

Endorsement for: **Garth Elzerman**

Position Sought: **International Conference Committee Co-chair**

I endorse Garth Elzerman for the position of co-chair of the 2022 International Conference Committee.

I had the pleasure of making his acquaintance on the bus to Seoul for training day a week before our 2019 International Conference. He had been recruited to be HR Coordinator during the National Conference in May of the same year, hosted by Jeonju North Jeolla KOTESOL. The conference was the first time he attended any KOTESOL event and he became a member of the conference committee even before he was a member of KOTESOL. On the bus, I explained a little more about his duties at the conference.

The logistics manager (me) and the HR Coordinator work together closely during set up and tear down. Garth immediately bonded with the volunteers, protected them from overwork and kept the tone to them respectful. He must have been inspirational because they immediately attached themselves to him and faithfully did as he asked. I found Garth had trained the volunteers well; he was easy to work with and quickly learned all he needed to know to do his job effectively. His organizational skills grew as he learned his job. By the end of the conference weekend, he was flawless at his position and the students seemed to be very happy with him, which is not an easy feat from people you use for free hard physical labour.

Garth is competent and well organized. He took a challenging position and made it look easy with little prior knowledge. I have no doubt he will do the same with the position of co-chair, but he will have a chance to be well prepared beforehand. We are members of the same social group in Jeonju. He always shows up ready and enthusiastic, so I know this is how he approaches life and any responsibility he has. Co-chair and then the position of Chair the year after will be in good hands if Garth is given the reigns. He takes a lot of pride in his work, and he tends to be meticulous and mentors others to rise to his standards. I expect to be logistic manager/stage manager again and fully trust and believe in Garth to make me proud to be a member of his team.

*Ingrid Zwaal*

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