I am writing this letter to you in support of Professor Schutte for CSUN's Distinguished Teaching Award. I was privileged to have Professor Schutte, or as I call him Dr. J, for Social Statistics/Lab, Research Methods/Lab, as well as the internship class. I can honestly say that Dr. J has inspired me in many ways. Not only is he incredibly brilliant, but he also really takes the time to help all of his students understand the material presented (even though it can be extremely difficult!). Dr. J genuinely cares about each and every student in the classroom and always strives to encourage learning and personal growth.

The most difficult yet rewarding class of my undergraduate career was a 6 hour Sunday combination class of social statistics and research methods. The material was quite challenging, but Dr. J always made sure that if anyone was struggling, he would be there. Even if it meant staying late or coming in extra days to help students, he was always there. I also remember prior to our final examination receiving an email from Dr. J giving me that extra support and confidence that I really needed. No other professor has ever taken the time out to give his/her students that extra push and I truly believe it is qualities like this that makes Dr. J one of a kind.

I am currently a student in the Master of Social Work Program at CSUN, and I really attribute much of my gained confidence to Dr. J and his support. I have always struggled with believing in myself, and Dr. J really impacted my life. During my last week in Dr. J's Sunday class, I brought a bulletin board that I had decorated as a thank you for all he had done. I let the other students know that if they wanted to write anything to Dr. J and post in on the board I would be giving it to him at the end of the semester. By the end of the day, the entire bulletin board was completely covered with thank you notes and words of appreciation. Every single person in that class contributed letters of gratitude, and that is truly a testament to Dr. J not only as an incredibly professor, but also as an inspiring individual.

-Erin Wilson