

USC Center for Excellence in Research 2009 Faculty Fellow Application Guidelines

Application Deadline: February 18, 2009



The Center for Excellence in Research (CER) is designed to increase the impact and prominence of scholarly research throughout the university. Under the auspices of the Vice Provost for Research Advancement and the Academic Senate, the CER promotes advancement, leadership and excellence in the pursuit of all areas of research, university-wide. The core of the CER is a group of faculty Fellows, who are selected based both on accomplishments and on commitment to promoting a culture of excellence in research at USC. Fellows serve as leaders, advisors and mentors to fellow faculty and students both within and beyond their areas of expertise.

Timeline for Selection

- Deadline for Application: February 18, 2009
- Interviews: April, 2009
- Notification: May, 2009
- Fellowship Begins: June 2009

Eligibility: To be eligible for selection as a Faculty Fellow, one must be a member of the faculty with a distinguished record of research, as reflected in excellence in publications and impact on the profession or society. USC faculty members from all ranks, both tenure-track and non-tenure-track, are eligible to apply. Faculty fellows should also have a strong desire to assist colleagues at all levels in research techniques and professional advancement, be willing to contribute 50 to 100 hours per year to CER, and have the endorsement of the chair or director of the faculty member's department or school.

Fellows **must** be able to attend a monthly meeting of CER Faculty Fellows. That meeting is currently scheduled for the third or fourth Tuesday of each month from 10:00 AM to 11:00 AM.

About the Appointment: A CER Fellowship appointment is for three years. It carries with it an award of \$2,500 per year over three years that may be used as an unrestricted research grant. A fellowship appointment will also be recognized as a contribution to university service. Fellows will also be honored at an annual dinner. In addition, the Office of the Vice Provost for Research Advancement will support the cost of advancement activities undertaken by fellows.

Fellows are expected to propose and lead activities that advance research at USC, such as:

- Seminars, forums and working groups that aid fellow faculty in successfully publishing their work in top outlets, or establishing research programs funded from public agencies, private foundations, or other sources.
- Similar programs more specifically targeted at graduate students, post-doctoral fellows or junior-level university researchers to help them prepare and plan for sustained research programs and funded research initiatives.
- Programs that foster the incorporation of undergraduate students in scholarly research.
- Mentoring and advising individual faculty regarding the development of publishable and/or funded research.
- Developing literature (both printed and online) and, as appropriate, other multimedia presentations that fellow faculty, post-docs, graduate students and others engaged in research can draw upon at any time for advice and guidance.
- Serving as liaison or facilitator with the particular goal of promoting inter-disciplinary research.

All fellows will be expected to direct a series of workshops, which are designed to provide researchers across all fields of study with specialized skills, knowledge, and professional development; and to build networks and foster collaboration across the university. (Further information about workshops is available at the CER website: www.usc.edu/cer).

Criteria for Selection

Candidates should provide evidence of outstanding research, and should also demonstrate that they have been highly proactive in engaging other faculty as well as students to encourage, support, and reward research.

Candidates should present a compelling vision of excellence in research, and propose a significant action plan as a CER Fellow to foster research at USC. Successful applications will present a clear argument as to why the proposed service as a Fellow will advance research at USC, and should describe **a concrete, well-defined set of activities that the Fellow will undertake, and the steps necessary to realize those activities.**

After an initial review of written applications, a group of candidate finalists will be invited for an interview with the current fellows and members of the Office of the Provost. Up to four new fellows will be selected in this competition.

Current CER Fellows

Lisa Bitel, Gender Studies
 William Deverell, History
 Susan Forsburg, Biological Sciences
 Hossein Jadvar, Radiology
 Maja Mataric, Computer Science

Peter Mancall, History
 Carol Prescott, Psychology
 Gaurav Sukhatme, Computer Science
 Rand Wilcox, Psychology

For more information on the Center for Excellence in Research, go to: <http://www.usc.edu/cer> . Questions can be directed to Justin Pearlman, Office of Research Advancement. 213-740-6709 or pearlman@usc.edu .

USC Center for Excellence in Research 2009 Faculty Fellow Application Form

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Applicant Information:

Name:

Rank/Title:

Department and School:

Email:

Department Chair:

Applications should include the following, in addition to this form:

- A copy of his/her most recent curriculum vitae – no more than 10 pages (a standard 4-page biosketch used for NIH, NEA, etc. applications is fine);
- A short (1-2 pages) vision statement explaining what the applicant aims to achieve through services as a CER fellow, and how these goals will advance research at USC;
- An action plan (1-2 pages), including one or more workshops that applicant will offer to faculty or students of the university, and a specific set of mentoring, training, and/or collaboration-fostering activities that the Fellow will undertake;
- A signed departmental statement of support for the nomination from the applicant's chair (or dean if applicant is a dept. chair).

Address application package to:

**CER Fellows Nominations
Office of Research Advancement
3720 South Flower Street, #325A
Los Angeles, CA 90089-0706**