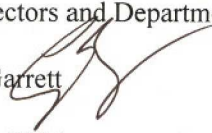


MEMORANDUM

To: Deans, Directors and Department Chairs

From: Elizabeth Garrett 

Date: October 18, 2006

Subject: Appointment of Jean Morrison as Vice Provost
for Graduate Programs

Office of the Provost

Elizabeth Garrett
Vice President for
Academic Planning
and Budget

Sydney M. Irmas
Professor of
Public Interest
Law, Legal Ethics,
Political Science,
and Policy, Planning
and Development

On behalf of Provost Nikias, I am delighted to announce the appointment of **Jean Morrison** as vice provost for graduate programs, effective November 1. In this role, she will continue to report to me, but she will assume primary responsibility for oversight of the university's graduate affairs and of the USC Graduate School. She will also represent the provost in the academic review process, which is beginning its second round of reviews under a new set of guidelines, adopted this past summer. She will also be responsible for coordinating the university's participation in the National Research Council's Assessment of Research Doctorate Programs. In addition, she will continue to lead our highly successful Women in Science and Engineering (WiSE) program, which has been under her direction since 2002.

Morrison previously served as associate vice provost for graduate programs—a role she filled with great distinction. In the past year, she oversaw a significant reorganization of the Graduate School's staff, as well as numerous programmatic developments. Quite notably, she secured funding from the National Science Foundation (NSF) to accelerate our efforts to improve diversity in our Ph.D. programs. Among her many other accomplishments, she supervised the provost's Ph.D. Block Grant process, chaired the provost's Graduate Student Advisory Committee, and oversaw the enhancement of the Graduate School's Ph.D. fellowship program which included both the development of an on-line system for the fellowship competition as well as a significant increase in the stipends associated with the Diversity and Provost's Fellowships.

A professor of earth sciences, Morrison is a metamorphic petrologist whose research addresses how the earth's crust evolves over time. In particular, she studies the role that fluids play in fault systems. She has served on a number of NSF funding panels and has served as an editor of *The Journal of Metamorphic Geology*. In 2000, she was named the Sigma Chi Professor of the Year and received Sigma Gamma Epsilon's Excellence in Teaching Award. In 2002, she received the prestigious USC Associates Award for Excellence in Teaching. Morrison also served as an associate dean in the graduate school. She received her Ph.D. from the University of Wisconsin, Madison; her M.S. from the University of Georgia; and her B.A. from Colgate University.

I hope you will join me in congratulating Jean on her well-deserved promotion. We all look forward to her continued contributions to our graduate programs and to the university.

cc: C. L. Max Nikias
Michael Jackson
Barry Glassner
Randolph Hall
Martin Levine
Jerry Lucido
Jean Morrison
Michael Preston