



MEMORANDUM

TO: USC Faculty
FROM: C. L. Max Nikias *C. L. Nikias*
DATE: May 30, 2007
SUBJECT: University Professor

Office of the Provost

C. L. Max Nikias
Provost and
Senior Vice
President for
Academic Affairs

I am pleased to announce that President Sample has appointed Geoffrey Cowan as University Professor.

For more than 30 years, Geoffrey Cowan has been an important figure in almost every facets of the communication world - as a public interest lawyer, academic administrator, best-selling author, newspaper columnist, government official, television show host, and award-winning teacher, playwright, and television producer.

He was dean of the USC Annenberg School for Communication for eleven years and holds the Annenberg Family Chair in Communication Leadership, with a joint appointment in the USC Gould School of Law.

Geoff served the nation as director of the Voice of America. He received an Emmy Award from the Academy of Television Arts and Sciences for the Outstanding Prime Time Program for Children, and was awarded the Corporation for Public Broadcasting Gold Medal for Excellence in Best Live Entertainment. He played a key role in the development of National Public Radio, and served as chairman of the Los Angeles commission that wrote the city's ethics code - for which he was named Man of the Year by the Council of Government Ethics Leaders. He was elected the Walter Lippman Fellow of the American Academy of Political and Social Science and is currently Special Editor of an issue of *The Annals* on "Public Diplomacy in the 21st Century."

Geoff's outstanding accomplishments do honor to the University. Please join me in congratulating him on the appointment. The current lists of all Distinguished Professors and University Professors are available at the Faculty Portal, <http://www.usc.edu/faculty>, link to "Faculty Distinctions".

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