

February 13, 2012

Dear Dr. Debose:

It is my pleasure to write a letter in support of Jerald Schutte's nomination for the Distinguished Teaching Award.

I was first introduced to Dr. Schutte when I took his 680 class in the Fall 2010 semester. For a student intimidated by the subject of statistics, Professor Schutte had a way of alleviating the anxiety brought on by multivariate statistical analyses and intricate SPSS outputs. His genuine concern for our success and his passion for teaching were apparent. He challenged us with high expectations, while at the same time doing whatever he could to help us achieve them. He instilled a sense of confidence in us and made it a priority to be an available resource, patiently staying well-beyond virtually every class period as to ensure he met the needs of each individual.

The positive experience I had in Dr. Schutte's 680 class resonated with me. Therefore, the following semester when I was in need of a professor to guide my independent study course, I was thrilled to hear that he was one of the faculty members who specialized in my subject. When I approached him with the favor, he did not hesitate to set aside the extra time to take me under his wing. Given the heavy workload that teachers have as it is, I was truly appreciative that Professor Schutte was willing to take on the additional task of working with me.

Dr. Schutte's guidance did not end there. He continued to advise me leading all the way up to the comprehensive exams that I took in the Fall 2011 semester. His help in my preparation for the exams was crucial to my success. If there were any way I could give back, writing this letter of support is the very least I can do to express the gratitude I have for Jerald Schutte.

In closing, I would like to express how privileged I feel to have been given the opportunity to be mentored by such an esteemed professor. As I take a look back at my academic path, Dr. Schutte is certainly a teacher that distinguishes himself from the rest.

Sincerely,

Stephanie Kimberling