To: Unicode Technical Committee
From: Deborah Anderson, Script Encoding Initiative, UC Berkeley
Date: 1 August 2007
RE: L2/07-237 Comment on L2/07-232 Suggestion to encode Javanese in the SMP

In response to document L2/07-237, which commented on encoding Javanese in the BMP, I wish to provide additional information from members of the Javanese community, which I collected while preparing a grant application to the National Endowment for the Humanities.

In describing the script for my grant application in June 2006, I wanted to verify whether the Javanese script was still being taught in schools. I sent a series of questions to Donny Harimurti, my contact in Indonesia, who forwarded on the queries to other members of the Javanese user community. I asked whether the old script was still being taught at all in the schools (primary and secondary)?

The following was sent by Ignatius Supriyanto, a lecturer at Leiden University, who teaches Indonesian grammar and Javanese grammar and discourse.

> Since the Javanese congresses (next July there will be held the 6th congress) the Javanese script is taught only in the primary schools (the language is also taught in secondary schools). It is perhaps not what you might call satisfying (only some 3 years in the primary schools and about 1 hour a week), but the pupils are in any case taught to be acquainted with the Javanese script. I learned from my own experience that that was enough to know the Javanese script well. It depends on the pupils themselves whether or not to bring their knowledge into practice by reading books in Javanese script.

Another response, from Yudi Doang:

> I still find that primary and secondary schools in Central Java [a]nd The Special teritory of Yogyakarta still teach Javanese including the Javanese writing. But that is how far it is done. After that level, it is done in universities, only to students interested (Javanese language departments).

I received other replies that confirmed that the script is still taught in schools. In my view, this fulfills a criterion for encoding on BMP, for it shows current usage.