USC Dornsife
Dana and David Dornsife
College of Letters, Arts and Sciences

educate
enrich
empower

THE
CAMPAIGN
for the
University
of Southern
California

FAS REGNA TROJAE
“We are a community of scholars committed to improving the world.”

—STEVE KAY
DEAN, USC DORNSIFE COLLEGE OF LETTERS, ARTS AND SCIENCES
ANNA H. BING DEAN’S CHAIR
At the USC Dornsife College of Letters, Arts and Sciences, we are architects of change. We understand that to make an impact on the world we must move beyond the classical silos of academia. Our faculty and students come together — across disciplines, across continents, across laboratories, libraries and art galleries — to create, transmit and translate knowledge for the good of humankind.

Our students travel to Washington, D.C., to confer with the experts who are shaping our country’s national security policies. Our faculty bring together climate specialists from around the globe to examine issues ranging from ocean acidification to the economic development of local fisheries. We have programs that help children at Los Angeles’ 32nd Street School learn about science by building their own “lemon batteries,” and students at New York’s New Rochelle High School learn about the human condition by witnessing the recorded testimonies of Holocaust survivors.

We invite you to join us in forging a new academic model at USC Dornsife — one that educates, enriches and empowers our students and faculty by fostering entrepreneurial thinking with purpose.
Together, we will immerse our students in deep scholarship so they become tomorrow’s thinkers and leaders who are prepared to succeed in any field.

We will devote ourselves to pioneering research and discovery-based learning that will forever improve lives globally and locally.

We will challenge the status quo and dare to succeed in changing the future of sustainability, human health and our communities.

Our $750 million fundraising initiative will magnify the impact of Dana and David Dornsife’s historic $200 million naming gift by generating critical support for current and future students, enabling the continued success of our faculty, expanding infrastructure, and promoting cross-school and cross-disciplinary learning.

Through your generosity, we will leave a mark on our communities that will inspire generations after us to wonder at how bold we were, at how we achieved the impossible and at how we recognized through our actions that our future knew no bounds.

STEVE KAY
DEAN, USC DORNSIFE COLLEGE OF LETTERS, ARTS AND SCIENCES
ANNA H. BING DEAN’S CHAIR
“The USC Dornsife College is the beating heart of the entire university. Given its range of disciplines and its sheer size, it serves as a center for so much of our interdisciplinary work.”

—C. L. MAX NIKIAS
PRESIDENT, UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA
In Associate Professor of Political Science and Gender Studies Ange-Marie Hancock’s course, “Sex, Power and Politics,” students evaluate the ways in which various ideologies, institutions, and policies contribute to differences in political power between men and women.
THE USC DORNSIFE INITIATIVE

Educating Generations of Leaders

Reid Lidow, a student majoring in political science and international relations, has just arrived in Burma. Over tea and biscuits, he converses with national icon U Win Tin, one of the founders of Burma’s National League for Democracy, about the country’s rapidly changing political landscape. Reid later publishes an opinion piece in the Asia Sentinel detailing his interviews with Win Tin and other top Burmese political leaders.

At USC Dornsife, we recognize that great ideas have no borders. Our faculty members engage students in deep scholarship while equipping them with the critical thinking skills they need to venture out in the world, ask the right questions and find important answers.

Perfectly positioned in the creative capital of the Pacific Rim, we prepare our students for the challenges of the 21st century through in-depth examination of global perspectives, civilizations, cultures, religions, social and political structures as well as writing, mathematics and the natural sciences.

Like Reid, who was inspired by Professor Dan Lynch’s course “Introduction to Asian Security Affairs,” our students are driven to forge innovative paths as they navigate, analyze and synthesize what they learn in the classroom, in the lab, in Los Angeles and beyond.

The USC Dornsife initiative will enable us to establish new paradigms in undergraduate and graduate education — and prepare our students to flourish and make meaningful contributions across a broad range of professional and academic realms.

“I’m learning how to be a rigorous scientist. I see how our science gets better because we are in the field working with people and that work gets better because we really know our science.”

—CAITLIN SMITH, DOCTORAL STUDENT, PSYCHOLOGY
Comprehensive Pre-Health Education Initiative

One area where we will make history is creating the model for a new caliber of healthcare professional and innovator. USC Dornsife’s Comprehensive Pre-Health Education initiative will meld the classical proficiencies of the natural and biomedical sciences with the skills of the social sciences and the humanities. In so doing, we will make dramatic advances in understanding human health and behavior.

Graduate and Ph.D. Programs

World-class lab facilities, professional development opportunities and other programs prepare our graduate students to lead the next wave of breakthroughs, whether in history, English, chemistry or sociology. Increased investment in USC Dornsife’s graduate and Ph.D. programs will place them firmly among the best in the world — not only in training future scholars but also in generating the fresh ideas and zeal to enliven the research enterprise that keeps America competitive.
USC Dornsife develops and refines global awareness among its students through more than 60 majors and nearly 80 minors, study-abroad opportunities spanning 50 programs in 28 countries, and language courses in Arabic, Chinese, Spanish and French, to name a few.
“Giving back to my community is really important to me because I grew up in the USC neighborhood. I hope my research will improve the foster care system by giving youth a voice and a real chance to succeed.”

—JASMINE TORRES, JUNIOR, SOCIOLOGY
Led by Jim Haw and David Ginsburg of USC Dornsife’s Environmental Studies Program, students research ecologically sustainable development, fisheries management, protected area planning and assessment, and human health issues in Guam and Palau.
The solutions to today’s most profound challenges related to human health, sustainability and the well-being of our communities will require the insights of visionary teacher-scholars working across an array of fields. Our success at USC Dornsife, therefore, will derive in great part from our ability to assemble multitalented faculty “dream teams” to forge pioneering interdisciplinary partnerships and to collaborate alongside our postdoctoral researchers, graduate students and undergraduates.

While bringing their diverse perspectives and expertise to bear on vital issues, USC Dornsife faculty prepare our students to be fearless creators of knowledge. The USC Dornsife initiative will enable us to expand discovery-based learning through further investment in graduate and postdoctoral fellowships. It also will enable us to strengthen undergraduate programs such as Student Opportunities for Academic Research and the Summer Undergraduate Research Fund, opportunities for overseas study, and service-learning programs such as the Joint Educational Project.

“There should be an ongoing conversation between professor and student. Being a mentor should be a natural part of being a faculty member.”

—STEPHEN BRADFORTH, PROFESSOR OF CHEMISTRY
Located in Irani Hall’s “walk-in environmental chamber,” cell culture roller drums incubate bacterial cultures in test tubes. Each test tube contains about 50 billion bacteria, which are used to study processes ranging from the mutation and repair of DNA to mechanisms of evolution.
The Convergence of Molecular Science and Engineering Initiative

The Convergence of Molecular Science and Engineering (CMSE) initiative is a pioneering partnership among researchers in USC Dornsife and the USC Viterbi School of Engineering. Together they will accelerate breakthroughs in “new biology,” which integrates the life sciences, physical sciences, engineering, mathematics and computer science. From improvements in personalized medicine tailored to the genetics of each patient to innovations in conserving water supplies, the potential of what will be achieved in the new CMSE facility is unlimited.

Quantitative Social Science

Interdisciplinary researchers in quantitative social science are working to create an in-depth and potentially predictive picture of human behavior. Using computational models and data analytics, they are uncovering exciting new insights into everything from emerging economic markets to more effective policymaking. Support in this pathbreaking arena will allow USC experts in fields such as economics, political science, international relations, psychology, law, business, communication and policy to join forces to tackle our most pressing societal problems.
“At USC Dornsife, we foster those chance interactions between faculty and students that enable us to create new syntheses among fields. This will lead to advances we can’t even imagine right now.”

—SCOTT FRASER, PROVOST PROFESSOR OF BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES AND BIOMEDICAL ENGINEERING
The USC Shoah Foundation — The Institute for Visual History and Education is dedicated to making audio-visual interviews with Holocaust survivors and other eyewitnesses of genocide a compelling voice for education and action.
THE USC Dornsife Initiative
Empowering Creativity and Success

As an English major at USC Dornsife, Warner Bros. Records Chairman Rob Cavallo ’85 learned to recognize the essential elements that make a story feel complete. The Grammy award winner has applied these elements to diverse forms of entertainment, producing hundreds of records for artists ranging from Green Day to Fleetwood Mac.

Cultivating success beyond the ivory tower, USC Dornsife instills in its students a persistent sense of curiosity and drive. Since 1880, we have prepared generations of civic, business and professional leaders who have served our community, nation and world as physicians, attorneys, writers, scientists, teachers, politicians, artists and entrepreneurs.

Likewise, USC Dornsife is home to dozens of research centers and institutes that function as a wellspring of forward-thinking collaboration. Combining diverse disciplines and perspectives in innovative ways, we empower faculty and student scholars to reach new frontiers of knowledge in areas ranging from the circuitry of the human brain to the common understanding shared across various societies and cultures, to the origins of the universe itself.

The USC Dornsife initiative will ensure that we continue to impart the communication, leadership and networking skills that enable our students to thrive, whether they choose to enter today’s competitive job market or pursue advanced graduate studies. It also will allow us to sustain the work of institutes and centers that are engines of creativity and ingenuity, generating scholarship with consequences for the greatest challenges facing humankind.

“People always ask, ‘If you had to decide on a major again, would you still choose French?’ And I say: ‘Absolutely. I’m happy with the road I took. It made me a better doctor.’”

—HEATHER ROSEN, M.D. (B.A., FRENCH, ’97)
EMPOWERING CREATIVITY AND SUCCESS

Gateway Internship Program
The Gateway Internship Program prepares USC Dornsife students for life after college by providing opportunities to explore a career through a paid summer internship. Gateway couples on-the-job experiences with mentorship by a distinguished professional and a career leadership course.

USC Dornsife Research Centers and Institutes
Dedicated financial resources will allow us to sustain support for uncovering the neurological workings of emotion, decision-making and memory through the USC Brain and Creativity Institute. The USC Dornsife initiative will also catapult advancements at the USC Wrigley Institute for Environmental Studies to preserve our planet’s resources for those who will shape it in the coming decades. By reflecting on who we are and who we want to be, and establishing deeper connections of thought and action among us all, funding will further the work of centers such as the USC Shoah Foundation — The Institute for Visual History and Education, and the USC Center for Economic and Social Research as well as the USC-Huntington Early Modern Studies Institute and the Huntington-USC Institute on California and the West.

Antonio Damasio, University Professor and director of the Brain and Creativity Institute, discusses a crown jewel of the new Dornsife Neuroscience Pavilion: the Joyce J. Cammilleri Hall, designed by Yasuhisa Toyota, the acoustician also responsible for Walt Disney Concert Hall and the New World Center.
“We study philosophy, art, literature and history because these disciplines teach us how to think, how to appreciate what we see, and how to understand the forces that have shaped our world.”

—PETER MANCALL, ANDREW W. MELLON PROFESSOR OF THE HUMANITIES, DIRECTOR OF THE USC-HUNTINGTON EARLY MODERN STUDIES INSTITUTE AND VICE DEAN FOR THE HUMANITIES
The primary goal of the USC Dornsife initiative is to increase our strength and reach. In practical terms, this means building our endowment and investing in strategic priorities.

Expanded support will enable us to achieve even higher levels of excellence in teaching and research. It will also ensure the flexibility to advance existing programs as well as the new ideas that will make USC Dornsife a powerful force for transformation in addressing global challenges, connecting peoples and improving the quality of life.

“This is a game changing moment. We have the opportunity to push USC Dornsife to bold new heights through enlightening, cutting-edge research in the sciences, in global studies, in the humanities. I’m just so proud to be a part of it.”

—JANA GREER, CHAIR, USC DORNSIFE BOARD OF COUNCILORS
Transformative Faculty Appointments and Academic Enrichment — $260 million

To secure USC Dornsife’s place among the world’s elite institutions, we must generate resources that enable us to recruit, retain and support faculty of the highest caliber. These teacher-scholars play a crucial role in generating impactful research and providing an outstanding educational experience for our students. We seek to advance the continued success and ascent of our schools, departments and programs through naming gifts and enhanced research funding.

Undergraduate Scholarships and Programs — $100 million

USC Dornsife is the core of the undergraduate experience. Current and endowed gifts for undergraduate scholarships will ensure that we continue to bring talented, committed students to USC through merit- and need-based financial support. Dedicated funds for international travel, research and community service-learning programs such as the Joint Educational Project will allow us to expand the opportunities we provide to our students.

Graduate Fellowships and Programs — $90 million

The excellence of our graduate programs is inextricably linked to the excellence of the university and USC Dornsife. Strengthening their influence on a national level is the next phase in our evolution. The USC Dornsife initiative will significantly advance our graduate enterprise in areas ranging from professional pathway development for master’s and Ph.D. students to graduate training across a broad range of disciplines.

Pathbreaking Education and Research Enterprises — $250 million

Pioneering programs in quantitative social science as well as the Convergence of Molecular Science and Engineering and the Comprehensive Pre-Health Education initiatives will allow USC Dornsife to broaden its local and global impact whether it’s in developing new diagnostic technology or educating the next generation of healthcare professionals. Additional resources will also further the important work of our dozens of research centers and institutes, including the USC Shoah Foundation — The Institute for Visual History and Education and the USC Wrigley Institute for Environmental Studies.

Strategic Innovation Fund — $50 million

Opportunities to launch new transformative programs are crucial to the advancement of emerging innovations. USC Dornsife must be poised to respond immediately and strategically. Unrestricted funds will provide us with the necessary resources to enhance teaching and learning amid a rapidly changing academic landscape. This agility and flexibility will make the difference between a recognized department and one that ranks among the very best.
“We have complete confidence in the university’s leadership, stellar faculty and outstanding students not just to make a difference, but to effect real and far-reaching change in the world.”

—DANA AND DAVID DORNIFE
INTERNATIONAL PHILANTHROPISTS AND HUMANITARIANS
At each step in its history, USC Dornsife’s achievements have grown out of the vision and generosity of alumni, parents and other friends. Together with our supporters, we prize imagination and audacity, applying a signature combination of intellectual strength, creative spark, reasoned risk-taking and commitment to solving societal problems.

While we take pride in our accomplishments, we know that infinite possibilities and new challenges lie ahead. Our ability to rise — ever farther, ever faster, ever higher — requires the involvement of all members of the USC Dornsife community.

By supporting the USC Dornsife initiative, you will become a vital partner in educating, enriching and empowering current and future generations of students and faculty to take bold, daring leaps to improve lives.

We invite you to be an agent of great and positive change. We invite you to support USC Dornsife.
A new day dawns over the Von KleinSmid Center for International and Public Affairs, named for USC’s fifth president Rufus B. von KleinSmid who established the USC School of International Relations in 1924.
The world of letters, arts and sciences goes beyond the pages you’re holding in your hands. We invite you to use your smartphone or tablet to view inspiring video content about our community of scholars and leaders.

1. Download the USC Dornsife AR (Augmented Reality) App on your smartphone or tablet via your mobile app store. The app is available for Android and iOS (iPhone/iPad).

2. Look for the Scan for Extras button throughout the brochure to find out which pages have more to discover.

3. Open the USC Dornsife AR (Augmented Reality) App, hold your phone 8–12” from the page and enjoy the videos.

Contact Information

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