

**From:** KNOPF, HERMAN <KNOPFH@mailbox.sc.edu>  
**To:** Soura, ChristianChristianSoura@gov.sc.gov  
**CC:** WATSON, LEMUELWATSONLW@mailbox.sc.edu  
**Date:** 6/6/2014 10:08:27 PM  
**Subject:** Teacher Quality Partnership Grant Program

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Christian,

I met you in my office at the USC Child Development Research Center back in March as we were discussing the ICC for IDEA Part C. I hope that process is moving along and that your support will result in a healthy and functioning Interagency Coordinating Council.

I am writing to see if the Governor would have interest in signing a letter of support for a grant application some colleagues and I will be submitting to the US Department of Education to secure funding to enhance the quality of our Early Childhood teacher preparation program at USC.

Specifically we will be competing for the Teacher Quality Partnership Grant Program (CFDA 84.336S) which would provide \$1.5 million per year for up to 5 years to support teacher preparation in High Need school districts. While I see many potential benefits of this project to the state and the children of South Carolina, this RFP is most poignant in light of the Read to Succeed legislation and the need to strengthen the support of early literacy development as well as a specific interest in supporting the preparation of STEM teachers. If you think this is something that the Governor would have an interest in supporting, please let me know what information about our proposal would be most important to share (an abstract, our letter of interest, or the full proposal) and whether or not I should draft a letter of support for the Governor's review and signature. The proposal deadline is July 14, but we will need to have the entire application package complete about a week prior to that to ensure ample time for the USC system to process and submit the proposal to the US Department of Education.

If it would help please feel free to give me a call at your convenience so that we can discuss (803) 318-9566.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,  
Herman

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