Notice of the Final Oral Examination
for the Degree of Master of Arts

of

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BA (Konan University, 2011)

“Enhancing Social Media-Based Participation in L2 Communities of Practice”

Department of Pacific and Asian Studies

Wednesday, April 12, 2017
9:00 A.M
Clearihue Building
Room C316

Supervisory Committee:
Dr. Cody Poulton, Department of Pacific and Asian Studies, University of Victoria (Co-Supervisor)
Dr. Alexandra D’Arcy, Department of Linguistics, UVic (Co-Supervisor)

External Examiner:
Dr. Catherine Caws, Department of French, UVic

Chair of Oral Examination:
Dr. Anastasia Mallidou, School of Nursing, UVic

Dr. David Capson, Dean, Faculty of Graduate Studies
Abstract

This thesis is a literature review that reports on the use of social media for language learning and teaching. I argue that the use of L1 as well as L2 on social media is an important learning strategy because on social media platforms, code-switching can play a vital role in communication among users. I also argue that social media-based participation in Communities of Practice (CoPs) can provide learning opportunities for language learners. In the course of my argument, I examine a wide range of studies relating to social media, second language acquisition, sociolinguistics and applied linguistics, and I discuss the benefits and risks of the use of social media in language learning. After amalgamating the findings of the thesis, I propose a curricular framework for language classrooms, which serves as a scaffolding activity for the use of social media for participating in L2 CoPs through objective analysis of linguistic resources.