

MEMORANDUM

To: Academic Deans, Faculty, and Staff

Office of the President

From: C. L. Max Nikias *C. C. Nikias*

Date: August 3, 2010

Subject: National Search: USC Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost

I am pleased to formally announce a national search for USC's next senior vice president for academic affairs and provost. As the second-ranking officer under the president, and the chief academic officer of the university, this person is vital to USC's academic mission. All of the university's deans, the vice provosts, and the CEO of the University Hospital and Norris Cancer Hospital report directly to this person. The provost also oversees the divisions of Student Affairs, Libraries, Information Technology Services, Student Religious Life, and Enrollment Services. I believe this appointment is particularly critical at this juncture in USC's history, as we embark on our journey to take the university into the ranks of undisputed elite universities.

Given the tremendous importance of this position, I have already laid significant groundwork for our search. I formed the search committee in April, and we have already met twice. The search committee consists of a wide range of distinguished faculty from an array of schools; the full roster accompanies this memorandum. Its members will actively consult the executive board of the Academic Senate, Student Governments (both undergraduate and graduate), the deans, and the leadership of USC's hospitals. We will use the feedback we receive from these consultations to determine the ideal qualifications of our next provost and to guide our evaluations throughout the process.

Isaacson, Miller, a highly-regarded executive search firm, is assisting the university in its search, and the firm's president, John Isaacson, is personally overseeing his firm's efforts. The firm has already begun building a pool of qualified candidates from around the nation, and we anticipate this pool will increase significantly with today's formal announcement. With our preliminary work completed, we can begin rigorously screening qualified candidates without any delay.

On that note, I invite you to submit nominations or applications for this position. You can direct these materials to 4036@imsearch.com. The search committee will make every effort to maintain absolute confidentiality throughout the process. I also want to take this opportunity to warmly thank the members of the search committee for their service. As I told each one, I consider this the most significant appointment as I begin my presidency. This person will play a pivotal role in USC's continued ascent, and we all look forward to appointing a dynamic, exceptionally-accomplished individual to USC's senior leadership.

cc: USC Board of Trustees

Provost Search Faculty Advisory Committee

Chair

C. L. Max Nikias, President

Members

Leo B. Braudy, University Professor and Leo S. Bing Chair in English and American Literature, College of Letters, Arts and Sciences

Edward D. Crandall, Kenneth T. Norris Jr. Chair in Medicine and Hastings Professorship in Medicine, Keck School of Medicine of USC

Hanna Damasio, Dana Dornsife Chair in Neuroscience and Professor of Psychology and Neurology, College of Letters, Arts and Sciences

James T. Higginbotham, Distinguished Professor and Linda MacDonald Hilf Chair in Philosophy, USC College of Letters, Arts and Sciences

Andrea Hodge, Assistant Professor, Viterbi School of Engineering

Clifford Johnson, Professor of Physics and Astronomy, College of Letters, Arts and Sciences

Tara McPherson, Associate Professor, School of Cinematic Arts

Nandini Rajagopalan, Capt. Henry W. Simonsen Chair in Strategic Entrepreneurship, Marshall School of Business

William G. Tierney, University Professor and Leslie Wilbur and Norma Lash Wilbur-Evelyn Kieffer Professorship in Higher Education, Rossier School of Education

William Vega, Provost Professor and Executive Director of the Edward R. Roybal Institute on Aging, School of Social Work

Michael S. Waterman, University Professor, USC Associates Chair in Natural Sciences, and Professor of Biological Sciences and Mathematics

Roberta G. Williams, Professor of Pediatrics, Keck School of Medicine of USC and Childrens Hospital Los Angeles

Search Firm

Isaacson, Miller

John Isaacson, President

David Bellshaw, Vice President and Director