

## Letter of Reference for Suzanne Reichel

April 3, 2001

To whom it may concern:

Suzy Reichel is one of the most amazing people I have ever met! I have known her for two years, and I am continually impressed by her excellent qualities as a person, as a mathematician, and as an educator.

My contact with Suzy has been both through the UW Mathematics Department and through the TRIO Student Support Services program, where she has been providing individual and group tutoring. In both settings, I have seen an incredible ability in Suzy to take complex ideas, understand them thoroughly, and explain them in simple terms.

Suzy's professors speak very highly of her mathematical talent and her dedication as a student. She has participated in several research projects, including one that related to my own work as a mathematics graduate student. This project began when she received a scholarship to conduct research with Professor Peter Orlik, who happened to be my thesis advisor at the time. Thus I was able to meet periodically with her to discuss the project. This was my first real contact with Suzy, and I was extremely impressed by her ability and discipline in doing mathematical research. Not only did she learn difficult concepts quickly, but she learned them thoroughly, and made connections that others would have overlooked.

Since then I have observed Suzy in many other situations, especially group tutoring. And it has become apparent to me that her teaching abilities are just as incredible as her mathematical abilities. Not only can she understand difficult concepts, but she is able to see them from the point of view of each of the students she tutors. And thus she can explain things at that student's level.

Suzy thinks deeply about her teaching. She can explain any problem in 5 different ways, and she can gauge very quickly which of those ways will best suit a particular student. She is very aware of her students and their needs, and she goes to a lot of effort to make them feel comfortable. Her students absolutely love her, and I have heard nothing but praise from them concerning her.

Once in a great while, a student comes along with a combination of teaching ability, technical ability, hard work, and friendly disposition that sets that student apart from the rest. Suzy truly has that unique combination, and she will be a great asset to any career she chooses to enter.

Sincerely,

Andy Evenson  
Quantitative Skills Specialist  
TRIO Student Support Services  
School of Education  
University of Wisconsin-Madison  
evenson@math.wisc.edu