

February 11, 2016

Dear Nomination Committee,

If there is anyone that is deserving of this teaching award, it is Katherine Nesbit. The amount of respect and admiration I have for her is astounding. Not only is she an unbelievable teacher, but a marvelous human being.

I had the privilege of having Ms. Nesbit as a teacher my sophomore year of college and the course was rhetoric. To be quite frank, I went into it thinking rhetoric would be my least favorite class and I just wanted to get through it, and it may have been if Ms. Nesbit was not my teacher. The way in which she taught and the energy she brought to the classroom changed my whole view on rhetoric, college, and life.

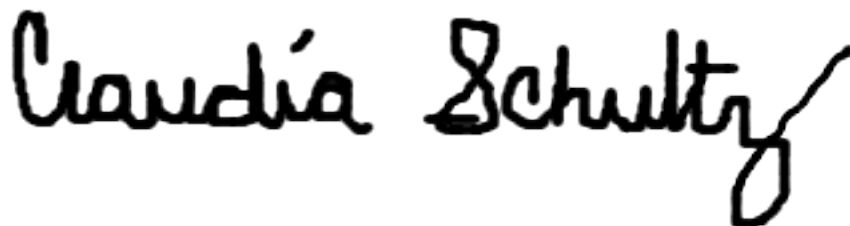
I really appreciate how she brought all of us out of our shells. Every minute of class was very interactive. I enjoyed how we would start class by going around the room and each of us would get to say something whether it be a random ice breaker question, or something about our weekend. It helped ease any shyness. She has a talent for making people feel comfortable and willing to use their voice. I am an incredibly shy person and by the time we had our first speech, I actually felt very comfortable in front of my class and I never thought I would overcome that.

Another interactive activity we did that helped me was the peer review process. We would get into small groups; usually two or three people, and pass our papers one way around the group until they got back to us. Not only would we read each other's work and write down suggestions, we would then verbally communicate what we thought. This helped with understanding what the reviewer had to say and clearing up any confusing. It also allowed us to get to know each other better and made it easier to communicate our opinions which is something so many people in the world have difficulty with.

Taking rhetoric with Ms. Nesbit was one of the most inspiring and opening experiences of my life. I have never felt so cared about by a teacher or professor. She was the first teacher I had ever gone to outside of class. I could talk to her about school or anything that was on my mind. Since I have taken that class, my life has changed drastically and I am finally finding who I am and my voice and I cannot thank her enough for being a part of that.

Thank you Kate for being one hell of a woman. You are changing the world.

With the most sincerity,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Claudia Schultz". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a long, sweeping tail on the final letter.