



March 27, 2025

Dear Members of the Fulbright Review and Selection Committee,

I am writing this letter in support of M. Arif Rahman Hakim, Ph.D, lecturer at the Universitas Islam Negeri Fatmawati Sukarno, Indonesia. Dr. Rahman has applied for a Fulbright as an exchange scholar, and is hoping to collaborate with us here in the Department of Teaching & Learning. I have reviewed his project proposal, "Implementation of the Competency Enhancement Training Program Implemented by the US Government For Madrasah English Language Teachers in Indonesia: An Analysis Study." The project proposal is strong, and a good fit with the work we do through the Buckeye Language Education Resource Center (BuckLER Center), and we would be pleased to host him with a courtesy appointment as visiting faculty in our department during October 1, 2025 – March 25, 2026.

Within the Department of Teaching and Learning, and specifically our Multilingual Language Education programs, Dr. Hakim's presence will enhance our colleagues' and our students' understanding of the current scholarship and theoretical frameworks informing the research in language teacher competency. Specifically, we would be pleased to collaborate with Dr. Rahman on the development of our AKELT (Assessment of Knowledge of English Language Teaching) instruments. These are instruments designed to evaluate English teachers' professional knowledge; currently we have developed the text based on contextual and culturally appropriate practices in English teaching in Latin America. However, we would welcome collaborating with Dr. Hakim on developing the instruments to be linguistically and culturally aligned with the needs of English teachers in Indonesia.

Additionally, we foresee Dr. Rahman being able to engage with OSU faculty and graduate students in the following ways:

1. Research collaboration with international graduate students. We have many MA and PhD students in language education from Indonesia and southeast Asia who would benefit from being able to collaborate with a scholar familiar with teaching English as an International Language in these contexts.
2. Guest lectures: His scholarly interests are well aligned with MLE (Multilingual Language Education) Area of Study, and he could do guest lecture on several relevant topics.
3. Strengthen international connections: The appointment is aligned with the EHE pillar of internationalization. Our academic unit does not currently have any ties with the Universitas



Islam Negeri Fatmawati Sukarno. We have benefited from connections with other institutions in the region (such as Sanata Dharma University in Yogyakarta, Indonesia, where we have received three Fulbright-sponsored students).

In other words, in addition to his research project that he will conduct while in residence at The Ohio State University, Dr. Hakim will offer a multiple new insights on our existing projects. Given his background, areas of expertise, and prior experiences, am confident that Dr. Hakim will be successful in his proposed research here. To support Dr. Rahman during his time at OSU, the College of Education and Human Ecology will provide him with office space and the use of a computer. In addition, he will have access to the university's library system ([library.osu.edu](http://library.osu.edu)), as well as many other benefits offered to visiting faculty on a courtesy appointment.

We look forward to welcoming Dr. M. Arif Rahman Hakim at The Ohio State University, to Columbus, and in our academic community.

Sincerely,

Peter Sayer, PhD

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