Professor **Osama S. Tayeb**, Ph.D. University President, King Abdulaziz University P.O. Box 80299, Jeddah, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia 21589

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Tuesday, 4 June 2013

Re: Contract Renewal

Dear Professor Tayeb,

Two years have passed since the founding of the Arab Language Institute. I mention this, for it is then that I stood before you and many other members of the university community at the inauguration ceremony in the Faculty of Arts and Humanities and explained why the institute is a valuable asset to foreign language instructors such as myself.

Today, I am writing to you to request that I be allowed to remain at the university in my current capacity of University Lecturer in the Department of European Languages and Literatures in the Faculty of Arts and Humanities.

Since my correspondence with Professor Abdulrahman Al Youbi, Vice President of Educational Affairs, in which he promised to renew my contract (see attached May 21, 2013 letter to Dr. Al Youbi and his note), I have learned via my Department Chairperson, Dr. Abdullah Al Shehri, from the University's Personnel Department that my contract cannot be renewed because I have passed the age of 63 (see attached copy of the relevant university guidelines).

I am requesting that you reverse this decision and offer as encouragement the following:

- When I was hired my age was not a problem. Why should it be a problem now?
- I am well-liked by my own students and am rated among the top ½ of all faculty in the Department of European Languages and Literature by all students.
- I have a letter of endorsement from my Department Chairperson, Dr. Abdullah Al Shehri
- The Dean of the Faculty of Arts and Humanities has approved my continuation.
- The Vice President of Educational Affairs, Dr. Abdulrahman Al Youbi, has promised that my contract will be renewed.
- My age on paper does not reflect the reality of who I am. Most people believe upon first meeting that I am in my early or mid-fifties. Many of my students believe that I am no older than their own fathers.
- I offer the university much more (see attached sheet) than the average English Language Instructor regularly hired by the university, and I cannot be easily replaced.
- I very much like my employment at the university and my life in the city of Jeddah. Furthermore, it would cause me much hardship were I to lose my current position.

With the above in mind I most humbly request that my contract be renewed.

Faithfully and sincerely,

Roddy A. Stegemann, A.B., M.A., M.A.

Lecturer, English Language Institute

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