

My name is Stewart Gray. I have been president of the Yongin Chapter of KOTESOL for the period 2017-2019, I chaired the KOTESOL National Conference in 2018, and I have been involved with the KOTESOL RP-SIG for some years now. I am writing to offer an endorsement for Bryan Hale to take on the role of 1st VP of KOTESOL in 2020.

I met Bryan in 2015, at the very first KOTESOL event I ever attended – the Day of Reflection organized by the RP-SIG that year. Since then, I have had many opportunities to work with him. We have collaborated on organizing several KOTESOL events (and are continuing to do so even as I write this), and I have attended several council meetings with him also. I can confirm from these experiences that he is a strikingly diligent and circumspect person.

In recent years, Bryan has shown willingness to get involved at all levels of the organization. He has acted both as president of a chapter (Gwangju) and coordinator of a SIG (RP) concurrently, which certainly qualifies him to be VP. Moreover, his involvement has been highly proactive and creative. He has frequently communicated with myself and other members of the KOTESOL council, helping to us to coordinate, suggesting novel ideas and solutions to difficulties we face, and always keeping in mind the perspectives and interests of the chapters and SIGs. His activities have left me in no doubt that he is strongly committed to our community and its health. Indeed, his work for KOTESOL in Gwangju has been exemplary. I was fortunate enough to attend the excellent conference they put on at the start of this year under his leadership, and it was among the most enjoyable I have attended in recent years.

All of this is not even to speak of his passion and professionalism when it comes to teaching, about which I could write at some length. Speaking as a teacher myself and a KOTESOL member, I cannot imagine a better suited candidate for VP in the coming year than Bryan, and it is with this in mind that I offer my own, unhesitating endorsement. I am more than confident he will rise to the demands of the role.