

To: Herman Debose, Chair

Department of Sociology

Regarding: Distinguished Teacher Award- Jerald Schutte

It is a pleasure for me to write this letter for Professor Schutte, who was my Professor in Sociology 364 social Statistics and 497 Methods and Research, in the fall term of 2011. Professor Schutte is without a question one of the three outstanding professors I have had the privilege of knowing in the two years I have been a student at CSU Northridge.

Professor Schutte's class has taught me how to be a careful and creative thinker, which has served me well both in my education at CSU Northridge and outside. He has taught me how to draw on my own experiences and observations to develop thoughtful opinions on a variety of issues. I already knew I wanted to major in Sociology when I took his class but his expertise and helpfulness further deepened my interest in sociology. He allowed me to fully contribute in class discussions, provided a group learning setting and his teaching style allowed me to make some great friendships that will last beyond CSUN. He inspired me to think outside the box and to work in groups, helping me and my classmates to consolidate vast amounts of information into coherent sets of ideas. He was very generous with his time and energies, always willing to stay longer during his office hours to help us with the class assignments. After having such a wonderful experience in his class I registered for his Sociology 496SC class this semester and look forward to working with him again.

Professor Schutte is not only an excellent professor but he is also personally delightful. He is as comfortable a Professor as he is engaging, pleasant, and intelligent. As I got to know Professor Schutte over the semester, I became only more impressed by the wide range of his teaching abilities- and by his modesty about them. He is a master in Sociology and his passion in the subject and for the success of his students is rare.

I wholeheartedly recommend Professor Jerry for the Distinguished Teacher Award. In fact I can only think of a couple Professors I would recommend so highly. His wisdom and sincerity as a Professor is one that I will never forget.

Sincerely,

Iveta Petrosyan