




**MEMORANDUM**

To: USC Faculty

From: Elizabeth Garrett   
Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs

Date: October 27, 2011

Subject: Support for Faculty Provided by the Office of the Provost

Office of the Provost

**Elizabeth Garrett**  
Provost and  
Senior Vice  
President  
for Academic  
Affairs

Frances R. and  
John J. Duggan  
Professor of Law,  
Political Science  
and Public Policy

On September 16, 2011, the USC community celebrated the launch of the most ambitious fundraising campaign in the university’s history. A priority for the campaign is to increase the number of transformative faculty and to ensure that current exceptional faculty continue to thrive in their teaching, research, and creative work. While we all welcome the transformational hires that have been recruited over the past few years, I recognize that the university is fortunate to already have many faculty within our academic departments who have been instrumental in building outstanding programs and raising USC’s academic reputation.

As USC continues its rise in distinction and prestige, I am committed to providing resources for stellar faculty so that they are able to continue producing high-caliber scholarly and creative work and research. This commitment includes providing schools and units with the support they need to recruit and retain leading and distinguished scholars, nurturing the careers and talents of promising junior faculty, and working with the schools to honor their most deserving faculty.

This year, the Office of the Provost plans to award approximately \$6.7 million in competitive grants to faculty across all disciplines to provide critical funding. In particular, funding has been increased significantly for core instrumentation acquisition and staffing and to support faculty in the arts, humanities, and humanistic social sciences. The expanded financial support is a tangible expression of the university’s commitment to and appreciation of our most productive scholars.

Additionally, I have increased funding to support several faculty hiring and retention initiatives such as the hiring of interdisciplinary faculty of great stature as Provost Professors; investing in faculty who expand the diversity of our community; support for hiring in the neurosciences; funding for transformative hires in the humanities and social sciences; and support for Provost Postdoctoral Fellows in the Humanities. I will be announcing other hiring initiatives in the near future.

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For more information on applying for research support and other competitively awarded grants and funds available through the Office of the Provost, please visit the following websites:

Advancing Scholarship in the Humanities and Social Sciences [<http://fpd.usc.edu>]

Office of Research [<http://research.usc.edu>]

USC Stevens Institute for Innovation [<http://stevens.usc.edu>]

USC Center for Excellence in Teaching [<http://cet.usc.edu>]

USC Center for Excellence in Research [<http://research.usc.edu/about/vp/cer/>]

USC Center for Scholarly Technology [<http://cst.usc.edu>]