To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing this letter in strong support of the English Language Center (ELC). It is a vibrant unit that not only provides excellent instruction but also serves the non-native English speakers at UNLV in a myriad of ways.

The faculty and staff of the ELC is a dedicated and professional group that serves the international students in an outstanding manner. The quality of education is extremely high and I would be hard pressed to find another organization at UNLV that cares more for its students than the ELC. They provide help in all facets of the non-native English speakers integration into university life. From the basics of how to register for classes to the numerous cultural activities they sponsor, the ELC works extremely hard to make the non-native English speaking students feel welcomed and a part of UNLV.

The ELC also coordinates the conversation partner program in conjunction with the Foreign Language Department. This program introduces non-native English speakers to students studying their respective native language. This has been very successful, not only in language acquisition but also as a cultural learning experience.

I have had the privilege of having many former students of ELC work in the Language Resource Center (LRC). In response to faculty members’ suggestions, many of these students actively seek employment in the LRC as a means to improving their English communicative skills. As they complete their English courses and move on to their respective majors, you can see their confidence and involvement in UNLV activities increasing. All my former ELC students that worked in the LRC graduated from UNLV. They received degrees ranging from Hotel Administration to Finance to Engineering and the majority of these graduates remain in Las Vegas as productive members of our community.

Recently, I had the opportunity to speak to UNLV’s volleyball coach, Allison Keeley. We discussed the team and how recruiting for the upcoming season was going. She mentioned that she was increasing her international recruiting and that being able to tell these recruits about our outstanding ELC has helped her significantly. In many cases it could be the deciding factor in where an athlete signs.

The elimination of the ELC will be significant loss for the non-native English speaking students and UNLV in general.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

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