires a tremendous amount of time and energy. Marcy produced one of the most successful Vagina Monologues productions to date on our campus. The three day series of events raised thousands of dollars for the Bolton Refuge House and also brought the issue of violence against women to light on our campus. Marcy's passion of helping others and advancing important causes was clearly evident by the hundreds of hours she contributed to the production and all of the support activities that made it possible.

In addition to her important work with MOSAIC, Marcy served as a Peer Diversity Educator (PDE). During her tenure as a PDE, Marcy was able to help implement a grant designed to bring diversity education to children and families in the Eau Claire School District. The PDE staff developed a series of programs, including several "family fun nights," that were offered at area schools. I had the opportunity to participate as a parent in the family night at my daughters' school and was so impressed with the program and Marcy's hard work to make it possible.

This year, Marcy has invested most of her energy working on gay rights issues. She has been extremely active in rallying support for the rights of LGBT members of our community. This work has helped Marcy to hone her skills as an activist. As with her many other community action efforts, Marcy has committed her skills, time, and energy to make a difference but she also motivates others to be engaged. She is able to rally support from her peers and challenge

***Excellence. Our measure, our motto, our goal.***

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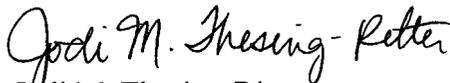
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web: [www.uwec.edu/sdd](http://www.uwec.edu/sdd)

them to maximize their voices. I am especially impressed with Marcy's skill in this area. She is able to accomplish a great deal more as a leader of a committed group of student activists than she could by acting alone. Marcy's talent in this area has been responsible for "lighting the fire" in so many students that have gone on to become leaders for community action in their own right. Marcy has much to be proud of and I am thankful that she has been an important part of the UW-Eau Claire community!

In my career I have often worked with or advised students who were leading remarkable projects outside of the classroom that benefited women in our community. There are very few ways to recognize that work, so I contributed money for the creation of the Cecelia M. Belter Award for Community Action to recognize a UW-Eau Claire female student who was conducting excellent service work on our campus or in our community. Marcy is a remarkable student, community servant, and leader. She exemplifies the civically engaged student we all hope to produce at the end of college tenure. Marcy came to us with many skills, worked on honing those skills, and then served as a leader and role-model for others. She is a true success story for our campus and is exactly the kind of student I had in mind when I created this award!

Thank you for your careful consideration of Marcy Reynolds' nomination for the Cecelia M. Belter Award. Please feel free to contact me at 715-836-2325 or [thesinjm@uwec.edu](mailto:thesinjm@uwec.edu) to further discuss Marcy's many qualifications.

Sincerely,



Jodi M. Thesing-Ritter

Associate Dean of Student Development