It is with mixed emotions that I am finishing up my time in the School of Social Work at USC. I am excited about graduating and my new position as an Assistant Professor in the Graduate School of Social Work at the University of Denver but I will also miss my friends and colleagues at USC.

I am grateful to my mentor and dissertation chair, Dr. John Brekke, and my dissertation committee members, Drs. Eric Rice, Concepcion Barrio and Gerald Davison, for their encouragement and feedback throughout and apart from my dissertation project. I am very appreciative of the overall support provided to me by Drs. Shelley Levin, Jeremy Goldbach, and Dorian Traube along with my wonderful cohort (Drs. Amy He, Megan Finno, Elizabeth Siantz, Hsun-Ta Hsu, Hyunsung Oh, and James Simon). Additionally, I am thankful to the leadership and members of the Serious Mental Illness Services and Quality of Life Research Cluster. I am indebted to Malinda Sampson (Program Manager) for her warmth and guidance. I also want to acknowledge Dean Flynn and Dr. Mor Barak (Program Director) for all that they have done for our prestigious school. Lastly, to avoid inadvertently leaving anyone out, I would just like to say that I will carry fond memories of the many other amazing scholars who taught me during my early years in the program or who I worked with on research projects. It has been deeply rewarding to be a part of a school with so many inspiring and innovative scholars!

Above all else, I want to thank my family for their unconditional love and understanding over the years. This includes Kerri, Larry, Mike, Cheryl, and “Grammy” to name but a few. And I could NEVER be where I am or who I am today without my beautiful wife, Kayla, and our son, Alexander. They have kept my heart filled with love, my face filled with smiles, and my dreams filled with hope.

--Anthony