

February 16, 2017

To Whom It May Concern,

I am pleased to write this letter on behalf of Dr. Debbie Borie-Holtz. Dr. Borie-Holtz was my professor for Research Methods and just as importantly, an inspiring mentor throughout my graduate school application process. Her continuous support in both aspects of my education changed my perception of Rutgers as whole.

Along with my Public Health major, I have a minor in biological sciences. In my 350-student Organic Chemistry or Genetics course, I always felt like a number rather than a person. Even when attending office hours for extra help, I wondered if the professors knew my name. I was frustrated with this system, until my junior year when I met Dr. Borie-Holtz. I was anxious going into her Research methods course because research was an area of study I was unfamiliar with. She immediately offered her assistance at any time of the day via e-mail or in-person office hours. While I expressed my doubt, she expressed her willingness to help me and instilled confidence that I would be successful. I attended weekly office hours with appointment, and sometimes without, when I needed assistance. If Dr. Borie-Holtz had somewhere to be, she would always make time for me; I was never turned away. She changed my attitude about Rutgers professors when I needed it the most.

Dr. Borie-Holtz became a trusted mentor to me throughout our semester together. I was in the process of applying to Physician Assistant programs and doubted my competitive ability to make it into a program. She shared stories with me and offered advice on how to make my application stronger. Without any hesitation, I asked Dr. Borie-Holtz to write my letter of recommendation chiefly because no other professor had dedicated the time to teach me and instill confidence in me.

My relationship with Dr. Borie-Holtz changed my immediate reaction to doubt myself in unfamiliar or tough situations. I was accepted to PA school and am currently in my second month. I am enjoying every aspect of it and I thank Dr. Borie-Holtz for her contribution in reaching my goal. I keep Dr. Borie-Holtz updated on my progress in the program and I am reminded by her motivating responses to keep believing in myself. Dr. Borie-Holtz's optimistic attitude and dedication to education is inspirational. I believe the positive impact she can make on the Rutgers Public Health education is limitless.

Sincerely,  
Bevin  
Public Health  
Class of 2017