About USC

Located at the heart of the USC campus, Tommy Trojan is the university's most iconic landmark. The statue's granite pedestal bears the five qualities of the ideal Trojan: faithful, scholarly, skillful, courageous and ambitious.

USC Today

Located near the heart of Los Angeles, the University of Southern California is one of the top private research universities in the United States, attracting students from around the globe and operating an integrated academic medical center that serves more than a million patients each year.

Since its establishment in 1880, USC has conferred degrees on more than 200,000 students – leaders who have helped Southern California emerge as an international trendsetter in public policy, economic and business affairs, urban planning and engineering, scientific research, health care, communications and the arts. Today, USC and its graduates carry forward this heritage of leadership.

The traditional function of the university is to teach students. USC is committed to promoting lifelong learning and to the principle that education thrives in a context of new knowledge creation.

USC places a premium on research, scholarship and the credentials of its faculty. Since 1969, it has been a member of the Association of American Universities, the elective body that unites the 62 premier research universities in the United States and Canada. It is accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges, 985 Atlantic Ave., Suite 100, Alameda, CA 94501, (510) 748-9001. Students may review USC’s accreditation documents by contacting associate provost Robin Romans.

From the start, USC has contributed to the welfare of students, faculty, staff and alumni, as well as to Southern California, the nation and the world. The university’s hospitals, affiliated hospitals and partnerships with business and nonprofit organizations help spread USC’s expertise across the community at large.

Academic Programs

The University of Southern California upholds a tradition of academic strength at all levels – from freshman year to postdoctoral fellowship.

USC offers bachelor’s degrees in 172 undergraduate majors, and, as of fall 2013, graduate students were enrolled in nearly 392 masters, certificate, doctoral and professional degree programs. Alongside these many majors, USC has developed 174 different academic and professional minors – the broadest selection of any U.S. university – to encourage students to study subjects across widely separated fields. Students may select from a variety of degree combinations under the direction of the USC Dornsife College of Letters, Arts and Sciences, the Graduate School and the university’s 18 professional schools.

The USC Dornsife College of Letters, Arts and Sciences is at the heart of the university’s commitment to teaching and research in the humanities, social sciences and natural sciences. The largest and most diverse of USC’s academic divisions – in terms of both student enrollment and faculty – the college serves nearly 8,000 undergraduates and more than 1,700 graduate students, and offers more than 140 undergraduate courses of study and a full range of master’s and doctoral degree programs. In addition to the undergraduate degrees offered by the college, many of the university’s professional schools also offer bachelor’s degree programs.

Faculty

USC’s full-time faculty numbers nearly 3,800. In addition, more than 4,000 volunteer faculty members are affiliated with the Keck School of Medicine of USC, and more than 400 volunteer faculty are affiliated with the USC School of Pharmacy. Research, teaching, patient care and community service are supported by a staff of more than 12,000.

USC’s faculty includes Nobel laureates George A. Olah, Murray Gell-Mann, David McFadden and Ariel Warshel, as well as National Medal of Arts winners Morten Lauridsen and George Lucas, National Humanities Medal winner Kevin Starr, National Medal of Science winners Simon Ramo, Andrew Viterbi and Solomon Golomb, Turing Prize recipient Leonard Adleman, Fritzkprize honoree Frank Gehry, MacArthur fellows Elyn Saks, Jacob Soli and Luis Alfaro, renowned violinist Midori Goto, Michael Waterman (a founder of computational genomics), Manuel Castells (interpreter of the Internet age), and Antonio Damasio (pioneer in the neural bases of emotions). More than 200 faculty members have received prestigious academic and professional awards from organizations as varied as the National Institutes of Health, the National Science Foundation, the Department of Homeland Security, the National Endowment for the Humanities, the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation, the John Simon Guggenheim Foundation and the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences.

Also on the faculty are members of the National Academy of Sciences (16), National Academy of Engineering (17), National Academy of Education (1), Institute of Medicine (17) and American Academy of Arts and Sciences (33).

Students

Diversity is a hallmark of the student community. USC students come from all 50 states, five territories and 115 countries. There are 41,000 students enrolled at the university, including some 18,000 undergraduates and 23,000 graduate and professional students. In fall 2013, nearly 50 percent of new freshmen were from California. Almost 40 percent of the university’s total enrollment is international students. For 13 consecutive years, USC has been at the top of American universities in terms of international enrollment. Among undergraduates, approximately 50 percent are men and 50 percent are women.

The middle 50 percent SAT range of the 2013 enrolled freshman class was 1960–2190. The average unweighted GPA was 3.73. In fall 2013, there were 249 National Merit Scholars.

USC students consistently earn nationally competitive scholarships and fellowships, including Fulbright, Luce, Marshall, Truman, Rhodes and Churchill scholarships.

Research Support

USC is one of a small number of premier research institutions producing a steady stream of new knowledge, art and technology. With more than $600 million in annual research expenditures, it ranks among the top 10 private universities in federal research activity.

Libraries

The USC Libraries develop and services that support and encourage the academic endeavors of faculty, students and staff; build a community of critical consumers of information; and help develop engaged world citizens. With more than 4 million volumes, 3 million photographs, 6 million microforms, and subscriptions to more than 50,000 serials and 33,000 electronic journals, the USC Libraries actively support the discovery, creation and preservation of knowledge.

The largest of USC’s libraries is the Edward L. Doheny Jr. Memorial Library, which contains the research collections for most of the humanities and social sciences. Doheny Memorial Library also houses the Cinematic Arts Library, the Music Library, the East Asian Library and Special Collections.

The USC Libraries include a number of specialized libraries that serve the unique research needs of the USC community. Three libraries also are devoted to collections for their respective professions: the Aja V. Call Library, the Eileen and Kenneth T. Norris Medical Library, and the Jennifer Ann Wilson Dental Library and Learning Center.

The Thomas and Dorothy Leavey Library features a core collection of books and journals, two electronic information commons with nearly 200 computer workstations, more than 50 collaborative workspaces, two hands-on learning classrooms, a multimedia auditorium and more than 1,400 reader seats in a variety of formal and informal arrangements. Leavey provides faculty and students with tools to accomplish research using both traditional and electronic resources. Within Leavey, librarians and staff provide faculty with assistance in using technology and information resources to develop materials for instruction and scholarly research.

The USC Libraries have noteworthy collections in the areas of cinema, international and public affairs, American literature, regional history, marine science, philosophy, and Latin American and Korean studies, among others. The Feuchtwanger Memorial Library features an extensive collection of Lion Feuchtwanger’s own works along with the rarest books from his library. The USC Libraries also are home to the Beckman Center for the History of Science and the Latin American Studies, as well as an extensive collection of photographs chronicling the history of Southern California. A complete list of all libraries and updated hours is available online at usc.edu/libraries/hours/all_libraries/.

USC’s electronic resources, available online at usc.edu/libraries, include a collection of databases, electronic books, electronic journals and visual materials. USC’s online library catalog, HOMER, provides a list of books, periodicals, government documents and dissertations held in libraries on the University Park Campus. The USC Libraries are also engaged in numerous digital initiatives, such as the USC Digital Library. To access these resources and learn about additional services, visit digitallibrary.usc.edu.

USC Libraries’ Ask-A-Librarian service provides 24-hour-a-day professional reference assistance to students, faculty and staff. Patrons receive expert answers in person, via phone, email and online chat sessions. Ask-A-Librarian is located online at usc.edu/libraries/services/ask_a_librarian.

Computing Resources

Before activating their USC computing accounts, students must be registered for classes or have paid their tuition deposit and certified that they will be attending USC. Students must also agree to observe the university’s computing policies, which are available at cio.usc.edu/policies. Students should go to usc.edu/firelogin to activate their USC computing account.

Illegal File Sharing

Illegal File Sharing
Information Technology Services (ITS) provides a variety of resources to help students understand copyright issues related to digital media and file-sharing technologies, along with the risks of illegal file sharing. For more information, see cio.usc.edu/copyright.

USC’s Wireless Network

Most common areas at USC are configured for wireless technology. There are two ways to connect to the USC wireless network: USC Wireless and USC Wireless Plus.

USC Wireless

USC Wireless is an open network. You can connect without entering your USC username and password. Because USC Wireless is an open network, ITS recommends that you use USC’s Virtual Private Network (VPN) software to protect your personal information when using this network. See itservices.usc.edu/vpn for instructions.

USC Wireless Plus

USC Wireless Plus is a faster, encrypted network, available only to USC account holders. When connecting to USC Wireless Plus for the first time, you may need to configure your wireless device. For instructions, see itservices.usc.edu/wireless.

ResNet

All the rooms in USC residence halls are connected to ResNet, a high-speed wired computer network. For more information, see itservices.usc.edu/resnet.

Email

USC students receive a separate Gmail account that allows them to use their @usc.edu email address. This account provides 30 gigabytes of online storage space and access to Google’s online word processing and spreadsheet programs, sharable calendars and more.

Antivirus and Other Software

For free antivirus and other software, visit software.usc.edu. (A USC login is required.) An overview of software resources is available at itservices.usc.edu/software. For tips on secure computing, go to itservices.usc.edu/security/overview.

For useful information about IT-related security threats and updates, including warnings about the latest phishing attempts, go to the ITS Security Blog at it-security.usc.edu.

Blackboard

Blackboard is the online learning management system used by USC instructors to provide students with digital copies of syllabi, course notes, handouts, media files, Website links and hosted discussion forums. Blackboard allows students to upload assignments, take quizzes, communicate with classmates and track progress in their classes. For more information, see blackboard.usc.edu.

MyUSC

MyUSC is the university’s portal, designed to provide personalized access to wide-ranging campus resources in a single location. Features include university and student group announcements, national and university news and events feeds, and access to online registration, OASIS, Blackboard and other services. MyUSC is available at my.usc.edu.

Lynda.com

USC students have free access to lynda.com, an online training provider offering more than 3,280 video-based courses on a broad range of computing and technology topics, including Google Apps, Blackboard, Adobe products, Microsoft Office, Web design and development, audio/video production, computer programming and mobile devices. For more information, visit itservices.usc.edu/lynda.

USCmobile

USCmobile (mobile.usc.edu) provides access to a broad range of USC content from your smartphone or tablet, including campus directories, maps, news, events, tram routes and arrival times, and more.

Computing Documentation, Network Alerts and ITS Announcements

In addition to documentation on connecting to the USC network and using supported software programs, the ITS Website provides information about network performance issues and announcements about scheduled maintenance. Visit itservices.usc.edu/spaces/computingcenters.

USC Computing Centers

USC’s computing centers offer technology-enhanced collaboration spaces, computers, wireless networking, laptop lending, and wireless printing services for USC students, faculty and staff. Laptop lending is available at Waite Phillips Hall of Education (VPN B34), King Olympic Hall (KOH 206) and Henry Salvatori Computer Science Center (SAL 125). You may be asked to show your USC ID card. For more information, including computer center hours, visit itservices.usc.edu/spaces/computingcenters.

Getting Help

For help with network connectivity and software, contact the ITS Customer Support Center by calling 740-5555 or sending an email to consult@usc.edu. Walk-in support is available from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, in Leavey Library’s Information Commons, on the lower level. For more information, see itservices.usc.edu/csc.

Hospitals and Patient Care

The schools of medicine, pharmacy and dentistry, together with the divisions of biokinesiology and physical therapy and of occupational science and occupational therapy, train professionals in the health-care fields, conduct original research in all aspects of biomedicine and health care, and provide high-quality patient care to the Southern California community.

The Health Sciences Campus is home to Keck Medicine of USC, the University of Southern California’s medical enterprise, one of only two university-owned academic medical centers in Los Angeles County. Encompassing academic, research and clinical entities, it consists of:

- Keck School of Medicine of USC, one of the top medical schools in Southern California;
- USC Norris Comprehensive Cancer Center, one of the first comprehensive cancer centers established in the United States;
- USC Care Medical Group, the faculty practice;
- Keck Medical Center of USC, which includes two acute care hospitals: 401-bed Keck Hospital of USC and 60-bed USC Norris Cancer Hospital;
- USC Verdugo Hills Hospital, a 158-bed community hospital;
- Outpatient facilities in Beverly Hills, downtown Los Angeles, La Cañada Flintridge, Pasadena, and the USC University Park Campus; and
- Keck Medicine of USC Medical Foundation, a group of physicians affiliated with Keck Medicine of USC.

Keck School of Medicine of USC also provides medical staffing for the adjacent Los Angeles County-USC Medical Center, one of the largest teaching hospitals in the country, and for Children’s Hospital Los Angeles, ranked fifth on the U.S. News & World Report’s Honor Roll of best children’s hospitals.

The physicians who are faculty members of the Keck School of Medicine provide care in a wide range of medical specialties from the most complex diagnoses and treatments to primary care for the entire family. In addition to teaching, conducting research and caring for patients, Keck School faculty members train more than 900 medical residents and fellows.

The USC School of Pharmacy operates three campus pharmacies. Two are located on the University Park Campus – the USC Pharmacy in the Gwynn Wilson Student Union and the Health Center Pharmacy immediately adjacent to the Engemann Student Health Center. On the Health Sciences Campus, the Medical Plaza Pharmacy is located in the Healthcare Consultation Center I building adjacent to the Keck Hospital of USC. These pharmacies provide full pharmacy services including disease screenings, immunizations, medication therapy management, medication compounding, an international travel clinic and transplant pharmacy services. School of Pharmacy faculty, residents and students also provide pharmacy services and patient consultations at the Keck Hospital of USC, USC Norris Cancer Hospital, the LAC-USC Medical Center and other hospitals, clinics, skilled nursing facilities, home health care agencies and pharmacies throughout Southern California.

Students and advanced specialty residents of the Herman Ostrow School of Dentistry of USC, under the supervision of expert faculty, practice at the Norris Dental Science Center on the University Park Campus. Dental faculty members treat patients at the Herman Ostrow School of Dentistry Faculty Practice within the Engemann Student Health Center, also on the University Park Campus. In addition, students and faculty care for patients in hospitals, fixed satellite clinics, mobile clinics and other community oral health programs throughout Southern California.

Biokinesiology and physical therapy faculty see patients at the USC Physical Therapy Associates clinics in the new USC Engemann Student Health Center on the University Park Campus, at Keck Hospital of USC, USC Norris Cancer Hospital and clinical offices in the USC Health Research Association building adjacent to the Health Sciences Campus.

Occupational therapy faculty see patients at Keck Hospital of USC, USC Norris Cancer Hospital, USC/Eisner Family Medicine Center at California Hospital and Keck Medicine of USC Pasadena, and provide Lifestyle Redesign® treatment at the USC Occupational Therapy Faculty Practice in the Clinical Sciences Center on the Health Sciences Campus and in the Engemann Student Health Center on the University Park Campus.

Civic Engagement

The region’s oldest research university, USC has been an integral part of its community for more than 130 years. Today, USC is the largest private employer in Los Angeles and is renowned for innovative university-community partnerships aimed at strengthening the neighborhoods around its University Park and Health Sciences campuses. Implemented in partnership with community agencies, civic leaders and public officials, USC’s university-community initiatives focus on providing educational,
At least one USC athlete has won a gold medal in every summer Olympiad since 1921, making USC the only university in the world with this distinction.

USC Alumni Association

The USC Alumni Association’s mission is to support the overall advancement of the University of Southern California by engaging all alumni for life, building a culture of philanthropy among the Trojan Family, and being the representative voice for all USC alumni.

The USC Alumni Association annually hosts hundreds of events and programs around the globe and provides benefits and services to all USC alumni. With more than 340,000 members worldwide, the USC Alumni Association supports over 100 affiliated alumni clubs and chapters, alumnae support groups and multicultural and geographic student programs. The USC Alumni Association is a collective, privately held, nonprofit 501(c)(3) corporation, membership is open to all alumni.

USC Alumni Association is a member of the Higher Education Alumni Association (HEAA), a national organization of more than 1,200 member universities and colleges in all 50 states. HEAA is dedicated to the advancement of alumni associations and support programs around the world.

For more information about USC’s community-engagement efforts, visit usc.edu/community.

Cultural Life

USC and its campuses play an important role in making Los Angeles one of the world’s great centers for arts and culture. The USC Thornton School of Music is the nation’s largest producer of live music performances in the city, presenting more than 500 music events annually. The USC School of Dramatic Arts produces a full schedule of performances as well, and the USC Fisher Museum of Art regularly offers exhibitions ranging from contemporary works to antiquities, and the USC School of Cinematic Arts presents film screenings and other events, many of which are open to the public. USC’s storied Doheny Memorial Library also hosts a wide variety of lectures, readings, conferences, concerts and special exhibits. In addition, Visions and Voices, USC’s campus-wide arts and humanities initiative, attracts nearly 60,000 students each year to theatrical productions, music and dance performances, conferences, lectures, film screenings, and other activities both on and off campus. For up-to-date information about cultural programming at USC, call the University Ticket Office at (213) 740-GOSC (4672) or visit the online arts and events calendar (usc.edu/calendar).

Athletics

USC sponsors nine varsity sports for men and 12 for women, involving more than 600 of the nation’s top-ranked athletes. In their pursuit of athletic and academic excellence, USC varsity teams have won more national championships than all but two NCAA member institutions: 25 women’s team titles and 96 men’s team titles—including 11 unofficial football titles. USC is one of only three universities with an all-sports athletic history to win at least five national championships in one year (1962-63 and 1976-77). Fifty-two USC athletes have been awarded NCAA undergraduate scholarships.

In Olympic competition, USC has fielded more athletes than any other institution. Since 1904, 420 Trojan athletes have participated in the Olympic Games, accumulating a total of 135 gold, 88 silver and 65 bronze medals.

At least one USC student-athlete has won a gold medal in every summer Olympiad since 1921, making USC the only university in the world with this distinction.
the late summer heat and dust to witness the laying of the cornerstone for the university’s first building. Just days after the construction was completed, on October 6, 1880, USC opened its doors to welcome 53 students.

Marion McKinley Bovard became USC’s first president, under an initial agreement that put him in charge of the internal organization of the university as well as its educational program for a period of five years. Bovard resigned over seven boom years prior to 1887 and then over an extended period of fiscal uncertainty and near collapse, until his untimely death in December 1891.

The man who took on the task of leading the university through the impending financial crisis was Joseph P. Widney, brother of Robert Maclay Widney and the first dean of USC’s medical school (founded in 1885). Widney served as president for three years, accepting no salary and paying most of his own expenses. In 1893, he stepped down from his post to resume his medical practice.

During the presidency of George W. White, USC continued to progress both financially and educationally. Although White returned to the Methodist ministry in 1893, the momentum built during his administration sustained the university throughout a four-year interregnum during which the Board of Trustees sought a suitable replacement.

George Finley Bovard, younger brother of USC’s first president, took the helm of the young university in 1903. Dedicated to keeping up with the demands of Southern California’s rapidly expanding population – which grew from 11,000 in 1880 to 219,000 in 1910 – USC began to evolve from a small, struggling institution into one of the principal seats of learning on the Pacific Coast.

While elsewhere in the country, the Carnegies, Rockeefellers, Vanderbilts and Stanfords had been heavily endowing universities during the late 19th century, USC forged ahead largely on the energies of its faculty, deans, presidents and trustees. Likewise, as challenging as the years of World War I proved to be, they demonstrated – as did the financial panic of the 1890s – that USC was vulnerable to economic cycles but nevertheless resilient in difficult times.

During the era of the founders, the forerunners of today’s schools or departments of architecture, business, dentistry, education, engineering, fine arts, journalism, law, marine biology, music, pharmacy, philosophy, religion and sociology were added to the university.

USC marked another high point when Los Angeles Times sportswriter Owen R. Bird dubbed the university’s spirited athletic teams the “Trojans” in 1912.

The von KleinSmid Years (1921–1929)

Fagg hastened the process by instituting modern cost-accounting practices, establishing a development office and increasing library holdings by two-thirds. He also began a program of land acquisition, expanding the boundaries of the University Park Campus and purchasing land near the county hospital to create the Health Sciences Campus.

The Topping Years (1958–1970)

When Topping stepped down in 1970, the mantle of leadership passed to John R. Hubbard, who charted his priority as bringing USC to even higher levels of academic distinction. Toward this end, Hubbard launched the “Toward Century II” campaign, an overwhelmingly successful fundraising effort that brought in more than $309 million.

Although American higher education in the 1970s was characterized by lowered enrollments and a drop-off in funding, USC rose to new heights during this time. Ten major buildings were begun or completed; USC’s total number of endowed chairs and professorships rose to 67; applications for admission soared from 4,100 in 1970 to more than 11,000 in 1979; and the mean grade point average for admitted freshmen rose to 3.4 on a 4.0 scale.

The Hubbard administration also brought a renewed dedication to USC’s urban community. As an outward sign of this commitment, the university’s Joint Educational Project was founded in 1972.

The Zumberge Years (1980–1991)

James H. Zumberge was inaugurated as USC’s ninth president on May 10, 1981, during a ceremony that was the capstone of a year of celebrations marking the centennial of the university.

Building on an academic planning process that began early in his tenure, Zumberge focused on strengthening undergraduate education; expanding key doctoral, research, professional and health sciences programs; and forging stronger community connections. The Zumberge years also saw USC’s highly successful participation in the 1984 Olympics.

In addition, Zumberge launched “The Campaign for USC,” which at the time was the biggest fundraising program in the university’s history. When it concluded in June 1990, the campaign had raised $641.6 million, contributing over $188 million to USC’s endowment and boosting annual support of university programs to unprecedented levels.

USC made major strides in funding for research during the Zumberge years as well. Sponsored research grew from $71.5 million in 1981 to $174.5 million in 1989 – a 144 percent increase. Major research efforts, such as the USC-based National Center for Integrated Photonic Technology and the Southern California Earthquake Center, contributed significantly to USC’s emergence as one of the nation’s premier research universities.

Among the more than a dozen major new buildings completed during Zumberge’s tenure were the Hedco Neurosciences Building, General William Lyon University Center, the Cinematic Arts Complex, Pertussi University Bookstore and Kaprielian Hall, as well as major additions to the architecture and fine arts library and the law school building. Plans for a new teaching library also got under way.

USC’s Health Sciences Campus, too, underwent dramatic transformations during the Zumberge decade, nearly doubling in size with the acquisition of land and existing buildings from Los Angeles County. As Zumberge stepped down, the USC Norris Comprehensive Cancer Center, which opened in 1983, was in the final stages of fundraising for a major building addition. Additionally, construction was nearing completion on Richard E. Eamter Medical Plaza, a cooperative project of the university and National Medical Enterprises that included the 284-bed USC University Hospital and USC Healthcare Consultation Center I.

The Sample Years (1991–2010)

Steven S. Sample took office as USC’s 10th president in March 1991.

Despite a first year fraught with earthquakes, riots and fiscal difficulties, he personally drafted USC’s Role and Mission Statement and set in motion a strategic planning process that identified four initiatives – undergraduate education, interdisciplinary research and education, programs building upon the resources of Southern California and Los Angeles, and internationalization – for guiding USC to new heights throughout the 1990s.

Under Sample’s leadership, the university developed a distinctive core curriculum as well as a broad array of academic and professional minors that made “breath
with depth" the hallmark of undergraduate education at USC. Thanks to these and other investments, USC became regarded nationally as a pacesetter in undergraduate education and enrolled some of the most academically talented freshman classes in the country.

Sample sharpened the university’s focus on improving schools and promoting safe streets in the neighborhoods immediately surrounding its two campuses. Among the flagship programs developed to meet these goals were the USC Good Neighbors Program, which channels faculty and staff giving into support of USC-community partnerships, and the Family of Schools, an alliance between the university and local schools that provides educational, cultural and development opportunities for neighborhood schoolchildren. This approach to community service became a national mark of distinction when the editors of Time magazine and The Princeton Review named USC “College of the Year 2000” in recognition of its ambitious social-outreach programs.

Sample also steered USC to new fundraising heights. Under the banner of “Building on Excellence,” the university mounted a $2.85 billion fundraising drive that concluded in 2002 as the most successful campaign in the history of American higher education. At the time, USC was the only university to exceed nine-figure gifts—$120 million from the Annenberg Foundation to create the USC Annenberg Center for Communication; $113 million (later increased to $163 million) from Alfred Mann Foundation for the Mann Research Institute; $110 million from the W. M. Keck Foundation for the Keck School of Medicine of USC; and a second gift from the Annenberg Foundation of $100 million. In 2006, USC received a fifth nine-figure gift: $150 million from the Lucasfilm Foundation to endow the USC School of Cinematic Arts and construct a new building for the school.

Among the major facilities opened during the Sample administration were the Thomas and Dorothy Leavitt Library, Jane Hoffman Popovich and J. Kristoffer Popovich Hall, the International Residential College at Parkside, Zilkha Neurogenetic Institute, Ronald Tutor Hall, Ray R. Irani Hall, USC Healthcare Consultation Center II, the Galen Center, the Arts and Humanities Residential College at Parkside, and the USC School of Cinematic Arts complex. Additionally, fulfilling a long-held Trojan dream, ground was broken for the Ronald Tutor Campus Center in May 2008.

Sample oversaw a dramatic gain in USC’s academic prowess as well. In 1994, George Olah, director of the USC Loker Hydrocarbon Research Institute, won the Nobel Prize in chemistry. The number of National Academy members on the USC faculty more than doubled during the Sample years, and sponsored research by USC investigators rose from $183.3 million to $484 million. USC also became world-renowned in the fields of life sciences as well as in cross-disciplinary teaching and research.

Sample stepped down from the presidency of USC effective August 2, 2010, taking a yearlong sabbatical before resuming his teaching and research work as a tenured member of the faculty of the USC Viterbi School of Engineering.

A New Era: President C. L. Max Nikias (2010–)

C. L. Max Nikias became the University of Southern California’s 11th president on August 3, 2010. He is the holder of the Robert C. Packard President’s Chair and the Malcolm R. Currie Chair in Technology and the Humanities.

As president, Nikias has articulated a vision for USC to attain undisputed, elite status as a global research university. His initiatives include recruiting a cadre of transformative, first-class faculty; elevating USC’s academic medical enterprise; expanding USC’s international presence; further improving the breadth and quality of USC’s outstanding student body; and advancing the largest fundraising campaign in the history of higher education.

The Campaign for the University of Southern California aims to raise $6 billion to advance the university’s academic priorities and expand its positive impact on the community and the world. Nikias’ first three years as president were highlighted by 23 transformative gifts that allowed USC to raise an unprecedented total of $3 billion.

Nikias brought the country’s largest literary festival, the Los Angeles Times Festival of Books, to USC. Also under his leadership, the university announced an alliance to establish the USC Pacific Asia Museum, and embarked on a capital construction initiative that already includes the McKay Center, Engemann Student Health Center, a new cinematic arts building, the University Club at Stoops Hall, the Soto Building on the Health Sciences Campus, Dauterive Hall and Wallis Annenberg Hall, as well as beautification projects for both of USC’s main campuses.

Before assuming the presidency, Nikias had served as USC’s chief academic officer since June 2005. In that role, he was credited with recruiting new academic leadership, strengthening the academic medical enterprise, attracting a series of major donations to the university, launching innovations in cross-disciplinary programs and enhancing USC’s globalization efforts as well as increasing support for students at the undergraduate, graduate and doctoral levels.

Nikias was instrumental in bringing the Shoah Foundation, originally established by filmmaker and USC trustee Steven Spielberg, to USC. The USC Shoah Foundation Institute for Visual History and Education’s repository of 53,000 testimonies of Holocaust survivors represents the world’s largest visual archives digital library. Nikias also established the Edward R. Roybal Institute on Aging, the Stevens Center for Innovation, the U.S.-China Institute, and the Levian Institute for Humanities and Ethics. He launched Visions and Voices, USC’s campus-wide arts and humanities initiative, as well as a grant program to advance scholarship in the humanities and social sciences. In addition, he teaches freshmen about ancient Athenian democracy and drama.

With the goal of advancing medical and biological sciences and patient care at USC, Nikias spearheaded the integration of faculty practice plans at the Keck School of Medicine of USC, oversaw the transfer of Keck Hospital of USC and USC Norris Cancer Hospital from Tenet Healthcare Corporation to the university, and recruited a new leadership team for the university’s medical enterprise. He currently chairs the USC Health System Board.

In 2011, the university received a transformative $150 million naming gift from the W. M. Keck Foundation, a gift that unified USC’s medical enterprise under the name Keck Medicine of USC. This further aligned the missions of the Keck School of Medicine of USC and Keck Medical Center (Keck Hospital of USC, USC Norris Cancer Hospital and the university’s faculty practice plans).

Nikias joined the university faculty in 1991. As dean of the USC Viterbi School of Engineering from 2001 to 2005, he solidified the school’s top-tier position, oversaw the expansion of its biomedical engineering enterprise and developed its distance-learning program into one of the largest in the country. He also established key partnerships with corporations, among them Pratt and Whitney, Airbus, Boeing, Chevron and Northrop Grumman, and led a fundraising campaign that brought in more than $250 million, including the historic $52 million school-naming gift from Andrew and Erna Viterbi.

Over his two-decade career as an active scholar, Nikias has been internationally recognized for his pioneering research on digital signal processing, digital media systems and biomedicine. He was founding director of two national research centers at USC: the NSF-funded Integrated Media Systems Center and the Department of Defense (DoD)-funded Center for Research on Applied Signal Processing. He has served as a senior consultant to a wide range of corporations and as a high-level consultant to the U.S. government, holding a security clearance for 15 years. The DoD has adopted a number of his innovations and patents in sonar, radar and communication systems. The author of more than 275 journal articles and conference papers, three textbooks and eight patents, Nikias has mentored more than 30 Ph.D. and postdoctoral students. Three of his publications have received best papers awards. Before coming to USC, he held faculty appointments at the University of Connecticut and Northeastern University.

Nikias is a fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, a member of the National Academy of Inventors, and a fellow of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers and the American Association for the Advancement of Science. Among other honors, he has received the IEEE Simon Ramo Medal from the University of New York at Buffalo’s Distinguished Alumni Award and Clifford C. Furnas Memorial Award; the Aristea medal, the Republic of Cyprus’ highest honor in letters, arts and sciences; and the USC Black Alumni Association’s Thomas Kilgore Service Award. He also received a commendation for cutting-edge research from the governor of California.

Nikias graduated with honors from Famagusta Gymnasium, a school that emphasizes sciences, history and Greco-Roman classics. He received a diploma from the National Technical University of Athens (also known as National Metsovion Polytechnic, the oldest and most prestigious institution of higher education in Greece) and later earned his M.S. and Ph.D. from the State University of New York at Buffalo. He holds honorary doctorates from Hebrew Union College – Jewish Institute of Religion and the University of Cyprus.

Student Life

The Student Affairs Division has as its fundamental purpose the provision of services and resources to students that will assist them in their total development: physical, social, emotional, cultural, moral and intellectual. As such, the division complements and serves the educational, research and service objectives of faculty and students by designing programs that are an extension of the academic experience. Consistent with this charge, the division has adopted the following statement that informs and guides its policies and actions regarding the USC community.

Principles of Community

The University of Southern California’s Division of Student Affairs bears a central responsibility for providing students services and resources that will assist in all aspects of their development. We further seek to foster a scholarly community in which an individual’s participation in academic dialogue will be considered on its merits — and not denigrated or disregarded based on personal characteristics or group identity. Consistent with this charge, the division has adopted the following statement of guiding principles:

USC is a multicultural community of scholars from diverse racial, ethnic and class backgrounds, national origins, religious and political beliefs, physical abilities and sexual orientations. This diversity enriches all of our activities and everyday interactions, and we strive to learn from each other in an atmosphere of positive engagement.
and mutual respect. As a scholarly community, we aspire to create an environment in which racism, sexism, ageism, xenophobia and homophobia do not go unchallenged.

All who work, live, study and teach in the USC community are here by choice. As part of that choice, we share a commitment to these principles as an integral part of USC’s mission.

Student Affairs Academic Support
As the university admits a student body increasingly qualified and motivated academically, Student Affairs is providing increased levels of support for the coordination of honors programs, development of residential hall study space, tutorial support, linkage of career guidance with academic advising, and involvement of faculty in student residence halls and all campus community activities. Such programs are described in the sections that follow. The thematic nature of the individual programs is captured by the guiding principle of “academic community.”

Career Center
The USC Career Center provides information and counseling to help students explore career options including internships, full-time employment and networking opportunities. The Career Center offers assistance in resume writing, interviewing techniques and sponsors such programs as the Career Fair, Internship Week, Career Fest, numerous “diversity in the workplace” events, the Global Fellows and Dream Dollars programs and the connectSC Career Network. In addition, the center offers comprehensive career assessments. The Career Center is located on the first floor of the Student Union Building, Room 110, and is open Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. For more information, call (213) 740-9111 or visit careers.usc.edu.

Job Opportunities
Through connectSC, the Career Center lists internships and job postings for USC students and alumni. The listings include part- and full-time positions, on- and off-campus opportunities, as well as Work Study positions. Students can also use connectSC to participate in on-campus recruiting. Students interested in obtaining a job or internship should access the online job listing service, available 24 hours a day, by visiting the Career Center Website and registering for connectSC at careers.usc.edu.

Disability Services and Programs (DSP)
Disability Services and Programs (DSP) is dedicated to maintaining an environment that ensures all students with documented disabilities at USC equal access to its educational programs, activities and facilities. Accommodations are designed to level the playing field for students with disabilities, while maintaining the integrity and standards of each of our academic programs.

Accommodations are determined on a case-by-case basis, but some examples of typical accommodations include: assistance in providing note-takers, sign language interpreters, readers, scribes, advocacy with faculty, exam proctoring, assistance with architectural barriers, accessible seating at USC sporting events, alternative text formats, adaptive technology, referrals to community resources, support groups and other support services for individual needs that are unique to a student’s disability.

The office is located in Student Union Building, Room 301, and is open Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Students can call (213) 740-0776, email ability@usc.edu or visit online at usc.edu/disability.

Kortschak Center for Learning and Creativity
The Kortschak Center for Learning and Creativity (KCLC) is for students who learn “differently” and wish to receive academic support. Students who have disability-related learning challenges are encouraged to use the KCLC. At the KCLC, students are paired with academic coaches, have access to assistive technology, can study in a quiet environment and receive guidance in their optimal way of learning.

The KCLC is located in Student Union 311 and can be reached at (213) 740-2784 (voice), (213) 740-7532 (fax), kortschakcenter@usc.edu or online at kortschakcenter.usc.edu.

Support Centered Program (SCP)
The Support Centered Program (SCP) provides holistic support and guidance to first-year students during their transition to USC and assists upper-year students who request additional support. SCP provides guidance on course selection, major choice, academic skills and personal concerns. Additional information can be found at usc.edu/scp.

Undergraduate Success Program
As a major support to scholars of the Neighborhood Academic Initiative program (NAI), the Undergraduate Success Program supports students in obtaining the personal success at USC. USP provides orientation to the Center for Academic Support, individualized and group academic consultation, mentoring opportunities and a general referral system to university programs and services. More information about USP can be found at salt.usc.edu/academicupport/centerprograms.

Cultural Centers
USC is strongly committed to enhancing the quality of life for all students attending the university. Multifaceted resources and support are available to build on the cultural diversity present in our student body. These efforts are coordinated through the cultural centers within the Division of Student Affairs. Their focus provides opportunities for cross-cultural learning experiences for all students and a broad range of support services and educational programs for students of color. The cultural centers provide academic and personal support and identity and leadership development programs to support our diverse students.

El Centro Chicano
A department within Student Affairs, El Centro Chicano (El Centro) serves as a resource center for all Latina/o and USC students. Founded in 1972, the center fosters a community of critically thinking, socially conscious Chicana/o and Latina/o leaders, providing personal, social and academic support through graduation and beyond. El Centro Chicano also provides social and cultural programming, student advocacy, assistance for Latina/o student groups, transitional/beyond USC programming and community outreach that fosters and promotes the academic and personal success of Latina/o students. In addition, they educate the campus about Latina/o issues and the ethnic diversity represented within the community (i.e., Central and South America, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Mexico and Puerto Rico) by serving as a resource to the entire USC family.

The Latino Resource Handbook, handed out to all new Latina/o students, and the weekly El Centro E-newsletter, inform students about opportunities such as scholarships, internships, cultural events and student organizations that will help improve their university experience. El Centro serves as headquarters for approximately 21 Chicano/Latino student organizations as well as the Latino Parent Association. All students, including undergraduate commuter, transfer/spring admit and graduate students, are welcome to use the student lounge/study room and kitchenette/computer lab.

Programs and services offered include the Latino New Student Symposium, Latino Floor (special interest housing program for first-year students), Leadership Development & Skill Building Series, Project ReMIX: Exploring the Mixed Race Generation, L.A. Power Trips, Latino Speaker Series, Latino Student Empowerment Conference, Black and Latino Overnight Experience, Latino Honor Society, La Posada: Celebrating Latin American Holiday Traditions and Giving Back, Latino Parent Association and the Chicano/Latino Graduate Celebration. Programs and services consider gender, class, religion/spirituality, bilingualism, continuing generations, sexual orientation, disabilities and bicultural/ethnic identities.

For more information, contact (213) 740-1480, visit usc.edu/elcentro or look them up on Facebook and Twitter: @USC_ElCentro.

Asian Pacific American Student Services
The Asian Pacific American Student Services (APASS) department is a multifaceted unit focused on the education, engagement and empowerment of students.

APASS has a two-fold mission: facilitating Asian Pacific American participation, dialogue, community-building and empowerment, while at the same time serving as a source of cross-cultural educational programming for the entire campus.

APASS programs include orientation, leadership development, service-learning and community immersion, career and peer mentoring, cross-cultural and educational programs, academic collaborations, and individual and collective advocacy.

APASS is located in the Student Union Building, Room 410, (213) 740-4999. For more information, email apass@usc.edu or visit usc.edu/apass.

Center for Black Cultural and Student Affairs
The mission of the Center for Black Cultural and Student Affairs (CBCSA) is to create an Afro-centric, holocentric learning environment for academic, social and professional development, as well as to provide civic engagement opportunities for all members of the USC community.

CBCSA meets its goal by targeting five major areas of focus: cultural and community development, leadership, professional development, retention and social enrichment. All CBCSA services and programs are initiated in accordance with the Division of Student Affairs’ five strategic initiatives.

CBCSA, the Black Student Assembly and almost 50 black student organizations partner to offer a variety of informative academic and personal development programs, social activities and cultural events. These programs and events promote academic excellence and encourage unity among students, staff, faculty and the surrounding USC community. CBCSA provides many opportunities for students to become leaders both on and off campus. It continues to make a difference by exploring the diverse spectrum of our cultural community and encouraging students to do the same.

CBCSA is located in the Student Union Building, Room 415, (213) 740-9257. For more information, email cbcsa@usc.edu or visit usc.edu/cbcsa.

International Services
The Office of International Services (OIS), located in the Student Union Building, Room 300, assists more than 8,000 non-immigrant students and scholars in achieving their educational, professional and personal objectives. OIS recognizes the many benefits of international educational exchange, and promotes these benefits both within the university and throughout the local community.
On campus, OIS aims to provide opportunities for interaction among international and domestic students, scholars, faculty and staff through programs and activities with an international and intercultural focus.

These programs include:

- LA Today — several outings each semester to places in Los Angeles not included on the typical tourist path
- English Language Program — English language instruction, field trips and social activities for spouses and scholars of the USC international community
- Thanksgiving Match-up — host families invite international students into their homes to celebrate Thanksgiving and help students learn more about American culture in general
- International Graduation Reception — a reception and awards ceremony for all graduating international students
- International Education Week Events — a series of events held around campus to celebrate the U.S. Department of State’s International Education Week
- International Scholar Reception — a reception for new and continuing visiting scholars to welcome them to USC and introduce them to scholar colleagues, faculty and staff
- International Scholar Meet and Greets — a monthly gathering of new and continuing scholars that offers the opportunity to learn about USC and the L.A. area and connect with colleagues

For more information about any of OIS’ services or programs, refer to the Website sc.edu/ois.

Parking and Transportation

Parking

USC Transportation is committed to creating the best USC experience for all students, faculty, staff and campus guests by offering affordable and convenient parking and transportation options to the campus community. USC Transportation maintains more than 8,000 on-campus parking spaces and approximately 1,200 off-campus spaces at the University Park Campus. In addition, there are approximately 1,600 parking spaces available at the Health Sciences Campus. If driving to and from campus is not an option, USC Transportation offers numerous alternate rideshare programs, most of which are subsidized by the university. Alternate rideshare programs offered include vanpools, carpools and carpool matching through Zipride, car sharing via Zipcar rentals, and mass transit ticket sales. USC Transportation also hosts a full-service Enterprise Rental Car kiosk inside its sales office for short- and long-term rentals (including students 18 years and older). Intercampus transportation, including free transportation to and from Union Station, is also available, along with a safe-ride-home program offered through the Campus Cruiser program during off hours and on weekends.

For more information on rates, parking options, locations, and a full list of partnerships, contact: USC Transportation Office, 620 W. 31st Street (PSX), sc.edu/parking, UPC phone number: (213) 740-3575, HSC phone number: (323) 442-1201, toll-free: (888) 546-TRAN.

Recreational Sports

Recreational Sports educates individuals in the meaningful use of leisure time through its various programs and services.

Recreational Facilities

The University Park Campus offers recreational facility choices including: the Lyon University Center, Utengsu Aquatics Center, Cromwell Field, Loker Track Stadium, Marks Tennis Stadium, student tennis and sport court complexes, Watt Way basketball courts and the Physical Education Building, which houses an indoor swimming pool, multi-use gymnasium, martial arts room and aerobic/dance studios.

The Lyon University Center, the largest recreational facility on campus, includes the Utengsu Aquatics Center; group exercise fitness studio; the newly renovated second-floor fitness area and the Robinson Exercise Room; Klug Family Fitness Center (weight room); gymnasium space for basketball, volleyball and badminton; racquetball and squash courts; climbing wall; and a cardiovascular center equipped with audiovisual equipment. The equipment includes stationary bicycles, stair climbers, elliptical machines, rowing machines and cross training equipment. There is no membership fee for currently registered students. However, before they can use the facility, all students must complete the USC Recreation Facility Waiver available online at usc.edu/recsports/forms. Memberships are also available for students enrolled in classes during the summer.

The HSC Fitness Center is a highlight on the Health Sciences Campus. Located in the 2001 Soto Street Building, the 10,000-square-foot HSC Fitness Center houses a variety of cardiovascular and strength training equipment, free weights, two group exercise rooms, full locker rooms and rental and day-use lockers.

Adjacent to the HSC Fitness Center, a lighted basketball court and multipurpose area (with amphitheatre) are available for drop-in, intramural programs and reservations. The HSC Fitness Center is one of the newest additions to the university’s enhancement of the quality of campus life.

Programs

Recreational Sports directs more than 100 sporting programs that attract 9,800 students, staff and faculty participants and 900 club sport members. Intramural Sports offers a wide array of activities including flag football, basketball, volleyball, racquet sports and softball. More than 500 club sports are hosted by the department, including teams such as badminton, lacrosse, soccer, golf, ice hockey, cricket, dance, ultimate Frisbee, crew, surfing and water skiing.

Services

Fitness programs offer USC Workout (group exercise classes), private pilates and private yoga lessons, martial arts, personal training, Masters Swim, and massage therapy. Locker rental and towel service are available for a fee. Guests, alumni and emeriti faculty are welcome to become USC Recreational Sports members and participate in programs offered. The Pro Shop at both the Lyon Center and HSC Fitness Center provide limited equipment rental and sales of sports items. Outdoor Adventure Rental (OAR) is a service that provides outdoor equipment such as tents, lanterns and sleeping bags for a rental fee.

For information regarding student employment and volunteer opportunities, services, programs, guest policies, summer youth sports programs and facility reservations, call (213) 740-5179 or visit the Recreational Sports Website at usc.edu/recsports.

Residential Choices

USC provides attractive residential opportunities that complement the academic mission of the university. The university believes that the living experiences in residential colleges and university apartments offer a desirable and important part of the total educational experience. Living on campus provides the opportunity for students, faculty and staff to come together within an academic residential community. Our communities combine a high degree of informal contact with a strong desire to explore the world of ideas within an intellectually stimulating environment. USC students typically take advantage of these programs and live in USC Housing for at least a portion of the time during which they are enrolled.

USC Housing

USC offers applicants a variety of living alternatives. USC houses more than 6,500 students in nearly 50 university-owned housing facilities. Freshmen live primarily on campus in one of our residential colleges. They are housed in either traditional residence halls or suites, although some apartments are available for freshmen. Residential colleges add the additional element of faculty-in-residence, who contribute to the educational environment in housing. All rooms in USC Housing are furnished and are designed to accommodate two students each. In those residential colleges that exist in traditional residence halls, bathrooms are usually communal and dining services are in close proximity. Three residential colleges exist in large suite-style buildings that bring five to eight students together in double and single occupancy rooms around shared facilities, such as bathrooms and, in some cases, small common areas. Upperclassmen and graduates reside in apartment buildings on or near campus. Apartment-style living requires more independence. The apartment units are furnished, with most having standard kitchens, bathroom facilities and living areas. Units are designed to house two, three, four or five students per apartment, depending on the number and size of bedrooms. A limited number of furnished apartments for students with families is also available.

New students may apply for housing once they have been admitted to the university and are urged to take advantage of the simple and convenient online application available at housing.usc.edu. Those who wish to submit a paper application will find a form on the Website that can be printed out, completed and mailed in. Applicants may request roommates on their applications; those using the online application system may take advantage of a roommate matching feature, which sorts potential roommates based on living preferences and offers them the chance to exchange email prior to formally requesting each other. Housing assignments occur based on application date, so students are encouraged to apply early.

First-year students who apply by the freshman housing application deadline are assured of receiving university housing during their first two years at USC. Freshmen who apply after the deadline will be housed as space permits, but everything possible is done to provide them with university housing. There is also typically enough housing to meet the needs of most juniors and seniors, but space limitations prevent guaranteeing the entire class housing during those years.

Once students are in university housing, they may continue in housing by participating in the USC Housing Renewal (UR) process each spring. This process varies considerably from how one applies for housing as a recently admitted freshman, so it is important to follow the process and meet deadlines. Incoming fall 2014 freshmen who participate in the renewal process are guaranteed housing for their sophomore year. Selection of student housing assignments will be based on a lottery process.

Housing assignments for incoming non-freshman students for the fall semester are made throughout the summer. Assignments are made on a first-come, first-served basis and subject to space availability.
Residents of both USC's trustee and president families are housed in curricular activities that prepare them for the college experience. Diverse programming, cultural opportunities and special interest floors that focus on music, arts and architecture, dance and drama, creative writing, and cinema provide a stimulating cultural and intellectual exchange for students. USC's stated goal is to provide the residential college experience to all incoming freshmen.

New and North house mostly freshmen. Home to the cinema special interest floors, these residence halls provide a venue where undergraduate students and live-in faculty and visiting professors come together to promote stimulating cultural and intellectual exchanges among individuals from many countries residing alongside American students. The public is invited to participate in Rush (membership recruitment) and special events in these residence halls and other residence halls around campus.

University Residential College at Birnkrant opened in fall 2012. This first school experience. Full year students in New and North house mostly freshmen. The International Residential College at Parkside opened in fall 2007.

Students with families can apply to enroll their children in the Anna Bing Arnold Child Care Centers. The programs operate in two sites on the Health Sciences and University Park campuses. Programs for infants, toddlers and pre-school children are offered at both sites. The focus is on personal and social growth, developing motor coordination and positive self-image and providing a good first school experience. Full- and part-time enrollment is available and a monthly fee is charged.

Student Athlete Academic Services

The SAAS program was established to provide student athletes with the academic support necessary for them to achieve their goal of a USC degree. By providing services through the Athletic Department such as general counseling, advisement and problem solving along with orientation, registration assistance, grade monitoring, study table and tutoring, SAAS helps student athletes fulfill the university’s academic expectations for them and also helps each of them to achieve their own personal academic goals.

Student Judicial Affairs and Community Standards

Procedural and advisory matters, as well as the integrity of the student conduct system, are the responsibility of the Office of Student Judicial Affairs and Community Standards.

The Office of Student Judicial Affairs and Community Standards reviews student conduct and academic integrity matters. Additional information about the student conduct system can be found on the Website at usc.edu/student-affairs/SJACS.

Student Health and Counseling Centers

At USC every effort is made to help students achieve and maintain good physical, mental and social health. The USC Engemann Student Health Center offers direct medical care and psychological counseling, as well as prevention programs to assist students in assuming responsibility for their personal well-being. For more information, contact the center at (213) 740-9155 or consult the center’s Website usc.edu/engemann.

The Engemann Student Health Center is located at 1031 West 34th Street. During the fall semester, the center is open Monday through Thursday from 8:30 a.m. to 7 p.m., Friday from 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.; Saturday and Sunday (urgent care only) from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Note that hours of operation are subject to change. All changes will be posted one week in advance. You may also call (213) 740-9155 for current hours.

Eligibility for Services

All domestic students carrying 6 units or more during the fall and spring semesters are automatically assessed the student health fee. Students with less than 6 units may choose to purchase the health insurance plan that is automatically assessed for students with less than 6 units. Eligibility for Services and the student health fee. Students with less than 6 units may choose to purchase the health insurance plan that is automatically assessed for students with less than 6 units. Students enrolled in the USC student health insurance plan are required to pay the student health fee. Most services are covered by the student health fee. However, there may be moderate charges for selected services such as laboratory tests, prescriptions, orthopedic appliances, copies of X-rays and medical records. These will be explained at the time of the visit. Students may use the services of the USC Engemann Student Health Center throughout the semester, as well as during breaks between academic sessions, as long as they are continuing students and are registered for the following semester.

During the summer months, students may use the services of the Engemann Student Health Center if they are continuing students and pay the summer fee.

Note: Students enrolled in classes on the University Park Campus will receive their health care service at the Engemann Student Health Center. Students enrolled in classes on the Health Sciences Campus will receive their health care service at the Eric Cohen Student Health Center on the Health Sciences Campus.
Primary Care

For the treatment of most acute illnesses and injuries, a primary care appointment can be scheduled Monday through Friday. Students can schedule appointments online at usc.edu/myshr or by calling (213) 740-9355.

Specialty Care

Dermatology, allergy, nutrition, internal medicine, orthopedics, acupuncture, chiropractic services and physical therapy appointments are made by referral from a primary care practitioner only. Routine gynecology appointments may be made without a referral.

Urgent and Emergency Services

For students who have an illness or injury, which requires urgent medical attention, the USC Engemann Student Health Center Acute Care Clinic is open during regular clinic hours. If a student’s medical condition requires attention during the hours the health center is closed, they may call (213) 740-9355 and follow the recorded instructions to speak with a registered nurse. In the event of a life-threatening medical emergency, or near the USC campus, call the USC Department of Public Safety at (213) 740-4321. For off-campus emergencies, contact emergency services by dialing 911.

Ancillary Services

A clinical laboratory and a digital radiology unit support the practitioners’ services. Students must pay any charges incurred for diagnostic tests and occasionally may be referred to outside facilities.

Prescriptions may be filled, for a charge, at the campus pharmacy located in the Student Union Building on the University Park Campus.

Office for Wellness and Health Promotion (OWHP)

The mission of the Office for Wellness and Health Promotion (OWHP) is to support USC’s University Park Campus with health promotion that advances wellness, student learning and the unique USC student experience. OWHP assesses student health behaviors, collaborates with campus partners and delivers best practice prevention initiatives.

Participation in OWHP initiatives can help an individual develop personal skills, create supportive campus communities and influence campus policies while developing a health-promoting environment. OWHP offers skills-based workshops with student groups on campus, including student organizations, athletic teams, greek organizations and residence halls. On- and off-campus resources and referrals are also available. Issues addressed include stress management, healthy relationships, alcohol and other drug use, nutrition, sexual health, sleep and sexual assault prevention. Current data on student health status and wellness-related behaviors are also available.

Drop by OWHP in the USC Engemann Student Health Center (ESH), room 203, or visit the Website at usc.edu/owhp.

For more information, call (213) 740-4777 or visit usc.edu/owhp.

Immunizations

The USC Engemann Student Health Center strongly recommends that all incoming freshmen receive the meningococcal meningitis vaccination before coming to campus, or as soon as possible after arrival.

Meningococcal meningitis is a serious illness that can lead to brain damage, disability and death. College freshmen, particularly those who live in residence halls, have a modestly increased risk of getting this disease. Presently, two vaccines are available in the United States that provide protection against four of the five most common strains. For more information, refer to usc.edu/engemann.

Student Counseling Services

Counseling services are available on the University Park Campus on the third floor of the USC Engemann Student Health Center.

Services are provided to help enhance students’ skills and attitudes in adapting to college life, creatively handling stresses and challenges, relating to new and different people and making their USC experience satisfying and productive. Eligible students may be seen in a group, as a couple or individually, and all personal information discussed in counseling is kept confidential.

The professional staff of the Counseling Center is an ethnically and educationally diverse group which includes psychologists, social workers and staff psychiatrists. They are highly trained and experienced in helping students successfully cope with a variety of issues and concerns that are common during their college experience.

Additionally, advanced graduate interns in clinical and counseling psychology and social work trainees provide a variety of services to students.

Further information is available by calling (213) 740-7711 or by visiting the Student Counseling Services’ Website at usc.edu/scs. For evening or weekend emergencies, please call (213) 740-7711 and follow the recorded directions for after-hour assistance.

Student Involvement

USC offers broad and diverse opportunities for student involvement and leadership development, ranging from formal and highly organized elective offices to very informal sharing of common interests and enthusiasms. For more information, visit the Website at sail.usc.edu/studentlife.

Undergraduate Student Government

The campus-wide Undergraduate Student Government consists of legislative, programming, judicial and executive branches, whose collective purpose is to provide comprehensive representation that fosters maximum student participation. It exists to represent the interests of the students to the administration on campus issues through an extensive programming and committee structure.

Opportunities for involvement and leadership can be found in several committees such as campus affairs, community affairs, diversity affairs and academic affairs, to name a few. Offices are located in the Ronald Tutor Campus Center, Room 224, or visit the Website at usg.usc.edu.

Program Board

Major student events and activities at USC are sponsored by the Program Board, which represents a diverse group of student interests and organizations. The assemblies and programming committees are student-run groups that promote diversity and entertainment through progressive and innovative event programming. The student programming fee allows Program Board to plan a multitude of social, political and educational events for the USC community. These events include concerts, speakers, cultural events and various other activities. Offices are located in the Ronald Tutor Campus Center, Room 224, or visit the Website at uscprogramboard.com.

Recreation Club Council

The Recreation Club Council (RCC) is a collective organization of more than 50 club teams recognized by the Office of Campus Activities and Recreational Sports. The RCC provides organizational development, leadership opportunities to university committees, and maintains three funding boards to encourage cross-disciplinary programs, social and recreational activities and community service.

An executive committee oversees the daily operations of the senate and offers graduate students an opportunity to become involved in the university community outside their academic discipline. Offices are located in the Ronald Tutor Campus Center, Room 224, or visit the Website at gsg.usc.edu.

Student Organizations

More than 800 clubs and organizations exist with new ones added each year. Participation affords new experiences, new friendships and the opportunity to pursue an interest to higher levels of understanding and accomplishment. These organizations address a wide range of political, academic, religious, social, service and recreational interests. For more information, visit usc.edu/stuorgs.

Honor Societies

Most departments and schools have an academic organization oriented toward a specific discipline. Honor societies have a selective membership process that is usually based on one or more of the following requirements: area of study, grade point average, university involvement, leadership and community service.

Spectrum

USC Spectrum, a program of the Division of Student Affairs, presents an annual season of the finest in arts and entertainment by nationally and internationally known attractions for the education and enjoyment of the USC community and its neighbors in Los Angeles.

Over the past 15 years, renowned performers including Yo-Yo Ma, Itzhak Perlman, Wayne Shorter, Itzhak Perlman, Andrew Bird, Esperanza Spalding, as well as distinguished guests Deepak Chopra, Tom Brokaw, Ted Turner, Sherman Alexie, David Gergen and many more have appeared at USC, presented by USC Spectrum.

Visit usc.edu/spectrum for a list of current events and programs.

Facilities

Student programs at USC are accommodated by a number of indoor and outdoor facilities including Bovard Auditorium, Ground Zero Performance Café, academic classrooms, Hahn Plaza, Alummi Park, Founders Park, Associates Park, E.F. Hutton Park, McCarthy Quad, and the...
Tutor Campus Center featuring meeting rooms, a multipurpose ballroom and Tommy’s Place.

Immediately adjoining the campus is Exposition Park with its extensive complex of museums, gardens and athletic facilities. Each represents an important educational and recreational adjunct to the campus itself. The Los Angeles Coliseum is home to Trojan football, as is the Sports Arena to basketball. The grounds of Exposition Park are used by students for picnics, games and other informal events. For more information visit usc.edu/scheduling.

USC Volunteer Center

The Volunteer Center organizes several community service projects, identifies volunteer opportunities for USC students, faculty and staff, and houses an extensive database of over 100 entries of service agencies that provide volunteer opportunities to the USC family. Programs include Jumpstart, Friends and Neighbors Service Days, Alternative Break programs during winter and spring breaks, mentoring opportunities and more. For more information, visit usc.edu/volunteer or email volctr@usc.edu.

Student Media Organizations

A number of on-campus media facilities are operated by students, allowing them to develop their journalistic talents and air their opinions while providing a service to the campus community.

Campus Newspaper

The Daily Trojan is the official student campus newspaper. Its coverage includes campus news, editorials, sports, features about campus activities and events, an entertainment section, and letters to the editor. Published Monday through Friday, the paper is distributed free in kiosks located in various parts of the campus and in the Student Publications Office, Student Union Building, Room 400, (213) 740-2707.

USC Yearbook

El Rodeo, USC’s yearbook, highlights events of the year. Students may pre-order copies of El Rodeo during the fall semester by visiting uscelrodeo.com. The yearbook is distributed in the late spring. The El Rodeo office is located in the Student Union Building, Room 400, (213) 740-2707.

Radio Station

KXSC Radio is the official campus student radio station broadcasting live at 1560 AM. KXSC is also available live via the Internet and can be accessed at kxsc.org. Located in the basement of the Ronald Tutor Campus Center, the station broadcasts music, sports and talk shows seven days a week. Students may work in sales, engineering, public relations, programming, concerts and event planning, among other interdisciplinary fields. Call (213) 740-1483 for music requests and additional information.

Trojan Marching Band

At 300 members strong, the Trojan Marching Band is the largest student spirit group on campus and a highly visible ambassador representing USC in the local community, the nation and the world. The band’s history dates back to 1880. Since that time, the band has developed into one of the most innovative marching bands in the country.

Nicknamed The Spirit of Troy, the band presents a new, energetic halftime show at every home football game and sends a portion of the band to each away football game – biennially to South Bend, Indiana for the game against Notre Dame.

The Spirit of Troy is busy year-round supporting the USC athletic teams as well as appearing in movies, on television and at special events throughout the world. In 2003, the band was the first marching band from the United States to appear at the internationally televised Chinese New Year Parade in Hong Kong. The band has performed at Super Bowls, the World Series, the World Cup and the Olympics.

The band is also frequently referred to as “Hollywood’s Band” because of its many appearances on the silver and small screens. The Spirit of Troy has appeared in such feature films as Forrest Gump and The Naked Gun and has performed at three Academy Awards telecasts, two Grammy Awards, and on Glee, American idol, Dancing With the Stars and The Tonight Show.

The Trojan Marching Band is the only collegiate marching band to possess two platinum albums for its collaboration with the rock group Fleetwood Mac on the hit single “Tusk.” In 2010 the band performed at the Coachella music festival with the metal group Coheed and Cambria. The Spirit of Troy has traveled to 17 countries on six continents for such events as the 50th Anniversary of D-Day in Normandy and World Expositions in Australia, Spain, Portugal, Japan and China. For more information about the Trojan Marching Band, visit its Website at uscband.com.