January 31, 2015

Alejandro Garcia Fernandez Hospitality Management, Daniels College of Business Undergraduate Student Government On-Campus Senator Chairperson of Diversity Committee Desk Manager of Nagel Hall

Dear Faculty Award Committee Members:

My name is Alejandro Garcia Fernandez and I am a third year student at the University of Denver. I am writing this letter to demonstrate my support for Dr. Cheri Young's nomination for the University of Denver's Distinguished Teaching Award.

I have known Dr. Young for the past two academic years and I have had the pleasure of being a student in two of her classes: Hotel and Resort Management and Human Capital in Hospitality. Dr. Young will be also serving as my thesis advisor during the upcoming year. From being a student in and out of her class for the past two years, I have had the opportunity to become familiarized with Dr. Young's teaching style. From these experiences, I genuinely and enthusiastically believe that Dr. Young is profoundly qualified for the University of Denver's Distinguished Teaching Award.

Dr. Young has proven to me—and to all of the students who have had the pleasure of being in her class—that she is a gifted and uniquely talented educator. Her mastery and passion for the material she teaches seeps into the classroom and into all activities she engages in. Dr. Young played a key role in creating the FKSHM's partnership with the African Community Center for the CFaSST program. This innovative program allows for students in her Human Capital in Hospitality class to apply the material learned in class while also championing the university's vision of being a great private university dedicated to the public good. In her classes, she encourages her students to find evidence, in current research, for all of their claims and beliefs. By creating incredibly intentional assignments, she drives her students to become strong writers. Dr. Young pushes students out of their comfort zone by setting high, but fair standards. Her encouraging and supportive demeanor encourages all students to perform to the best of their ability, which is a feat that all professors strive for, but few succeed in accomplishing. She does this by providing constant feedback and by taking the time to meet with all of her students individually.

In my time as Dr. Young's student, I have been consistently impressed and inspired by her. She has pushed me to work harder and create even higher standards for myself. One of the characteristics that I enjoy the most about Dr. Young is her championing of the university's

values of diversity, equity, and Inclusive Excellence. From her use of inclusive language to her conscientious discussions surrounding social identities, she makes the concept of inclusivity tangible for her students. Dr. Young's ability to be an engaging teacher while simultaneously being a role model for students makes her an astounding professor.

It is my honor to recommend Dr. Young for this award as her work positively impacts the lives of all of students. I truly and fervently believe that Dr. Young would be a qualified recipient of the University of Denver's Distinguished Teaching Award

Sincerely,

Alejandro Garcia Fernandez