

To Whom it May Concern,

I am in full support of Anne Penner receiving a promotion based on all of my experiences with her. I am lucky to have had Anne as a teacher, director, and advisor for the past three years. She has had a large impact on my time here at DU and I would not be where I am today without her support and guidance.

I have had Anne as a teacher in many classes including my Freshman Seminar, Theatre Imagination, Acting I, and Junior Seminar for the theatre major. As a professor, Anne has a great way of making sure everyone is actively participating in class and sharing their ideas. Most of the classes I have taken with her included students not involved in the theatre department, but because of Anne's positive energy and enthusiasm, every student was able to dive into the material and have an enjoyable experience within the department. Anne was also able to modify her teaching for each student to better suit their needs. Specifically, I was the only theatre major in my Acting I class, so while some of the class was focused on more beginner aspects of acting, she was also able to challenge me with more advanced material. Also, the Junior Seminar class is taught by all of the theatre faculty, but Anne was consistently leading the class and making sure the class was organized and we were accomplishing all of the necessary tasks to prepare us for our Senior Capstones.

I am extremely grateful that Anne cast me in the show she directed in the Winter of 2021. It was easily the best experience I have had with the DU Theatre Department in my three years. Sarah DeLappe's *The Wolves* is about an elite high school girls' soccer team, which required skills new to many of the actors. Because of my soccer background, Anne worked a lot with me on how to coach the actors for the soccer skills we needed to perform the show. I could tell that she valued my opinions because of my experience, and it was obvious that Anne wanted both the action and the relationships of the characters to be true to reality. With an all-female cast, Anne really challenged us to consider what it means to be a teenage girl and we also learned a lot about the National Women's US soccer team and what it means to be a female leader. Not only was this a fun production, but Anne made it a learning experience for all of us and an open discussion about the issues that females face in the United States.

Finally, I am very lucky that Anne has been my advisor since freshman year. I have been involved with theatre since I was four years old, but I was scared to declare a minor or major in the department because I didn't know if I was cut out for it. Anne encouraged me to get more involved in the department and at the start of my sophomore year she helped me to declare a major in theatre. It was the best decision I have made at DU. She has supported me with handling my management and theatre majors and helped me with managing my time. Anne also invited me to apply for a directing position and now I get to direct a staged reading next fall. I truly would not have had the experiences I've had without Anne's mentorship. I cannot think of anyone more deserving of a promotion to full professor.

Yours Truly,

Jenna Clements

Jenna.Clements@du.edu

612-214-2957