



# UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND

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Yth. Direktur Pengelolaan Kekayaan Intelektual  
Direktorat Jenderal Penguatan Riset dan Pengembangan  
Kementerian Riset, Teknologi dan Pendidikan Tinggi  
Gedung 2 BPPT, Lantai 20  
Jl. M. H. Thamrin No. 8  
Jakarta 10340  
INDONESIA

Dear Secretary of The Coordinating Team for Foreign Research Permit,

I am pleased to recommend Ms. Tabitha Kidwell for a Foreign Research Permit to conduct research in Indonesia. As Ms. Kidwell's advisor and dissertation committee chair, I am the senior researcher overseeing her research project. I have reviewed her proposal and methods, and I feel confident in her ability to undertake the research she is proposing. She will do so in a responsible and rigorous manner.

Tabitha is in her third year as a doctoral student in the Applied Linguistics and Language Education program at the University of Maryland. I am familiar with Ms. Kidwell's research abilities because she has served on a number of research projects with me during the past three years. She has proven herself to be an extremely bright, inquisitive, engaged student and researcher whose abilities are unparalleled in my ten years of work with doctoral students. I have entrusted her with key aspects of research in which she has needed to engage in classroom observations, negotiate a variety of school environments, and interact with teachers and administrators, and she always does it with great professionalism and enthusiasm. She has a strong understanding of qualitative data collection and analysis, and has engaged in at least five conference presentations at prestigious international conferences in our field, including the TESOL (Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages) International Convention and the American Educational Research Association. She has taken the lead role on some of these presentations, which is quite an accomplishment for someone as early in their doctoral career as she is. She also has experience writing for publication, with two research articles under my direction in progress, and one recently published (Percy, DeStefano, Kidwell, & Ramirez, 2016, in *Professional Development in Education*; <http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/19415257.2015.1118707>). The project she proposes will build upon her prior experiences and make an important contribution to language teaching and teacher preparation in Indonesia by examining how novice teachers negotiate their early-career challenges.

Tabitha's previous international experience in Indonesia, India, and Madagascar will no doubt serve her well in her proposed work. Her prior work in Indonesia will serve as an important building block for her to complete her proposed project successfully and to contribute new findings to the field regarding novice teacher education in Indonesia. Her prior work in my research projects in which we have examined novice teacher learning for teaching English language learners in U.S. settings will also serve as a critically important foundation to inform her work. She has prior experience in all of the research methods she proposes for her project, supervised by me, and also has a strong set of experiences in analyzing such data. I am fully confident that she has all of the skills needed to do the work she proposes, and not only do it well, but to do an outstanding job.

In conclusion, I enthusiastically support Tabitha Kidwell's application for a foreign research permit to conduct her proposed research project in Indonesia.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Megan Madigan Percy". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Dr. Megan Madigan Percy  
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