

## Appendix 3. A letter of support from Dr. David Parkinson, Vice-Dean HUMFA, College of Arts & Science



UNIVERSITY OF  
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↳ College of Arts and Science  
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4 March 2015

The Chair, Graduate Programs Committee  
c/o Trever Crowe  
Associate Dean, College of Graduate Studies and Research

Dear Professor Crowe:

An important proposal has recently come to my attention from the newly-renamed Department of Linguistics and Religious Studies, in concert with the Department of Curriculum Studies in the College of Education and the University of Saskatchewan Language Centre. This proposal concerns a course-based MA in Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages (TESOL). Substantial, distinctive, and attractive, this program deserves the consideration of the Graduate Programs Committee.

The level of co-operation between different units that informs this proposal suggests a new spirit at work in the development of programs at our University. The concept and delivery of an MA in TESOL depends on such co-operation. Each contributing unit brings particular strengths to the areas making up this program, and the combination of these strengths envisioned in this proposal demonstrates that faculty are ready to reach beyond unitary boundaries in order to achieve academic goals of special and lasting importance to the wellbeing of the University and the province. In their executive summary, the proposers point convincingly to the international and national conditions making an MA in TESOL especially timely.

Initiatives in complement planning underpin this proposal, with significant faculty hirings in both Education and Arts and Science. The interdisciplinary and flexibility of the MA as proposed are thus ensured by the involvement of a suitably wide range of faculty expertise at our University.

Proposing this MA as course-based befits its existence as a professional program, designed to train practitioners and researchers in the acquisition of English as an additional language. This professional emphasis seems to me to increase prospects for international recruitment, which appears to exceed current programmatic capacity at other Canadian universities. It also responds to rapidly rising needs within Canada to increase studies in the linguistic conditions for that significant proportion of the population whose first language is neither English nor French.

As the proposers assert, an MA in TESOL has strong indications of benefit to Saskatchewan, in the improvement of supports for learning English and in the provision of increased opportunities for those with professional aspirations in the study of language acquisition.

The forecast enrolments are ambitious for this program but do not seem to me excessive. Resources have been and are being committed to ensure strong instruction and supervision. The proposal itself adumbrates a clear sequence of course offerings to enable students to complete the program without delay.

For these reasons, the MA in TESOL as proposed has my full support. I look forward to providing further input and advice to your Committee if and as requested.

With good wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'David J. Parkinson'.

David J. Parkinson  
Vice-Dean of Humanities and Fine Arts

## Appendix 4. Letter of support from Dr. Michelle Prytula, Dean, College of Education



UNIVERSITY OF  
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Dean's Office

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To:  
Professor Dionne Pohler,  
Chair, Graduate Programs Committee,  
College of Graduate Studies and Research;  
c/o Professor Trever Crowe,  
Associate Dean,  
College of Graduate Studies and Research

Dear Professor Crowe,  
Dear Professor Pohler,

I am writing to you to express my support for a New Graduate Program proposal entitled MA TESOL (Master of Arts in Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages). This proposal was developed by the Department of Linguistics and Religious Studies, the College of Arts and Science, in close collaboration with the Department of Curriculum Studies, the College of Education, and with participation of the University of Saskatchewan Language Centre.

The program will provide additional training at the graduate level to teachers of English to Speakers of Other Languages who are interested in enhancing their qualifications and advancing their careers. The program will attract students from Saskatchewan, from other provinces in Canada, as well as from overseas.

This course-based program requires 30 cu of course work, in congruence with the current practices in other TESOL graduate programs in Canada. The program enhances efficiencies, since it pools together the resources already available in the College of Education and the College of Arts and Science. The program will be administered with the help of the MA TESOL Program Committee consisting of representatives of the participating units.

The College of Education welcomes this new opportunity to engage in innovative interdisciplinary programming with the College of Arts and Science in the area of TESOL. This area is outlined as one of the key priorities in the "*College of Education Plan for the Third Planning Cycle, 2012-2016.*" Consequently, the launching of the program will contribute to the successful completion of the IP 3 by the College.

I am looking forward to the launching of this program.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. Prytula', written in a cursive style.