

MEMORANDUM

To: USC Faculty and Staff

From: President C. L. Max Nikias

Date: September 22, 2010

Subject: *Los Angeles Times* Festival of Books Relocates to USC

As you'll see today on the *Los Angeles Times* website <<http://www.latimes.com/>> , the *Times* has decided to relocate its renowned Festival of Books to the USC University Park campus. The 16th annual event takes place from April 30 – May 1, 2011, and features appearances and readings from internationally recognized authors and celebrities as well as discussion panels, award presentations, and exhibitors from all corners of the publishing world. Last year the Festival attracted 140,000 people to UCLA.

I couldn't be more thrilled that the nation's largest public literary festival has found a new home at USC after a 15-year run in Westwood. The *Los Angeles Times* Festival of Books is known for sparking just the kind of intellectual curiosity and energy that are at the heart of USC's mission. It is a great fit for our world-class faculty authors and writing programs, as well as for our literacy work in the community. And it represents a partnership between two of L.A.'s oldest institutions, now joining together for an event that is so important to the intellectual life of our city and our region.

The Festival of Books is free to the public and brings together an exciting and diverse group of people inspired in common by the written word. I hope you'll join me in helping make the Festival on our campus the most successful ever.