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News Release

USC Jesse M. Unruh Institute of Politics Announces Fall 2014 Visiting Fellow

State Senator Mark Wyland joins the USC Jesse M. Unruh Institute of Politics to mentor students and provide their political analysis at campus programs

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This Fall, State Senator Mark Wyland (R-San Diego) will join the Jesse M. Unruh Institute of Politics at USC Dornsife as a Legislator in Residence. Over the course of the year, Senator Wyland will participate in numerous campus discussions in which he will lend his expertise in politics and public policy. He will participate in lunchtime panel discussions, a series of evening events, and he will lead small mentoring groups in which he will offer guidance to USC students who are interested in careers in politics, government and public service.

Senator Wyland is an acknowledged leader in the California legislature on education, government and fiscal reform. Wyland, widely known for his commitment to preparing California’s 6 million children for higher education, and for authoring significant legislation in this area, comes to USC after a successful fourteen-year tenure in the California State Senate, where for many years he served as vice chairman of the State Senate Education Committee.

"Mark Wyland has been one of the most respected and most thoughtful voices in the California state legislature for many years, and we're thrilled that he's going to bring his experience and expertise to USC," said Dan Schnur, executive director of the USC Jesse M. Unruh Institute of Politics. "Our students will benefit tremendously from having him on campus, and we know he'll be a tremendous resource for them throughout his time here."

Prior to his service in the legislature, Senator Wyland served as a board member and president of the Escondido Union School District board, a district that serves 17,000 students.

"As someone who earlier in life was on the path to be a college professor I am especially delighted with the opportunity to share my experiences with students at USC. I am particularly impressed with the institute's programs that combine public policy with experience in elected office."

Wyland joins former California State Assemblyman Anthony Portantino, who will
continue with the USC Unruh Institute of Politics as a Visiting Fellow. Prior to Portantino's time in the State Assembly, he served for eight years on La Cañada Flintridge's City Council, in addition to two years as its mayor. Throughout his tenure in public policy, Portantino has focused on issues relating to government reform and transparency.

This fall, he will teach a course in the USC Dornsife Department of Political Science emphasizing values-based leadership and public policy.

"I am so pleased to begin another school year as a Visiting Fellow at the Unruh Institute antino said. "The opportunity to be around inspiring students and to share practical 1ip at USC is an opportunity of a lifetime. I hope to share practical insights that talented and earnest young people to seek public service as a career path to bring to our state and country."

Schnur indicated his continuing enthusiasm for the Unruh Visiting Fellow Series, stating: "Our bipartisan team of Mark Wyland and Anthony Portantino will be a huge asset, not just to the Unruh Institute but for the entire USC community."

**The Jesse M. Unruh Institute of Politics** motivates students to become active in the world of politics and encourages public officials to participate in the daily life of USC.