

## Academic Resources

USC offers many resources to help you achieve academic success. This section includes information about academic advisement, tutors, overseas study programs and more. If you're interested in joining an academic honor society, check out the options available to you, and learn more about scholarship and fellowship opportunities.



## Academic Advisement

Debra Bernstein  
(213) 740-2534  
College Academic Services 120  
Email: [cas@usc.edu](mailto:cas@usc.edu)  
[www.usc.edu/collegeadvising](http://www.usc.edu/collegeadvising)

Academic advisement is important in planning a curriculum that fulfills general education requirements and major requirements, while allowing you to take advantage of the varied programs and classes the university offers. An advisor can help you sort through requirements and introduce interesting options for your program. If you are an undecided/undeclared student or a student interested in graduate school or law school, you can meet with advisors in the Office of College Advising. If you are a student interested in the pre-health professions (medicine, dentistry or allied health field), advisement is available in the Office of Pre-Health Advisement located in the Figueroa Building.

### ADVISEMENT SEMINARS

College Advising and the Office of Pre-Health Advisement offer preparatory seminars and workshops each semester to help you plan your undergraduate studies at the university and/or prepare for graduate and professional school. Workshop topics offered include:

- Planning for Health Professions ([www.usc.edu/pre-health](http://www.usc.edu/pre-health))
- Planning for Law School ([www.usc.edu/pre-law](http://www.usc.edu/pre-law))
- Planning for Graduate School ([www.usc.edu/pregrad](http://www.usc.edu/pregrad))

## Academic Support Programs

Patricia Tobey  
(213) 740-0776  
Student Union 301  
Email: [study@usc.edu](mailto:study@usc.edu)  
[www.usc.edu/cas](http://www.usc.edu/cas)

Academic support programs contribute to a collaborative approach to learning in the academic community. Upper division students, graduate students, faculty and staff are dedicated to facilitating a coordinated program of mentoring and academic enrichment in a university-wide effort to address your individual needs.



### ACADEMIC SUCCESS SEMINARS AND LEARNING ENRICHMENT WORKSHOPS

Seminars and learning enrichment workshops are provided in goal setting, time management, examination-taking strategies, study techniques, power reading, writing term papers, concentration and memory improvement, and critical thinking. These workshops are designed to help you adapt effective learning techniques to your own learning styles. A complete list of current workshops is published in the *Schedule of Classes* ([www.usc.edu/soc](http://www.usc.edu/soc)).

### DISABILITY SERVICES AND PROGRAMS

Academic Support partners with Disability Services and Programs to further enrich academic resources available to USC students with disabilities. For further information, see page 40.

### TUTORING

The center offers tutoring in selected subjects for all USC students. Tutors, who are part of a nationally-certified tutorial program, will work with you on a one-on-one basis, including evening hours and on weekends. Before you begin working with a tutor, you must first complete the tutor request form available online at [www.usc.edu/cas](http://www.usc.edu/cas).

### LEARNING ASSISTANCE

Learning strategies and study skills are the foundation of learning assistance. Development and maintenance of strategies for time management, notetaking, listening, study reading, preparing for and taking examinations, and improving memory and concentration are at the core of efficient learning. Teaching

students effective learning strategies reduces the need for extensive instructional and tutorial support in each course. Knowledge of alternative learning techniques enables you to adopt those strategies that match your cognitive abilities and/or the unique demands of the learning task at hand. Learning assistants are available to students once they complete a tutor request form available online at [www.usc.edu/cas](http://www.usc.edu/cas). Students can work with learning assistants on a one-on-one basis, including evenings and weekends.

### NEW STUDENT ACADEMIC INTERVENTION PROGRAM

The New Student Academic Intervention Program is designed to assist first-time enrolled freshmen and undergraduate transfer students. The program facilitates the academic success as well as the personal growth and welfare of first year students at USC. Information concerning academic support, counseling, advisement and other services are electronically emailed to every first-time enrolled student throughout the fall semester.

Students have the opportunity to meet in-person or communicate via email with experienced staff members at the university. Staff members can provide assistance with any number of valuable resources available on campus. Additional follow-up information concerning academic performance from the fall semester and referrals are provided during the beginning of the spring semester, if needed, to students and their academic advisors in various schools. For more information please visit [www.usc.edu/cas](http://www.usc.edu/cas).

### STRUCTURED CURRICULUM PROGRAM

Students in the Structured Curriculum Program (SCP) are selected through the regular university admissions process. SCP participants are provided with learning support services in collaboration with other appropriate offices and campus professionals. SCP students receive guidance in class selection, major choice, academic skills and personal concerns. The program encourages students to be actively involved in their own learning process. Additional information can be found online at [www.usc.edu/cas/sep](http://www.usc.edu/cas/sep).

### UNDERGRADUATE SUCCESS PROGRAM

As a major support to scholars of the Neighborhood Academic Initiative program (NAI), the Undergraduate Success Program (USP) is designed to encourage academic and 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 [www.usc.edu/cas/usp](http://www.usc.edu/cas/usp).

### USC KORTSCHAK CENTER FOR LEARNING AND CREATIVITY (KCLC)

This new center was developed for students who learn differently and wish to receive academic support. Students who have a learning difference, a documented learning disability, ADHD or other learning challenges are encouraged to use the KCLC. At the KCLC, students are paired with a learning assistant and/or tutor, have access to assistive technology, can study in a quiet environment and receive guidance about their preferred ways of learning.

### Center for Engineering Diversity

Traci Thomas Navarro  
(213) 740-1998  
(213) 740-6226 (FAX)  
Ronald Tutor Hall 210  
Email: [tracit@usc.edu](mailto:tracit@usc.edu)  
[viterbi.usc.edu/students/undergrad/ced](http://viterbi.usc.edu/students/undergrad/ced)

The Center for Engineering Diversity (CED) exists to support the recruitment, retention and graduation of African American, Latino, Native American and female students pursuing engineering degrees.

Partnering with the Viterbi Admission and Student Affairs division, industry and alumni affords CED the opportunity to provide a supportive environment that prepares students academically, professionally and personally for success as professional and academic engineers.

The goal of the CED is to foster a community of scholars focused on professional excellence. CED offers a variety of services and programs to prepare students to succeed as industry professionals or continue on to graduate school. CED services include academic advising, career counseling, professional development workshops, scholarships, corporate networking through our Industry Advisory Board, a freshman Summer Institute and a study center equipped with computers.

## Examinations

### FINALS

Finals are held over approximately eight days at the end of each semester. The schedule of final examinations is available in the *Schedule of Classes* ([www.usc.edu/soc](http://www.usc.edu/soc)).

You are advised to plan in advance to avoid scheduling conflicts during your final examinations. However, if you are scheduled for two final examinations at the same time or you are scheduled for more than two final examinations on one day, an attempt will be made to make alternate arrangements. You should contact the appropriate department administrator, the Testing Bureau or, if necessary, the Office of the Vice President for Student Affairs.

In handling the stress of final examinations, you may want to consult the dean or associate dean of religious life or one among the wide spectrum of religious directors, all of whom are available for counseling. You can reach them at (213) 740-6110. In addition, Student Health and Counseling Services continue to offer their services during finals, and counselors are available during daytime hours.

### EXAMINATION CONFLICTS WITH RELIGIOUS HOLY DAYS

When an examination falls at a time that conflicts with your observance of a legitimate religious holiday, instructors must accommodate a request for an alternate examination date.

You must discuss a final examination conflict with the professor no later than two weeks prior to the scheduled examination date to arrange an acceptable alternate examination date. In doubtful cases, you or the instructor will want to confer with the dean of religious life by contacting (213) 740-6110.

### ADMINISTRATIVE EXAMINATIONS

Testing Bureau  
Najib Al-Samarrai  
(213) 740-7166  
YWCA 104  
[www.usc.edu/student-affairs/testing\\_bureau](http://www.usc.edu/student-affairs/testing_bureau)

The university offers four administrative examinations: placement examinations, university writing examinations, equivalency examinations and subject



Ryoko Nakajima, Cinematic Arts, Critical Studies major, Tokyo, Japan

## Discovery Scholars

The Discovery Scholars program recognizes undergraduates who have produced exceptional original scholarship or creative work at USC while compiling a distinguished overall academic record. Students compete for a selected number of annual Discovery Scholar Prizes of \$10,000, awarded at graduation for the purpose of post-baccalaureate study.

For more information, contact the Office of Undergraduate Programs at (213) 740-1741 or visit [www.usc.edu/discovery](http://www.usc.edu/discovery).

credit by special examination. Detailed descriptions and explanations of university policies that govern each of the administrative exams can be found in the *USC Catalogue*.

## Honor Societies

Membership in an academic, honor or pre-professional society can help you develop closer ties with faculty and students who have similar interests. By increasing your involvement in academic and social activities, these societies provide you with valuable opportunities for learning outside the classroom.

Most departments and schools have an academic organization oriented toward a specific discipline. Members are usually majors in that area of study, but many groups also include non-majors or students with an expressed interest in the group.

Honor societies have a selective membership process that usually is based on one or more of the following requirements: area of study, grade point average, university involvement, leadership and community service. If you are interested in any of the societies, you should contact the society's advisor, or the academic department.

## ALL UNIVERSITY

### Alpha Lambda Delta

National freshman honor society.

#### Qualifications

You become eligible for membership by attaining a 3.5 GPA during either the first semester or the first year at USC while maintaining a full course of study (at least 12 units per semester). In your sophomore year, you can serve as active members.

#### Advisor

Kris Guzman, Assistant to the Director, Office of College Advising, (213) 740-2534, [kriguzman@usc.edu](mailto:kriguzman@usc.edu)

#### Applications

By invitation based on academic record.

### Gamma Sigma Alpha

Recognizes high academic achievement in the greek community.

#### Qualifications

You must have an overall 3.5 GPA after completion of your sophomore year (complete the fourth semester with 64 units), or obtain a 3.5 or higher GPA in any semester during your junior or senior year. You must be a member in good standing of an NPC, NIC, NPHC, MGC, IGC, PFC or AGC chapter.

#### Contact

Beth Saul, Assistant Dean for Student Affairs, Director, Fraternity and Sorority Leadership Development, (213) 740-1195, [saul@usc.edu](mailto:saul@usc.edu)

### Golden Key International Honour Society

Recognizes scholastic achievement and excellence in all undergraduate fields of study.

#### Qualifications

You must complete at least 64 units of college academic course work of which at least 32 units have been taken at USC. Your GPA for USC course work must meet the minimum requirement of 3.7, and your cumulative GPA including any transfer work must also be at least 3.7.

#### Advisor

Peter M. Shugarman, Associate Professor of Biological Sciences, Dornsife College of Letters, Arts and Sciences, (213) 740-5791, [shugarma@usc.edu](mailto:shugarma@usc.edu)

#### Applications

By nomination only.

### Latino Honor Society

Recognizes excellence in scholarship and a demonstrated commitment to the betterment of the Latino community.

#### Qualifications

You must demonstrate leadership and community service involvement, have a minimum 3.5 cumulative GPA and have completed at least three semesters (full-time) at USC to apply for membership. Open to undergraduates only.

#### Advisors

William N. Vela, Director, El Centro Chicano, [wvela@usc.edu](mailto:wvela@usc.edu)

#### Applications

By invitation or by submitting a request for the fall or spring semester. Call (213) 740-1480 for more information.

### Mortar Board

Senior honorary society that selects students who excel in leadership, service and scholarship.

#### Advisors

Heather Larabee, Assistant Dean/Director, Campus Activities, (213) 740-5693, [larabee@usc.edu](mailto:larabee@usc.edu)

William McClure, Professor of Neurobiology, (213) 740-6090, [wmcclure@usc.edu](mailto:wmcclure@usc.edu)

#### Applications

Interest forms are available in early February on the Application Clearinghouse at [www.usc.edu/ca](http://www.usc.edu/ca).

### Order of Omega

National greek leadership honor society.

#### Qualifications

A minimum overall GPA at or above the all-greek average is required. Only juniors and seniors may apply. Sophomores may apply during their spring semester. You must be a member in good standing of an NPC, NIC, NPHC, MGC, PFC, IGC or AGC chapter.

#### Contact

Ray Carlos, Assistant Director, Fraternity and Sorority Leadership Development, (213) 740-2080, [racarlos@usc.edu](mailto:racarlos@usc.edu)

### Phi Beta Kappa

Phi Beta Kappa is the oldest national honor society, recognizing achievement in the liberal arts and sciences, primarily in the College of Letters, Arts and Sciences. The society was established in 1776.

#### Qualifications

Juniors: (1) 76 units at USC, (2) an outstanding GPA and (3) 64 liberal arts units out of the 76 above.

Seniors: (1) 96 units at USC, (2) an outstanding GPA and (3) 76 liberal arts units out of the 96 above.

Transfers: (1) 48 units at USC, (2) working toward 58 semester units at USC, (3) taking a minimum of 10 units currently, (4) an outstanding GPA and (5) 32 liberal arts units out of the 48 above.

## A GLIMPSE OF TROJAN HISTORY

### Back in the Day

"Founded in a wooden building, surrounded by a wild mustard field, the University of Southern California has grown steadily to become the largest private co-educational university in the West. In 1880, USC was founded to offer higher educational opportunities to the children of the pioneer generation.

"A group of 53 students and ten professors began classes in the two-story frame building. The students paid \$12 tuition, received a liberal education, and attended daily chapel services. In 1884 three graduates received their diplomas."

— *SCampus 1969-70*



The GPA qualifications for election are determined annually by the faculty board of the USC chapter of Phi Beta Kappa.

#### Advisor

Jonathan Kuhn, Student Services Advisor, Thematic Options Program, (213) 740-2961, jonathak@usc.edu

#### Applications

By invitation only.

#### Phi Kappa Phi

Oldest interdisciplinary university academic honor society. Selects members with excellent scholarship and integrity of character.

#### Qualifications

Seniors with at least 96 units and a cumulative GPA of at least 3.85; juniors with 80 units and a cumulative GPA of 3.9; recipients of master's degree with a minimum GPA of 3.9; and doctoral candidates in the top five percent of all graduate students who have passed the qualifying examination are considered for membership. The GPA requirement may vary depending upon class averages.

#### Contact

Academic Recognition Programs, (213) 740-1143, pkp@usc.edu, [www.usc.edu/pkp](http://www.usc.edu/pkp)

#### Applications

Undergraduate and master's students: by invitation only. Doctoral students: a letter of nomination is required from the dean of the academic unit (or if that is not practical, from the chair or graduate advisor of the program) stating that the student ranks in the top five percent of the students in the program.

#### Phi Sigma Theta

Phi Sigma Theta (PST) is a National Honor Society dedicated to recognizing and rewarding academic achievement in undergraduates at institutions of higher learning. PST also encourages its members to participate in community service, to take advantage of leadership opportunities and to continue to excel scholastically. Our community service focus is mentoring and tutoring, which we do through an on-campus partnership with Teach 4 LA.

#### Qualifications

You must have at least a 3.0 GPA and at least one semester's worth of grades available by transcript.

#### Advisor

Michael Burke, Box Office Manager, Financial and Business Services, (213) 740-4672, burkemj@usc.edu

#### Applications

Emailed to qualified applicants each year. You can also apply by sending an email to [membership@phisigmatheta.org](mailto:membership@phisigmatheta.org) for more information.

#### National Residence Hall Honorary (NRHH)

NRHH is the premiere honor society for the top one percent of residential leaders, as governed by the National Association of College and University Residence Halls, advocating for the interests and welfare of residential students, while also providing opportunities for their personal growth and development. NRHH recognizes individuals who have contributed to the advancement of college and university housing.

#### Qualifications

Members are selected based on their demonstrated leadership, scholarship and service. Membership is limited to one percent of undergraduate and graduate students living in university-owned housing.

#### Advisor

Viktor T. Kerney, Assistant Director, Student Leadership and Development, Office for Residential Education, (213) 740-2080

#### Rho Lambda

National panhellenic recognition honor society.

#### Qualifications

Minimum GPA of 3.10 cumulative; only juniors and seniors may apply. You must be a member, in good standing, of your sorority for at least two full semesters before you are eligible to apply. Membership is limited to 10 percent of the sorority population.

#### Contact

Beth Saul, Director, Fraternity and Sorority Leadership Development, (213) 740-1195, saul@usc.edu

## ARCHITECTURE

#### Tau Sigma Delta

The organization was established to provide a national collegiate honor society open to students of all American colleges and universities with an accredited program of architecture, landscape architecture or allied arts. Its prime objective is to celebrate excellence in scholarship, to stimulate mental achievement, and to award those students who attain high scholastic standing in architecture, landscape architecture and allied arts of design with membership in an honor society. The USC Lambda Chapter was established in 1931.



#### Qualifications

Students are offered membership in the spring semester prior to their graduation. Membership is by invitation only. Transfer students are eligible for membership. Students in each of the degree programs are selected separately based on being in the top 20 percent of their degree programs. The candidates must have maintained B averages or 3.0 GPAs on a 4.0 scale and be in the upper 20% of their classes.

#### Advisors

Douglas Noble, FAIA, Ph.D., (213) 740-4589, dnoble@usc.edu

#### Applications

Invitations given in spring.

## BUSINESS

#### Beta Alpha Psi

Beta Alpha Psi is a national scholastic and professional society for financial information professionals. The primary objective of the organization is to encourage and give recognition to scholastic and professional excellence in the business information field. This includes promoting the study and practice of accounting, finance and information systems; providing opportunities for self-development and association among members and practicing professionals, and encouraging a sense of ethical, social and public responsibility.

**Steven and Kathryn Sample Renaissance Scholars**

USC has created an academic honor that is awarded to select undergraduate students who graduate with a major and a minor (or two majors) in widely separated fields of study. Recipients of this honor are known as Steven and Kathryn Sample Renaissance Scholars.

For more information, contact the Office of Undergraduate Programs at (213) 740-1741 or visit [www.usc.edu/renaissance](http://www.usc.edu/renaissance).

**Global Scholars**

The Global Scholars program recognizes undergraduates who have excelled in their studies both at home and abroad, including spending at least 10 weeks outside the U.S. as part of their undergraduate experience. Up to 10 of these students will also be selected to receive a \$10,000 prize to be applied toward graduate study.

For more information, contact the Office of Undergraduate Programs at (213) 740-1741 or visit [www.usc.edu/dept/International\\_Offices/Globalization/scholars/global](http://www.usc.edu/dept/International_Offices/Globalization/scholars/global).

**Qualifications**

The minimum requirement is that the student be at sophomore standing and enrolled as a full-time student at USC (12 units or more). A minimum grade of B- or higher is required for all accounting work. Students must have a minimum accounting GPA of 3.2 and a cumulative GPA of 3.0.

Transfer students must have a minimum cumulative transfer GPA of 3.5, accounting transfer GPA of 3.5 and a USC cumulative GPA of 3.0. Finance and information systems majors must have a minimum major GPA of 3.2 and a cumulative GPA of 3.0.

**Advisor**

Rose Layton, Professor of Clinical Accounting, (213) 740-5022, [rlayton@marshall.usc.edu](mailto:rlayton@marshall.usc.edu)

**Applications**

Applications are available as of the first full week of each semester, Leventhal School of Accounting B-3B.

**Beta Gamma Sigma**

National honor society for business students, on campus since 1923.

**Qualifications**

Juniors in the top 10 percent of their class, seniors in the top 10 percent, graduate students in the top 20 percent.

**Advisor**

Undergraduate and graduate – Sara Bascetta-Bohn, Marshall School of Business, (213) 740-0673, [bascetta@marshall.usc.edu](mailto:bascetta@marshall.usc.edu)

**Applications**

By invitation only.

**COLLEGE OF LETTERS, ARTS AND SCIENCES**

**Alpha Kappa Delta**

Sociology

**Qualifications**

To qualify, you must be a graduate student in sociology.

**Advisor**

TBD

**Applications**

Applications are available in Kaprielian Hall 352.

**Nu Rho Psi**

Neuroscience

This honors major allows you to pursue your interests in neuroscience and related fields outside of the classroom.

**Qualifications**

If you are a major or minor in neuroscience, you are eligible to join Nu Rho Psi. There is no GPA requirement to become a member.



**Co-Directors**

Irving Biederman, Professor of Neuroscience, (213) 740-6094, [bieder@usc.edu](mailto:bieder@usc.edu)

Sarah Bottjer, Professor of Neurobiology, (213) 740-9183, [bottjer@usc.edu](mailto:bottjer@usc.edu)

**Advisor**

Michael Quick, Professor of Biological Sciences, (213) 740-2531, [mquick@usc.edu](mailto:mquick@usc.edu)

**Applications**

Applications are available in HNB 126.

**Omicron Delta Epsilon**

Economics

Omicron Delta Epsilon (ODE) creates faculty-student interaction in an informal setting by organizing joint student/faculty panel discussions, special lectures where students serve as discussants. Students, under faculty guidance, will submit papers to international conferences for participation and publications. ODE was established by Professor John Commons in the 1800s. Represented on a majority of campuses, it is one of the oldest international economics honor societies. It meets every year during the Allied Social Sciences Annual Meetings, where papers from its annual essay contest are read.

**Qualifications**

You must have a minimum GPA of 3.0 and complete at least 12 upper-division units in economics.

**Advisor**

Nake Kamrany, Professor/Senior Lecturer, Economics, (213) 740-6997, [kamrany@usc.edu](mailto:kamrany@usc.edu)

**Applications**

Contact Professor Kamrany, ODE executive committee, at (213) 740-6997 or the Department of Economics at (213) 740-8335.

**Phi Alpha Theta**

History

**Qualifications**

Undergraduate students must complete at least 12 semester hours in history (four courses). They must also have a GPA of at least 3.33 in history and a GPA of 3.0 or better overall. Membership is not limited to history majors.

**Advisor**

Contact [patusc@gmail.com](mailto:patusc@gmail.com).

**Applications**

Applications are available in Social Sciences Building 153.

**Phi Sigma**

Biological Sciences

A national honor society for selected biology majors (Alpha Alpha Chapter at USC). Promotes research and academic excellence in the biological sciences.

**Qualifications**

Students with a GPA above 3.0 who have interest in research and have completed core requirements for the first two years in biological sciences are eligible. Major activities range from presentation of papers by members and lectures by outside speakers to field trips, laboratory demonstrations and joint research projects.

**Advisor**

Eric A. Webb, Assistant Professor of Marine and Environmental Biology, (213) 740-7965, [eawebb@usc.edu](mailto:eawebb@usc.edu)

**Applications**

Contact Dr. Webb in Alan Hancock Foundation (AHF) 331 or obtain applications from AHF 105.

**Pi Delta Phi**  
French

**Qualifications**

Must have a minimum GPA of 3.0 in French and 3.0 overall. Must have at least junior status and have completed at least one semester of upper-division French.

**Advisor**

Edwin Hill, Assistant Professor, French, (213) 740-3700, edwinhil@usc.edu.

**Applications**

Eligible students will be invited to join.

**Pi Sigma Alpha**

Political Science and International Relations

**Qualifications**

Open to graduate and undergraduate students in the above majors who have completed at least three upper division courses in the prospective discipline. Must have at least junior status with a minimum 3.5 overall GPA and a 3.5 GPA in the major.

**Advisor**

Paul Kovich, Political Science, (213) 740-3621, kovich@usc.edu

**Applications**

Deadline varies in fall and spring, available in Von KleinSmid Center 327.

**Psi Chi**

Psychology

Psi Chi, the international honor society in psychology, was founded in 1929 for the purpose of encouraging and maintaining excellence in scholarship for members in all fields, particularly in psychology, and advancing the science of psychology. Membership is open to graduate and undergraduate men and women who meet the minimum qualifications of scholarship and make the study of psychology one of their major interests.

Psi Chi also hosts events throughout the academic year that are open to all interested students, including non-members.

**Qualifications**

(1) Completion of at least three semesters or five quarters of college course work and nine semester hours or 14 quarter hours of psychology; (2) Registration for major or minor standing in psychology or for a program psychological in nature which is equivalent to such standings; (3) Undergraduates who are elected to Psi Chi must rank in the upper 35 percent of their class in general scholarship, and, in those few instances where the cutoff for the upper 35 percent falls below a 3.0 GPA, must also have an overall cumulative

GPA of 3.0. Demonstration of superior scholarship in psychology and earning a minimum GPA of 3.0 in psychology courses is required; (4) In addition to the above requirements, undergraduate transfer students must have completed at least one psychology course at USC before applying; (5) Graduate students must have an average grade of B or better in all graduate courses, including psychology.

**Applications**

For an application to become a Psi Chi member, visit the Psychology Department, Seeley G. Mudd Building 501.

**Advisors**

David Walsh, Associate Professor of Psychology, (213) 740-2275, dwalsh@usc.edu

Vivian Hsu-Tran, Advisor, (213) 740-6163, vhsu@usc.edu

**Sigma Gamma Epsilon**

Earth Sciences

National honorary earth sciences society, promoting undergraduate activities in the Department of Earth Sciences.

**Qualifications**

You may qualify to join Sigma Gamma Epsilon after completing at least two geoscience courses with a minimum 3.0 GPA.

**Advisor**

A. Joshua West, Assistant Professor, Earth Sciences, (213) 740-6736, joshwest@usc.edu

**Applications**

Contact the faculty advisor.

**DENTISTRY**

**Delta Delta Sigma**

Functions as a peer group that provides both social and academic support to pre-dental and dental hygiene members. Helps develop and mold students with great experience, communication skills and confidence to enter into the dental health field. Enhances your undergraduate experience.

**Qualifications**

Membership is open to students who attend 75 percent of general meetings, attend one social event, pay dues,

become HIPAA certified and complete one of the following: rotations in the USC School of Dentistry; "Spread the Smile Campaigns" (SSC) or Ayuda clinics.

**Advisor**

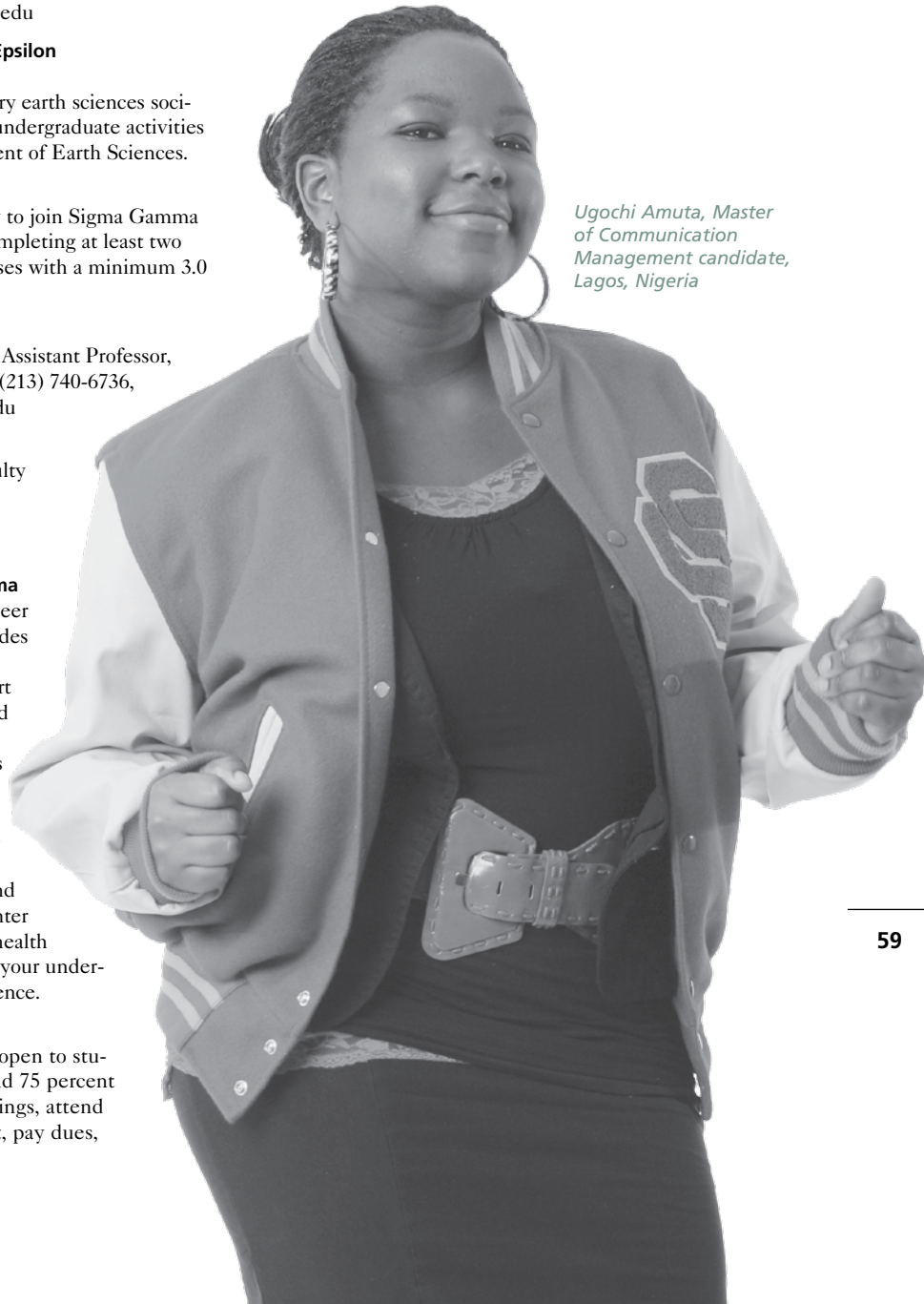
Sandra Bolivar, Assistant Dean, Admissions and Student Affairs, (213) 740-2841, bolivar@usc.edu

**Applications**

Applications available online at [www.deltadeltastigma.com](http://www.deltadeltastigma.com) under Resources.

**Omicron Kappa Upsilon**

Established to promote and recognize scholarship and character and to encourage and develop a spirit of emulation among students of dentistry.



*Ugochi Amuta, Master of Communication Management candidate, Lagos, Nigeria*

## International Study Programs

The Office of Overseas Studies administers more than 50 undergraduate programs in sub-Saharan Africa (Kenya and South Africa); the Americas (Brazil, Chile, Costa Rica, Mexico, Nicaragua, and Turks and Caicos); Asia (China, India, Japan, South Korea and Taiwan); Australia and New Zealand; Europe (Czech Republic, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Russia, Spain and the United Kingdom); and the Middle East (Egypt, Jordan and Israel).

Information about these programs is available in the *USC Catalogue*.

### Qualifications

Members are selected from the upper 20 percent of the graduating class, who, in addition to scholarship, have demonstrated exemplary traits of character and potential qualities for future professional growth. Honorary and faculty members can also be nominated.

### Advisor

Irene M. Reyna, Administrative Coordinator, (213) 740-7633, irene@usc.edu

### Applications

By nomination only.

## EDUCATION

### Phi Delta Kappa

Phi Delta Kappa International, the leading advocate for public education, promotes quality education for all as essential to a democratic way of life by providing innovative programs, relevant research, visionary leadership and dedicated service.

### Qualifications

Membership is open to professional educators and other individuals and institutions of good character who are committed to its purpose. Undergraduate students must be enrolled in an accredited education program and apply before student teaching.

### Advisor

Melora Sundt, Associate Dean for Academic Programs, (213) 821-2671, sundt@usc.edu

### Applications

Application is by nomination from good standing members or by self-nomination. Professional membership is also available. For more information, visit [www.pdk-usc.org](http://www.pdk-usc.org).

## ENGINEERING

### Alpha Pi Mu

Industrial Engineering honor society

### Qualifications

Criteria for election are: juniors in the upper one-fifth of their class; seniors in the upper one-third of their class; master's students who have completed at least one-third of the courses required for their degree and rank among the top 10 students in all ISE master's degree programs; and doctoral students recommended by the department chair.

### Advisor

Kurt Palmer, Associate Professor of Engineering Practice, Industrial and Systems Engineering, (213) 740-5960

### Applications

New members are only invited to join in the spring semester.

### Chi Epsilon

Civil and environmental engineering honor society established in 1924 to promote scholarship, character, practicality and sociability.

### Qualifications

To be eligible for membership, an undergraduate must rank scholastically in the upper one-third of his or her class in a curriculum leading to a baccalaureate degree in civil engineering or in a closely related curriculum.

### Advisor

Henry M. Koffman, Professor of Civil and Environmental Engineering, (213) 740-0556, koffman@usc.edu

### Applications

By invitation only. For more information, contact the Sonny Astani Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering Student Affairs Office, Kaprielian Hall 214, or visit [uscxe.com](http://uscxe.com).

### Eta Kappa Nu

Electrical engineering honor society for students, faculty and practicing engineers in electrical engineering, computer engineering/computer science and biomedical-electrical engineering.

### Qualifications

Students demonstrating "marked ability" – evidenced by scholarship, personal character, useful voluntary services and distinguished accomplishments – are elected primarily from the junior and senior classes. Graduate students and distinguished professionals demonstrating similar success in their careers are also eligible.

### Advisor

Hossein Hashemi, Associate Professor of Electrical Engineering/Electrophysics, (213) 740-3596, hosseinhl@usc.edu

### Applications

Contact the Electrical Engineering Department at (213) 740-4700, Powell Hall 604.

### Omega Chi Epsilon

Chemical Engineering

### Qualifications

Top one-fourth of junior class or top one-third of senior class.

### Applications

Contact the Department of Chemical Engineering at (213) 740-2225, Hedco Chemical Engineering 216.

### Omega Rho

Operations Research

To recognize academic excellence in operations research and encourage study of operations research, management science and closely associated disciplines.

### Qualifications

If you would like to join this honor group, you must be in the top one-third of your class.

### Advisor

Maged Dessouky, Professor of Industrial and Systems Engineering, (213) 740-4891, maged@usc.edu

### Applications

By nomination only during the spring semester.

### Pi Epsilon Tau

Petroleum Engineering, in academia and industry

### Qualifications

As a junior or senior, you must have a 3.3 GPA in petroleum, chemical or mechanical engineering (with petroleum engineering option) for at least one semester at USC. As a graduate student you must have a 3.5 GPA. You must also have exemplary character and advisor approval.

### Advisor

Kristian Jessen, HED 311, (213) 740-2073, jessen@usc.edu

### Applications

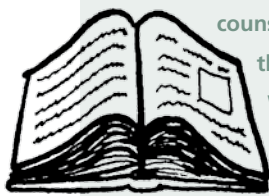
Contact Petroleum Engineering at (213) 740-0322, Hedco Chemical Engineering 316.

## A GLIMPSE OF TROJAN HISTORY

### When in Academic Hot Water

"Those unfortunate few on probation seek counsel and the crying towel at the offices of the Counselor of Women and the Counselor of Men. He who merits a cinch note (That's a D, brother) is due a word to the wise from these departments."

– *SCampus* 1967-68





must have at least a 3.5 GPA. Faculty, alumni, professional and honorary memberships are also available.

**Advisor**

Maria Henke, Assistant Dean,  
(213) 740-5156, mhenke@usc.edu

**Applications**

Contact department.

**LAW**

**Blackstonians (Pre-law Honor Society)**

To recognize academic excellence and educate students about using law and the legal system for the moral improvement of society.

**Qualifications**

You must complete at least 32 units (with at least 16 units from USC), but not more than 118 units, and have at least a 3.5 cumulative GPA.

**Advisor**

Alison Dundes Renteln, Professor of Political Science, (213) 740-3248, arenteln@usc.edu

**Applications**

Deadlines vary each semester. Applications are available in Von KleinSmid Center 327.

**Order of the Coif**

A national honorary scholastic society that encourages excellence in legal education.

**Qualifications**

Membership will be extended to a graduating law student whose cumulative grade point average ranks in the top 10 percent of all graduating students, provided that he or she has completed at least 75 percent (66 units) of law studies in graded courses.

**Advisor**

Scott Altman, Vice Dean, Gould School of Law, (213) 740-2544, saltman@law.usc.edu

**Applications**

Students are nominated by the law school.

**MEDICINE**

**Alpha Epsilon Delta (Pre-med)**

This honor society aims to provide members with exposure to various aspects of medicine, stimulate an appreciation of the importance of premedical education in the study of medicine and promote cooperation and contacts between medical and premedical students and educators. It binds together students with similar interests through participation in activities of benefit to health organizations, charities and the community.

**Pi Tau Sigma**

Mechanical Engineering

**Qualifications**

Pi Tau Sigma is open to students who are in the top 30 percent of the senior and the top 25 percent of the junior class. Students must officially commit to the organization.

**Advisors**

Paul Ronney, Professor of Aerospace and Mechanical Engineering,  
(213) 740-0490, ronney@usc.edu

David Salter, Student Services Advisor,  
(213) 740-5353, dsalter@usc.edu

**Applications**

By invitation only.

**Sigma Gamma Tau**

Aerospace Engineering

To recognize achievement and excellence in the aerospace field. Students who are in the upper third of the senior class, upper fourth of the junior class and upper fifth of the sophomore class are eligible.

**Advisor**

Geoffrey Spedding, Professor of Aerospace and Mechanical Engineering,  
(213) 740-4132, geoff@usc.edu

**Tau Beta Pi**

Tau Beta Pi is a national engineering honor society dedicated to promoting honor, integrity, scholarship and exemplary character in the field of engineering.

**Qualifications**

Undergraduate students whose scholarship places them in the top eighth of their class in their next-to-last year or

in the top fifth of their class in their last college year are eligible for membership consideration.

Engineering graduate students whose scholarship places them in the top fifth of their graduate class or whose high-quality work is attested to by a faculty member may be elected to membership.

**Advisor**

Larry G. Redekopp, Professor of Aerospace and Mechanical Engineering  
(213) 740-5369, lg.redekopp@usc.edu

**Upsilon Pi Epsilon**

Computer Science

**Qualifications**

If you are a junior or senior, you must have a minimum GPA of 3.5 and have completed specific prerequisite courses in order to qualify for membership in Upsilon Pi Epsilon.

**Advisor**

Michael Crowley, Associate Professor of Engineering Practice (Computer Science), (213) 740-4505, crowley@usc.edu

**Applications**

Visit the UPE Website at [pollux.usc.edu/~upe](http://pollux.usc.edu/~upe).

**GERONTOLOGY**

**Sigma Phi Omega**

National academic honor and professional society in gerontology.

**Qualifications**

To qualify for membership in Sigma Phi Omega, you must be in your second term of enrollment as an undergraduate or graduate student at USC and major or minor in gerontology. As an undergraduate, you must have a minimum GPA of 3.3; as a graduate student, you

**Undergraduate Research and Academic Resource Opportunities**

USC offers undergraduates an academic life full of opportunities – to engage in research with faculty, to study abroad and to learn by serving the community. To learn more about on- and off-campus opportunities, visit [www.usc.edu/ugp](http://www.usc.edu/ugp).

USC Undergraduate Research  
Grace Ford Salvatori Hall 227  
(213) 740-1741  
Email: [dglasgow@usc.edu](mailto:dglasgow@usc.edu)



**Qualifications**

Members must have a minimum 3.2 GPA and be in their sophomore year or later. Participation, character, personality and attitude are also of importance.

**Applications**

Deadline is approximately three weeks from the beginning of each semester. Email [aedusc@gmail.com](mailto:aedusc@gmail.com) to inquire about membership.

**Alpha Omega Alpha**

To recognize and perpetuate excellence in the medical profession.

**Qualifications**

As an undergraduate or graduate student or a faculty member, you may be elected to join this honor society based on your distinguished academic achievement. Integrity, capacity for leadership, compassion and fairness in dealing with colleagues are equally important criteria for membership. To qualify for membership, you must be enrolled in your last two years of medical school.

**Advisor**

Paul Holtom, (323) 409-6645, [holtom@usc.edu](mailto:holtom@usc.edu)

**Applications**

Students are nominated.

**MUSIC**

**Pi Kappa Lambda**

National honor society for music students. USC's Eta chapter was established in 1923 to recognize outstanding musical achievement, academic scholarship and service.

**Qualifications**

To be considered for membership, juniors must be in the upper 10 percent of their class; seniors must be in the upper 20 percent. Graduating master's students with a GPA of 3.75 or higher, and doctoral students with a GPA of 3.6 or higher who have completed their qualifying exams, are eligible.

**Advisor**

Debora Huffman, Associate Dean for Doctoral Programs and Alumni Relations, Thornton School of Music, (213) 740-2774, [dhuffman@thornton.usc.edu](mailto:dhuffman@thornton.usc.edu)

**Applications**

Students are nominated by Pi Kappa Lambda officers and faculty of the Thornton School of Music.

**OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY**

**Pi Theta Epsilon**

To be invited to join Pi Theta Epsilon, you need to demonstrate academic excellence in occupational therapy as an undergraduate or graduate student, and complete the summer and fall semesters of the first year of the entry-level professional program. Candidates from the top 35 percent of the class who also have at least a 3.2 GPA are invited to apply for membership.

**Advisors**

Julie McLaughlin Gray, Assistant Professor of Clinical Occupational Therapy, (323) 442-2877, [jmgray@usc.edu](mailto:jmgray@usc.edu)

Jeanne Jackson, Associate Professor of Occupational Therapy, (323) 442-2833, [jmjackso@usc.edu](mailto:jmjackso@usc.edu)

**Applications**

By invitation only.

**PHARMACY**

**Phi Lambda Sigma**

National pharmacy leadership society devoted to identifying, supporting and recognizing the contributions of pharmacy students to their colleges, classmates, campuses, communities and to their chosen profession.

**Qualifications**

Students must complete at least one professional year of scholastic work applicable toward a recognized pharmacy degree and have a cumulative GPA of at least 3.0. Prospective members are nominated on the basis of their demonstration of dedication, service and leadership in the advancement of pharmacy.

**Advisor**

Melvin Baron, Associate Professor of Clinical Pharmacy, (323) 442-2686, [mbaron@usc.edu](mailto:mbaron@usc.edu)

**Applications**

By invitation only.

**Rho Chi**

National Academic Honor Society in Pharmacy

**Qualifications**

Membership requires high attainment in scholarship, character, personality and leadership. To qualify, you must complete three semesters of the professional curriculum, be among the upper 20 percent of your class and be approved by the dean of the School of Pharmacy.

**Advisor**

Michael Z. Wincor, Associate Professor of Clinical Pharmacy, Psychiatry and the Behavioral Sciences, (323) 442-1455, [mwincor@usc.edu](mailto:mwincor@usc.edu)

**Applications**

By nomination only.

**POLICY, PLANNING, AND DEVELOPMENT**

**Pi Alpha Alpha**

Pi Alpha Alpha is the National Society for Public Affairs and Administration and is an affiliate of the American Society for Public Administration. Its purposes are to:

- encourage and reward scholarship and accomplishment among students and practitioners of public affairs and administration
- promote the advancement of education and scholarship in the art and science of public affairs and administration
- foster integrity and creative performance in the conduct of governmental and related public service operation

**Qualifications**

Students in the School of Policy, Planning, and Development undergraduate, Master of Public Policy and Master of Public Administration programs who meet requirements are eligible for membership. Applications from Executive Master of Leadership; Doctor of Policy, Planning, and Development; and Ph.D. students with demonstrated commitment to public administration and public affairs will also be considered.

**Advisor**

Cynthia Clayton, Student Services Advisor, (213) 740-0525, [cclayton@usc.edu](mailto:cclayton@usc.edu).

**Applications**

Inductee dates are March 15 and October 15. Contact Cynthia Clayton (see above) for more information.

## USC McNair Scholars Program

Richard Andalon  
(213) 740-8702  
(213) 740-9955 (FAX)  
Grace Ford Salvatori 315  
Email: randalon@usc.edu  
[mcnair.usc.edu](http://mcnair.usc.edu)

The USC McNair Scholars Program is a federally-funded initiative sponsored by the U.S. Department of Education that currently operates at nearly 200 colleges and universities across the U.S. The program provides graduate school preparation, research training and funding opportunities to a select group of students from first generation, low-income and historically underrepresented backgrounds. The primary objective of the program is to diversify the student body at the graduate level, particularly at the doctoral level, with one of the main goals being to diversify the American professoriate through placement of McNair alumni in faculty positions.

At USC, at least 26 students are selected every year for the McNair Scholars Program. Students are introduced to the world of research and provided an opportunity to work with faculty mentors on student-proposed and designed research projects. Participants gain experience in hands-on research, writing research papers and presenting their scholarly work. Students come from all academic disciplines and have demonstrated significant achievement and potential in their academic and extracurricular pursuits. The highlights of the USC program include a spring research methods course, summer research institute, research symposium, GRE preparation, year-round academic and career advising, special travel grant awards for conference attendance and university visitations, and ongoing graduate school preparation and professional development activities. Students in the program receive a \$2,800 summer research stipend and a scholarship to cover summer housing accommodations. Students also have the opportunity to publish their scholarly work in academic journals, to present their research at national conferences and to visit prospective universities they plan to attend for graduate school.

The McNair Scholars Program is a funded TRIO project, named in honor of the astronaut, Ronald E. McNair,

who died in the 1986 Challenger Space Shuttle explosion. The USC Office of Undergraduate Programs, Office of the Provost, administers the program.

To meet eligibility requirements, students must be full-time USC students with a minimum 2.7 GPA; however, no lower than a 3.0 GPA is preferred. Students must be first generation college students from a low-income background or members of an ethnic group that is underrepresented in graduate education.

## Overseas Study Programs

Peter Hilton  
(213) 740-3636  
College House (CLH) 201  
Email: [overseas@usc.edu](mailto:overseas@usc.edu)  
[dornsife.usc.edu/overseas-studies](http://dornsife.usc.edu/overseas-studies)

Many of USC's semester- and year-long international study programs are administered by the Office of Overseas Studies in the Dornsife College of Letters, Arts and Sciences. These programs enable you to study in a different educational and cultural context. Programs are available for a semester or for an academic year. Some of the programs require proficiency in the language of the host country; others are conducted in English. When you study abroad for a semester or year, you receive regular USC course credit and may apply financial aid to any semester- or year-long program described in the *USC Catalogue*.

Courses taken abroad on overseas study programs not approved by USC must be reviewed and pre-approved by the Office of Degree Progress prior to enrollment. For additional information, you can visit the Office of Degree Progress, located in SAS 010, or call (213) 740-7070.

The programs offered by the Office of Overseas Studies and the international semester programs offered by the Annenberg School for Communication & Journalism, the School of Architecture and the Marshall School of Business are described in the *USC Catalogue*.

## INTERNATIONAL SUMMER SESSION

The International Summer Session features many overseas courses each year for

undergraduates and graduates. International Summer Session programs are listed in the *USC Catalogue*. Information about these programs is available from the school or department offering them as well as in the summer *Schedule of Classes*.

## GRADUATE STUDY ABROAD

The Office of Academic and International Fellowships provides information and assistance to students applying for nationally competitive scholarships, including the Fulbright Grants for graduate study and research abroad, Rhodes Scholarships, Luce Scholarships, Marshall Scholarships, and several others. For more information call (213) 740-9116 or visit [www.usc.edu/arp/fellowships](http://www.usc.edu/arp/fellowships).

## Minors

USC offers 150 minors. Check out the minors list in the online *USC Catalogue* ([www.usc.edu/catalogue](http://www.usc.edu/catalogue)). You'll find links to the requirements for each minor listed.



Chanel Cochran-Moore,  
Psychology major,  
Chicago, IL

## Scholarships and Fellowships

### INTERNATIONAL SCHOLARSHIPS AND FELLOWSHIPS

Office of Academic and International Fellowships  
 Noosha Malek  
 Martha Enciso  
 (213) 740-9116  
 Email: arpstaff@usc.edu  
[www.usc.edu/arp/fellowships](http://www.usc.edu/arp/fellowships)

It is never too early to start planning for a post-baccalaureate international fellowship, such as the Rhodes and Marshall Scholarships or Fulbright grants. These and other scholarships and fellowships could provide a truly once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to further your studies in a world-class environment abroad, within an international community of scholars. The best applications have months and years of planning behind them.

The Office of Academic and International Fellowships can support you throughout the process, providing assistance with information gathering, reviewing essays, mock interviews, application coordination and university endorsements. Academic and International Fellowships will also connect you with faculty experts on campus and others who have been through the process to help you to strategize and determine which scholarships may best suit your needs. Scholarships include the Churchill Scholarship, Fulbright Grant, Gates Cambridge Scholarship, Gillman Scholarship, Luce Scholarship, Marshall Scholarship, Rhodes Scholarship, Rotary Scholarship and Truman Scholarship.

You may contact the office at any time during your undergraduate or graduate career if you are considering

one of these opportunities, or would like to find out more information. Keep an eye out for on-campus fall and spring information sessions.

### ADDITIONAL SOURCES OF FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR GRADUATE STUDY

Finding financial support for graduate study frequently requires careful planning and considerable initiative. However, there are many USC resources available to help you through the process. Many funding sources have application deadlines earlier than university admission and financial aid deadlines, so begin your inquiries early, at least a year before you plan to begin graduate study.

Many federal agencies, foundations and corporations offer awards to students. The USC Graduate School, (213) 740-9033, can direct you to several Web resources on this topic. You may also call the Doheny Library Reference Center at (213) 740-4039.

### MELLON MAYS UNDERGRADUATE FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM

Martha Enciso, Assistant Coordinator  
 (213) 740-9116  
 Email: menciso@usc.edu

Bruce Zuckerman, Co-Coordinator  
 (213) 740-0271  
 Ahmanson Ctr. for Biological Research (ACB), 130  
 Email: bzuckerm@usc.edu  
[www.usc.edu/student-affairs/MMUF](http://www.usc.edu/student-affairs/MMUF)

Michael Jackson, Co-Coordinator  
 (213) 740-5240  
 Student Union 201

The Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellowship (MMUF) Program is the centerpiece of the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation's initiative to increase diversity in the faculty ranks of colleges and universities. The University of Southern California's MMUF program is a partnership between the Dornsife College of Letters, Arts and Sciences, the Office of the Provost, and the Division of Student Affairs.

The Mellon Mays Undergraduate Fellowship Program identifies, supports and mentors highly qualified undergraduate students and encourages them to pursue a Ph.D. in fields in which diversity has not been historically present. In order to bring a wider range of experiences and perspectives to teaching and scholarship, the program also strives to increase the number of faculty from underrepresented groups.

Students are chosen on the basis of their academic performance, potential and interest in pursuing a Ph.D. in a Mellon-approved field (humanities, social sciences, physical sciences, computer science and mathematics).

Fellowships are awarded each spring semester to sophomore and junior students. An award of \$3,600 is provided for two summers, enabling fellows to devote six weeks of full-time work to an academic research project.

Fellows also receive \$1,600 each academic year (\$800 per semester) to devote time to their research projects. During their research projects, students gain insight into an academic career by working closely with a faculty mentor.

A loan repayment program is available to help students overcome disincentives to pursue an academic career caused by undergraduate loan indebtedness. Fellows who enroll in a Mellon-approved Ph.D. program within 39 months of receiving their undergraduate degree are eligible for up to \$10,000 in undergraduate loan payments.

### Student-Athlete Academic Services

Magdi El Shahawy  
 (213) 740-3801  
 Heritage Hall B30  
 Email: melshaha@usc.edu  
[www.usc.edu/dept/athletics/saas](http://www.usc.edu/dept/athletics/saas)

Student-Athlete Academic Services (SAAS) provides the necessary support to assist all student-athletes in reaching their full potential academically, personally and professionally. Our program includes academic advising, career development, community service, tutorial programs and learning specialists, all of which are aimed at promoting a philosophy of individual responsibility so as to encourage each student-athlete to value his or her educational experience. In providing such services, SAAS gives student-athletes the opportunity to develop the skills needed to persist toward graduation, become leaders within the community and lead successful and productive lives.

### Writing Center

(213) 740-3691  
 Taper Hall 321  
 Email: writing@usc.edu  
[www.usc.edu/writingcenter](http://www.usc.edu/writingcenter)

The Writing Center provides any member of the university community with one-on-one assistance for writing tasks. This tutoring is available for students at both the graduate and undergraduate levels and for native as well as non-native speakers of English. In addition, the center offers grammar, style and skill workshops that address specific grammatical and syntactic issues in small-group tutorials.

