MEMORANDUM

To: Deans, Associate and Vice Deans, Department Chairs, and Staff Advisors

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

Date: September 19, 2014

Subject: Provost’s Mentored Teaching Fellows Program

I am pleased to announce the establishment of the Provost’s Mentored Teaching Fellows program for USC PhD students. Students chosen for the program will serve as instructors of record for their own courses and will be mentored by some of USC’s best faculty. In addition to excellent scholarly credentials, the students selected will have teaching portfolios that include syllabi, course materials, and faculty recommendations geared specifically to teaching as they move out into the academic job market.

The Provost’s Mentored Teaching Fellows program is open to USC PhD students, preferably those entering their third or fourth year of study. Students must be making timely progress to the degree, have an outstanding record in coursework, and have strong student evaluations and faculty recommendations for at least one and preferably two semesters of work as a teaching assistant or assistant lecturer at USC. The student and his or her mentor will apply jointly to develop a 4-unit undergraduate course akin to one typically taught by a new junior faculty member. The course must be accessible to undergraduate students from a wide array of majors and have a projected enrollment of 15-30 students.

Provost’s Mentored Teaching Fellows will be appointed for one year. The first semester will be devoted to course preparations and participation in the Provost’s Mentored Teaching Fellows Seminar conducted jointly by the Graduate School and the Center for Excellence in Teaching. During the second semester, the fellow will teach the course that she or he has prepared and will continue participation in the seminar. The fellow will receive a stipend at the level of a Provost’s Fellowship along with a $1,000 research account to be used for research expenses and professional travel. The student’s faculty mentor will receive a $500 contribution to his or her research account.

The first cohort of 5-10 Provost’s Mentored Teaching Fellows will be selected in spring 2015 for the pilot program to run in academic year 2015-2016. Further details can be found here:

http://www.usc.edu/schools/GraduateSchool/fellowshipsmain.html

If you have questions, please contact Assistant Dean for Graduate Academic Affairs Shayna Kessel, skessel@usc.edu, or Vice Provost for Graduate Programs Sally Pratt, pratt@usc.edu.