





MEMORANDUM

To: USC Community

From: Michael W. Quick 
Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs

Todd R. Dickey 
Senior Vice President for Administration

Date: August 2, 2017

Subject: Announcement of the Task Force on Workplace Standards and Employee Wellness

As a large community of more than 60,000 faculty, staff, and students, located not just on two major campuses in Los Angeles but also across Southern California and around the globe, USC will never be immune to crises. We work diligently to put practices into place that anticipate and mitigate crises, but when they occur, it is vital that we assess what we could have done better and make changes that will improve our procedures going forward.

In the wake of revelations regarding the former dean of the Keck School of Medicine, President Nikias called for the creation of a task force to examine our policies, procedures, and practices so that we understand what we could have done better and make improvements to do just that.

We are pleased to announce the appointment of this task force. It will be co-chaired by Professor Paul Rosenbloom, the President of the Faculty, and Jeffrey de Caen, the President of the Staff Assembly. These two esteemed leaders are known for their integrity, thoroughness, and most of all, for their commitment to open dialogue. The task force has representation by faculty and staff from UPC and HSC, and includes those with special expertise in privacy and employment law, human resources, faculty governance, organizational behavior, and mental health. The complete roster is appended to this memorandum. The task force will begin its work immediately, and will report its recommendations to the two of us, to the president, and, to the entire university community.

We will provide the information necessary for the task force to make the most robust recommendations possible. As we continue to determine what happened, and as the