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From: [Bernhardt, Stephen A.](#)

To: mason@UDel.Edu

Cc: [Rys, Gail](#) ; sstevens@UDel.Edu

Sent: Wednesday, March 01, 2006 7:14 AM

Subject: support for new 4+1 English/TESL program

Dear Chuck

I am writing to express the support of the English Department for the proposed 4+1 program. Gail Rys and Scott Stevens have been the guiding force behind this initiative, and they have been careful to meet with our department leadership to secure our endorsement and involvement. We've also discussed and approved the proposal within our department undergrad studies committee.

We like the proposal. It's a pragmatic solution to a pressing social need. It's clear we need more teachers who are well trained in English language and ready to work with second language learners. The program provides a clear career path with options for English majors, many of whom would benefit from having a clearer sense of direction for what they intend to do beyond graduation. There is a nice fit with existing campus programs in linguistics and education, and we have the resource of the ELI as a learning lab/clinic for the development of teachers with the right skills.

In English, we have been creating and revising courses to be more relevant to potential students in this program, with a new course in grammar and usage and a revised course in English language and linguistics, both meant to be relevant to future teachers. Additionally, we are developing peer tutors who will combine classwork on teaching and tutoring writing with peer tutoring through our Writing Center. The new courses and the tutoring program will offer both the knowledge and skills that successful teachers need, while helping students fulfill requirements for discovery learning (in this case, experiential or service learning).

I'd be happy to answer any questions the committee has. I am looking forward to recruiting students to this program and I wish it speedy passage through the approval chain.

steve

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