

Lisboa, 31 de Janeiro de 2006

L2/06-049

Dr. Deborah Anderson Script Encoding Initiative University of California, Berkeley Department of Linguistics 1203 Dwinelle Hall #2650 Berkeley, CA 94720-2650 USA

Dear Dr Anderson,

I would like to voice my full support to the recently published document "Proposal to add medievalist characters to the UCS", edited by Michael Everson.

As a specialist in Latin and Medieval Portuguese Palaeography I can attest that many of the characters proposed in that document are extremely important for my own work and for the work of my colleagues in medieval studies.

The fact that the majority of authors of specialized printed materials have to resort to using facsimile snippets or hand-drawn samples of **typical** medieval characters and signs (the preparation of which is time-consuming and is fraught with difficulties and limitations) prevents modern scholars like myself from sharing research results and information and from using already published work without loss of data. The encoding of medieval characters and signs and the normalization of adequate fonts to render them is an imperative need for contemporary medievalists.

I hope that the UTC will approve the contents of the proposal for encoding in the Unicode Standard.

I wish to thank Michael Everson for all the work he has done on this proposal and to commend him for having so successfully and coherently organised all input from so many experts from so many different countries.

Sincerely,

Susana Tavares Pedro Guest Assistant Professor

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