

Addressing the Promotion and Tenure Committee,  
University of Dubuque  
Chairman Mark Butler

My name is Amy Stutzman and I am a senior this year at the University of Dubuque majoring in secondary science education. Throughout my years here at the University of Dubuque I have had the great pleasure of being a part of the science department through both course work and participation in academic trips. The science department has grown dramatically since I came to UD in 2005 and I have witnessed it develop into the outstanding department which exists today. Throughout this transformation, there is one professor whom has stood out above all others and has made obvious strides to create an environment that is both academically and socially welcoming for all students. This professor is one whom I have had numerous positive experiences with both in and out of the classroom, Dr. Dale Easley.

In my experiences with Dr. Easley in the classroom, he has exemplified the type of teacher that I one day hope to be. As a professor he has the ability to grab the attention of the entire classroom and keep the students engaged in the material he presents; making the classroom an environment of both excitement and intellectual stimulation. I had Dr. Easley for Geology in the fall of my junior year and I was amazed at the amount of time that he spent with students going over material outside of class to ensure their success. Any time I had a question, no matter how small, Dr. Easley would set aside what he was doing and assist me. As a professor, I could not have asked for more from him; he is an extremely dedicated, intellectual, and caring person who is willing to take the time to meet the needs of all of his students.

After having Dr. Easley as a professor, through his encouragement and confidence in me, I was inspired to expand on my education and take part in activities that would further challenge me in my academic career. Each year the science department, and in particular Dr. Easley, provide several opportunities for students to take part in classes and trips which allow students to explore and use what they have learned. I have personally been on several trips with Dr. Easley to Chicago, in addition to a trip to New Orleans last spring through a geology and jazz course. On behalf of myself and every other student who I have talked with who has participated in one of Dr. Easley's academic trips, is that there are things you can learn in a classroom, yet there is so much more that you can learn when you see and experience it yourself. Having the opportunity to take what I had learned from Dr. Easley about geology and see and experience it first hand was an amazing opportunity for me, and I learned more than I ever thought possible. Dr. Easley is always ready to have a teachable moment outside of the classroom, and it is obvious that he loves what he does and wants to share his passion with his students, providing them every opportunity and outlet to expand in their educational development.

Dr. Easley, through his abilities as a professor within the classroom environment along with his willingness and success in providing opportunities for further growth of his students outside of the classroom, makes him stand out above all others. He is someone whom I personally, and one that I know other students, highly respect, trust, and know that they can rely on for anything; someone who will be there with endless encouragement, motivation, and optimism. Dr. Easley is one of the people, through all of

his contributions, whom I believe makes the science department the active and engaging environment that it has grown to be.

Respectfully,

Amy Stutzman