

To: USC Faculty
From: Gene Bickers, Associate Vice Provost for Undergraduate Programs
Subject: Two First Contact Programs for Faculty and Students
Date: August 30, 2007

I urge you to take advantage of two programs that are designed to bring together faculty and undergraduates outside the classroom. Both programs were initiated by Prof. Mark Kann as part of the Academic Culture Initiative, and they are now funded by the Provost's First Contact Initiative within the Office of Undergraduate Programs.

The Breaking Bread Program

Now in its seventh year, the Breaking Bread Program reimburses faculty for up to \$150 per semester (based on an average of \$10 or less per student) when faculty dine with **undergraduate students**. Faculty may dine at their homes, at off-campus restaurants, or at on-campus facilities. Pre-approval is required at least one week before the meal.

To apply, please contact Yolanda Callender (callende@usc.edu, phone 740-1741) or go to http://www.usc.edu/programs/ugprograms/ughome/breaking_bread.shtml .

The Research Clearinghouse

One of the primary advantages for undergraduates to study at a university such as USC is the chance to assist faculty with their research. Faculty can also benefit from having undergraduates as research assistants. Now in its fourth year, the Research Clearinghouse facilitates matches between interested students and faculty.

Faculty who are willing to take on undergraduate assistants submit information about the nature of their research, how they would use undergraduate assistants, and how many assistants they would like. When a match is found, we provide contact information to the student and the faculty member.

Apply at <http://www.usc.edu/programs/ugprograms/ugresearch/clearinghouse.shtml> .
For further information, please contact us at ugp@usc.edu.