


**MEMORANDUM**

To: Academic Deans, Faculty, and Staff

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

Date: November 15, 2010

Subject: Appointment of Michael Quick as Executive Vice Provost

**Office of the Provost**

**Elizabeth Garrett**  
Provost and  
Senior Vice President  
for Academic Affairs

Frances R. and  
John J. Duggan  
Professor of Law,  
Political Science and  
Public Policy

I am pleased to announce the appointment of Professor Michael Quick as the Executive Vice Provost. This position has been held by Professor Jean Morrison, who was recently appointed to the position of Provost of Boston University.

As the Executive Vice Provost, Dr. Quick will work closely with me as the second-ranking administrator in the Office of the Provost. He will be responsible for advancing excellence and innovation in the undergraduate curriculum and enhancing the vibrancy of the undergraduate experience. Other top priorities will include accelerating our progress on the path to greater distinction in the Ph.D. programs and our flagship graduate professional degrees and increasing the stature of our post-doctoral programs. He will work with me, the deans, and our faculty to recruit additional transformational faculty and ensure that our academic community fosters an environment that allows all faculty to engage in cutting-edge research, pursue meaningful creative endeavors, and provide effective pedagogy to our students at all levels.

Reporting to Dr. Quick will be the Office of Undergraduate Programs, led by Vice Provost Eugene Bickers; the USC Graduate School, led by Vice Provost Sally Pratt; and the Office of Continuing Education and Summer Programs, led by Associate Provost Eileen Kohan.

Dr. Quick will represent the Provost in the university's academic program review process, provide leadership with respect to the Provost's Ph.D. Fellowships, and play a key role in the university strategic planning process as well as our accreditation. He will also represent the Provost on a number of vital university committees, including the Provost's Oversight Committee for Athletic Academic Affairs (OCAAA), the Provost's Interdisciplinary Hiring Committee, the University Committee on Curriculum (UCOC), and the Committee on Academic Policies and Procedures (CAPP).

Dr. Quick began his career here at USC as an associate professor in the Department of Biological Sciences. He studied as a post-doctoral research fellow at the California Institute of Technology, and was an associate and assistant professor at the University of Alabama at Birmingham. He received his Ph.D. in Neuroscience from Emory University. Dr. Quick's scholarship focuses on how drugs of abuse such as cocaine and nicotine, and therapeutic drugs such as antidepressants and anti-epileptic medications, alter the signaling properties of nerve cells.

Dr. Quick has served as Director of the Neuroscience Graduate Program; Vice Dean for Research in the USC College of Letters, Arts and Sciences; and most recently as Executive Vice Dean of the USC College. He has established a reputation as an effective and imaginative academic administrator, a collaborator across schools and disciplines, an inspiring teacher, and a leader who will help to ensure the university's success in reaching the ranks of the undisputed elite research universities in the world.

As Executive Vice Dean of the USC College, he was responsible for coordinating the efforts of the vice deans for faculty and research, academic programs, and diversity, and provided leadership on issues such as faculty hiring and promotion, research advancement, research infrastructure, graduate and undergraduate programs, and facilities. He also worked with the deans of other USC schools to hire interdisciplinary faculty and to build academic programs between schools.

Please join me in extending warm congratulations to Dr. Quick and Dr. Morrison and wishing both of them success in their new roles.

cc: C. L. Max Nikias  
Robert Abeles  
Al Checcio  
Todd Dickey  
Martha Harris