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Department of English Education  
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Dear Nominations and Elections Committee:

I am very pleased to endorse the nomination of Rhea Metituk for 2<sup>nd</sup> vice-president. I have known Rhea since she joined the National Council as the Busan-Gyeongnam Chapter president last year, and I've been delighted to see her expand her involvement in the organization at the national level, taking on additional responsibilities in multiple special interest groups (SIGs) and serving as the Financial Affairs Committee chair.

Rhea is an ideal candidate for 2<sup>nd</sup> vice-president, a position with the primary responsibility of serving as a liaison to the SIGs. As the co-founder and co-facilitator of the Women and Gender Equality SIG and one of the founding members of the Environmental Justice SIG, she is very familiar with how KOTESOL's SIGs operate, their role in the organization, and the benefits they offer members. Her SIGs are very active both online and at conferences; the Women and Gender Equality SIG, for example, is still in its infancy, yet its members are already participating in a panel presentation at a conference outside KOTESOL. This reflects, I believe, a vision of the SIGs' *potential*—the potential to move beyond the digital space into real praxis; to become spaces for community and growth, agents of change helping to create a better world. I would love to see this kind of perspective and active involvement shaping and encouraging the SIGs in the coming year.

Rhea also has proven to be an outstanding leader with many strengths. As Busan-Gyeongnam Chapter president, she has coordinated successful regional conferences, helped to revive the chapter's flagging membership base, and generally handled with grace all the exigencies of running a chapter with no home venue in a metropolis with manifold events competing for attention and participants. In my discussions with Rhea and my participation in a few chapter events, I've also been thoroughly impressed with the way Rhea includes everyone: she welcomes and mentors new members, engages new officers and pushes them to push themselves, and delegates responsibilities in such a way that her volunteers seem to feel a valued part of something meaningful.

This leads me to the quality I admire most about Rhea: her passion. This, I think, underpins her success as a leader and is an essential trait for KOTESOL's executive officers. Rhea's passion sets high standards, pushes boundaries, and draws people in. Centered around this vibrant core, she is warm and gracious but also meticulous and reflective. She is perceptive and practical but also positive, decisive but actively inclusive of diverse perspectives. She consistently strives to serve, to create events that will benefit everyone involved, and her vision and energy are contagious. I'm confident she will be an outstanding 2<sup>nd</sup> vice-president, continuing her impressive tradition of remarkable, enthusiastic service to the organization.

Sincerely,

Lindsay Herron  
KOTESOL Immediate Past President