April 19, 2008

The Graduate College
The University of Arizona
Campus

To Whom It May Concern:

We are writing to support the proposal for the “Graduate Certificate in Reading Instruction.” This proposal provides opportunities for Arizona teachers to receive the coursework necessary to fulfill the requirements for the Arizona Department of Education Reading Endorsement.

Policy makers and school administrators in Arizona are increasingly aware of the tremendous need for well trained reading specialists. The Department of Language, Reading and Culture is renowned for its outstanding reading specialist courses. This certificate will make those courses available to teachers who aspire to a master’s degree (the courses can be applied toward a graduate degree) or to those who wish to add the certification to their existing scholarly work.

This certificate will be available to those throughout the state who have access to the Internet. In addition to educators in the state, others from across the country and around the world will be able to earn the certificate from I.R.C.

The faculty for this certificate is either on-board or will be adjuncts with tenured faculty supervision. Our program has a number of graduates who are willing and able to teach these courses. On line courses return an adequate revenue stream to support these professors. Hence, no new tenure eligible faculty is required.

This certificate proposal has been approved by the Department’s Curriculum Committee and by the faculty.

Please do not hesitate to contact either of us with any questions or concerns. We look forward to making the University of Arizona Reading Endorsement program available to those qualified to earn it through this certification.

Sincerely,

Ron Marx
Dean and Professor

Patricia L. Anders
Head and Professor