

2009 Best Teacher Award Nomination

Nominee: Rick Gumina

College: Natural Sciences

Department: Statistics

1. How does this teacher/professor demonstrate a commitment to CSU and its students?

Professor Gumina has managed to impart a love of statistics even to those who are pursuing a degree outside of Statistics Department. His outstanding teaching skills and devotion to his students are truly remarkable.

2. This teacher/professor is important to me because...

I decided to enroll in Professor Gumina's course in preparation for Graduate school. Even though I knew that statistics will play an important role in a course of my future research, I dreaded taking a statistics class knowing that statistics is considered by many students as rather dry and, forgive me for saying this, a boring subject. Professor Gumina has proven that it is quite the opposite. The real life examples from medicine, law and economy illustrated just how essential statistics is to our daily lives. Who knew?!

3. My favorite part of being in their class was...

My favorite part of being in Professor Gumina's class were the lectures.

4. How does this teacher demonstrate excellence in teaching?

I am not really sure how he did it, but as a student, I felt fully engaged throughout the lecture. When giving a particular example, Professor was not after one correct solution. No, he wanted us to think, to explore all the ins and outs of the problem. Creativity was at the premium.

5. What distinguishes your teacher/professor from others?

Professor Gumina's dedication to making his students take statistics to heart and to truly feel that they are better off for taking his class is what sets this teacher apart. For a student, nothing beats knowing that she came into the class with nothing but confusion, and leaving at the end of semester with knowledge and appreciation. Thank you Professor!

Nominator: Marija Krunic

I am a(an): Student