### Table of Contents

3  About the USC Price School
4  Message from the Dean
6  Academic Departments, Research Centers, and Groups
10  Research Stories
32  Research Spending and Publication Record
34  Informing Policy
34  Members of National Academies
36  New Initiatives
38  Featured Op-Eds
39  In the News
45  Events
48  Faculty Achievements
48  Faculty Directory
Founded in 1929, the USC Sol Price School of Public Policy is consistently ranked among the foremost schools of its kind. We are distinguished by our commitment to the personal and intellectual growth of our students, our ethos to service, and our steadfast pursuit of evidence-based research.

**About the USC Price School**

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<th>ACADEMIC DEGREES</th>
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15% International
31% First-generation
>93% Graduate employment rate

15% International
491 Scholarship recipients
50% Students of color

>93% Graduate employment rate

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<tr>
<td>Tenured and tenure-tracked; research and teaching 73</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Memberships in National Academies 17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nobel laureates 3</td>
</tr>
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Associate Professor Moussa Diop and students enjoy an outdoor discussion under the Southern California sun.
Confidence in U.S. institutions, including universities and colleges, is in a free fall.1,2 As of July 2023, average confidence in higher education had fallen to 36% — more than 20 percentage points below where it stood in 2015.

This creates a sense of urgency at the USC Price School of Public Policy. Modern society depends on the foundational knowledge developed at universities, and the problems we face cannot be solved without it. Our research opens doors — not only for students looking for rewarding careers, but for communities in need of new and creative solutions to longstanding issues.

This report is one step toward conveying the value of that research and the positive impact our faculty, staff, students, and alumni have on everyday lives. From housing policy to immigration reform to health-care innovation, our school is home to leading voices in the critical debates of our time, with direct relevance to shape local, state, and federal policy.

Whatever public opinion may be, we will continue to strive to strengthen the ties that bind us together, creating a stronger social fabric to benefit communities around the world.

**Dana Goldman**  
Dean and C. Erwin & Ione L. Piper Chair  
USC Sol Price School of Public Policy

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1. “Confidence in U.S. Institutions Down; Average at New Low,” Gallup, July 5, 2023  
2. “Americans’ Confidence in Higher Education Down Sharply,” Gallup, July 11, 2023
Academic Departments
Department of Public Policy and Management
Shaping governance, policy, leadership, and nonprofit management through fact-based research; ranked among the nation’s top-five public affairs programs.

Department of Health Policy and Management
Promotes health and value in health care delivery through innovative research, which has been featured in the economic reports of the past three U.S. presidents (Biden, Trump, Obama).

Departments of Real Estate Development
Examines development from multiple perspectives to help create communities with distinct identities and lasting value.

Research Centers and Groups
Center for Economic Development
Facilitates sustainable economic development in Southern and Central California.

Department of Public Policy and Management
Promotes health and value in health care delivery through innovative research, which has been featured in the economic reports of the past three U.S. presidents (Biden, Trump, Obama).

Bedrosian Center on Governance
Through public discussion, focuses on pressing issues facing society and integrates these conversations with civic education, which is at the heart of strong communities.

Lusk Center for Real Estate
Advances real estate knowledge, informs business practices, and addresses timely issues affecting the real estate industry, the urban economy, and public policy.

USC Schaeffer Center for Health Policy & Economics
Measurable improves value in health care through evidence-based policy solutions, research excellence, and private and public-sector engagement.

Center on Philanthropy and Public Policy
Promotes effective philanthropy and strengthens the nonprofit sector through research that informs philanthropic decision-making and public policy.

USC Schwarzenegger Institute for State and Global Policy
Advances post-partisanship to encourage leaders to work together to find solutions that benefit the people they serve.

METRANS Transportation Consortium
Addresses transportation problems of large metropolitan regions through interdisciplinary research, education, and outreach.

USC Poverty Research Center
Develops strategies to improve the quality of life for people in low-income urban communities.

Center for Economic Development
Facilitates sustainable economic development in Southern and Central California.

Safe Communities Institute
Engages in research, interdisciplinary education, and collaboration to advance public safety.

USC State Capitol Center
Educates leaders and generates knowledge to improve public problem-solving.

Population Dynamics Research Group
Uncovering demographic trends that drive major changes in society, providing insights that lead to effective policies.

National Center for Risk and Economic Analysis of Terrorism Events (CREATE)
Develops models and tools to evaluate risks, costs, and consequences of threats, and assesses strategies to mitigate risk and respond to emergencies.
Education

UNDERGRADUATE
Bachelor of Science in Public Policy
Bachelor of Science in Urban Studies and Planning
Bachelor of Science in Real Estate Development
Bachelor of Science in Real Estate Finance and Development

MASTER
Master of Health Administration
Master of Public Administration
Master of Public Policy
Master of Urban Planning
Master of Nonprofit Leadership and Management
Master of Science in Public Policy and Data Science
Dollinger Master of Real Estate Development
Master of International Public Policy and Management
Master of Public Administration – Online
Executive Master of Health Administration – Online
Executive Master of Urban Planning – Online

PROGRESSIVE
Master of Health Administration
Master of Public Administration
Master of Public Policy
Master of Urban Planning

DOCTORAL
PhD in Public Policy and Management
PhD in Urban Planning and Development
Doctor of Policy, Planning and Development
Pollution paradox: L.A. residents who drive less are exposed to more air pollution

Commuters from whiter Los Angeles County neighborhoods export their air pollution to less-white neighborhoods by driving through them. But the opposite is not true because, on average, non-white commuters do not travel through neighborhoods that are substantially whiter, according to a study co-authored by Geoff Boeing, assistant professor of Urban Planning and Spatial Analysis.

The study’s findings demonstrate how decades of racist planning decisions have contributed to a vehicle pollution paradox.

Twentieth-century planners bulldozed urban areas to build freeways for suburban residents to drive to job centers. Although whiter and wealthier areas blocked such projects, similar opposition efforts failed in less-white and less-wealthy parts of Los Angeles, such as Boyle Heights, which was carved up by five freeways and two enormous interchanges.

Those decisions reverberate today, allowing Los Angeles residents who travel the most to be exposed to less air pollution.

“The results — that the more L.A. residents drive, the less they’re exposed to air pollution — were superficially surprising. But given what we know about L.A. geography, we expect to find this kind of injustice in the city. You get these paradoxes of unfairness.”

Geoff Boeing
Assistant Professor, USC Price School

“Local Inequities in the Relative Production of and Exposure to Vehicular Air Pollution in Los Angeles.” Urban Studies, Feb., 2023
How rural villages in India morph into cities

The world’s biggest cities get much of the attention in research about urban planning, but Gregory Randolph is interested in the smallest of urban areas.

Randolph, who completed his PhD at the USC Price School in 2023, gravitates to informal settlements in India, where he finds fascinating stories unfolding. He’s watched villages morph into towns and residents shift from agriculture to nonfarm jobs.

Randolph’s research has identified a novel form of urbanization, what he’s calling “urbanization from within.” He contends that small villages are transforming into urban areas without an influx of industry or migrants. Instead, the urbanization of these places is occurring through internal population growth and the social and economic changes brought by population density.

His findings — that the rural villages are becoming “urban in place” — call into question some of the ways that experts traditionally think cities form, as well as what defines a city geographically, socially, and economically. These cities are essentially market towns with commercial areas that include small, informal enterprises serving the local market. Construction is almost entirely informal, too, Randolph said.

“How rural villages in India morph into cities

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“He’s an incredible student — like one in a billion. I just always knew he would be a star. It was our unwavering belief that he would triumph, and that has all come to fruition.”

Elizabeth Currid-Halkett
James Irvine Chair in Urban and Regional Planning
REAL ESTATE

Southern California housing market facing mixed outlook

Higher interest rates are yet another setback for renters in an already high-priced Southern California market, according to the Casden Real Estate Economics Forecast’s latest Multifamily Report. Higher rates are driving down home buying, creating more demand — and higher prices — for rentals. Couple that with a decline in construction of new rental housing and Southern California rents will continue to climb, according to the forecast, which is produced by the USC Lusk Center for Real Estate, a partnership between USC’s Price School and Marshall School of Business.

But while rents are ascendant, it is unclear how large, expensive metro areas like Los Angeles will fare in the longer run. On one hand, the pandemic spawned the work-from-home movement that allowed people to leave big cities and work from just about anywhere. But that’s driven up housing costs in more affordable areas like Boise and Austin, both of which have experienced a trickle of out-migrations. Meanwhile, the poster child for amenities — restaurant dining — has returned and then some in both Los Angeles and California as a whole, implying that an important reason that people live in cities has returned to normal both across the state and within its largest city.
Location matters more for children of parents with low educational attainment than for children of better-educated parents, according to a study co-authored by Professor Richard K. Green, chair of the Wilbur H. Smith III Department of Real Estate Development.

Kids with parents who dropped out of high school are more likely to be enrolled in school if they live in cities with higher shares of college graduates. However, the study did not observe this relationship for children of highly-educated adults, who are likely to have sufficient internal resources to support their children’s education.

But there’s a rub: The least-educated households are much less likely to be able to afford homes in cities with a higher proportion of college-educated residents. That or they have to pay greater housing costs as a share of their income.

The study’s results imply that the increasing lack of housing affordability in high-skilled cities makes it more difficult for households with less educational attainment to stay in or move to these places, contributing to intergenerational education inequality.

“The Heterogeneous Effects of Interactions Between Parent’s Education and MSA Level College Share on Children’s School Enrollment.” Journal of Housing Economics, Sept., 2022
Mandatory business closures drove the economic decline during COVID-19 pandemic

Involuntary business closures were the leading cause of a massive decline in U.S. GDP during the COVID-19 pandemic, although personal voluntary behaviors to avoid infection also played a role. Those were the key findings of a study conducted by a multidisciplinary team of researchers from the Center for Risk and Economic Analysis of Threats and Emergencies (CREATE), which is affiliated with the USC Price School.

The study estimates that the pandemic cut $12.2 trillion from U.S. GDP as of the end of 2022, with total losses expected to top $14 trillion by the end of 2023 — four years since the outbreak of the pandemic. The findings were based on a disaster economic analysis framework refined by one of the study’s authors.

“I’m still amazed at how powerful a negative impact COVID is projected to have on the U.S. economy compared to previous man-made and natural disasters. COVID’s impact on GDP is estimated to be nearly 100 times more than the previous largest disaster of the 21st century — the Sept. 11, 2001, World Trade Center attacks,” said study co-author Adam Rose, a research professor at the USC Price School and a senior research fellow at CREATE.

*Macroeconomic Consequences of the COVID-19 pandemic.*
Economic Modelling, March, 2023

$14 TRILLION

The COVID-19 pandemic is expected to cut $14 trillion from U.S. GDP by the end of 2023.

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3 factors drive GDP losses from COVID-19

- **Deaths/Illness**
- **Avoidance**
- **Mandatory Closures**

![Graph showing percentage reduction in GDP from 2020 to 2023](image-url)
When it comes to generic drugs, consumers are getting cheated.

Generic medications save the U.S. health system an estimated $330 billion every year. But growing evidence from USC Schaeffer Center for Health Policy & Economics shows U.S. consumers and employers, as well as the government, often overpay for generics. That’s because big pharmacy benefit managers and their affiliated parent companies game opaque and arcane pricing practices to increase their profits.

Market distortions and business practices that prioritize higher profits for intermediaries over lower system costs result in patients and payers spending billions of dollars in higher out-of-pocket costs for generics. Patients and payers may be charged up to 20% more for the most common generic drugs, according to a recent analysis of Medicare claims. The result: Many patients are overpaying for generic drugs as middlemen profit from lack of price transparency and supply chain inefficiencies.

"U.S. Consumers Overpay for Generic Drugs (white paper)," USC Schaeffer Center for Health Policy & Economics, May, 2022

Researchers from USC Schaeffer Center for Health Policy & Economics are a regular presence in Washington, D.C., working with federal agencies and members of Congress to shape health policy. Through public hearings and private meetings, they’ve shared insights on topics ranging from biomedical innovation to drug distribution chains. “We’ve been working on these topics for decades and we’ve built up an enormous amount of expertise,” said Darius Lakdawalla, a professor at the USC Price School and Mann School of Pharmacy and research director at USC Schaeffer Center. Those topics are “now becoming critical and timely policy issues, so it’s the payoff of a long-term series of research projects.”
“Clinicians don’t necessarily know a patient they prescribed opioids to has suffered a fatal overdose. We knew … closing this information loop immediately reduced opioid prescriptions.”

Jason Doctor  
Chair, Health Policy and Management Department  
Co-Director, Behavioral Sciences Program, USC Schaeffer Center

A team of USC researchers has found a low-cost intervention that can make a difference in the misuse of opioids: a letter notifying health-care providers their patient has died from an overdose.

In a study published in JAMA Network Open, the researchers reported that physicians wrote 7% fewer opioid prescriptions for up to a year after being notified by their county’s medical examiner that a patient had suffered a fatal overdose. The notification may also help physicians spot problematic use of legal and illicit drug use.

“Clinicians don’t necessarily know a patient they prescribed opioids to has suffered a fatal overdose,” said lead author Jason Doctor, chair of the Department of Health Policy and Management at the USC Price School and co-director of the Behavioral Sciences Program at USC Schaeffer Center. “We knew from a previous study we conducted that closing this information loop immediately reduced opioid prescriptions. Our latest study shows that change in prescribing behavior seems to stick: The effect of a single letter lasted up to 12 months.”

“Effect of Prescriber Notifications of Patient’s Fatal Overdose on Opioid Prescribing at 4 to 12 months.” JAMA Network Open, Jan., 2023

One solution to America’s opioid epidemic: Tell doctors their patients fatally overdosed

7%  
Opioid prescriptions fell 7% for as long as one year after doctors were told of fatal overdoses.

10%  
An earlier study found that in the three months after receiving the letter, prescribing decreased by nearly 10%, compared with the control group, which didn’t receive a letter.
A leaked audio recording revealing racist remarks from three Los Angeles City Council members angered and dismayed people across the city. The explosive tape captured city leaders using racist and crude language to describe Black, Jewish, Armenian, Indigenous and gay people — all while plotting to solidify the council members’ power through the redistricting process.

Mindy Romero, director of the Center for Inclusive Democracy at the USC Price School, didn’t want the chance for deeper conversations to slip away. She quickly organized four online discussions, titled Behind Closed Doors, that brought together academics, politicians, journalists, and community organizers to grapple with the difficult topics related to the secret recording.

“We have a very long history of scandals erupting, but the conversation soon dies down and we kind of go back to the status quo. This was a moment we didn’t want to see pass.” Romero said.

In partnership with the California Black Freedom Fund, the Latino Community Foundation, and the Asian American Pacific Islander Civic Engagement Fund, the series explored the role of white supremacy ideology in politics, anti-Blackness among Latino and Asian communities, power grabs that occur during city redistricting, and how to move forward following the scandal. The discussions were among the most widely attended webinars of the academic year.
GOVERNANCE

Local governments struggle to keep and hire workers due to burnout, especially among the under-represented

“Emotional labor becomes the most prominent skill set and asset necessary for success in those positions, particularly during a pandemic — during times of crisis.”

William Resh
Associate Professor, C.C. Crawford Professor in Management and Performance

Burnout is a leading reason why local governments are struggling to keep workers, recruit new ones, and operate effectively. Employees from minority groups are the most overworked.

The research, co-authored by Associate Professor William Resh and a team of students and recent graduates, all from master’s and PhD programs at the USC Price School, was published in a series of papers in several academic journals. The first paper was published in the Journal of Public Administration Research and Theory.

The researchers recommend that governments provide employees with more resources and training to reduce emotional labor, one of the prevailing reasons for burnout. Resh explained that local governments must understand that many citizen-facing jobs do not simply require “hard” skills, such as the ability to speak another language. Many require “soft” skills, for example, being able to interact with frustrated members of the public for hours at a time.

“Emotional labor becomes the most prominent skill set and asset necessary for success in those positions, particularly during a pandemic — during times of crisis,” Resh said.

“Deconstructing Burnout at the Intersections of Race, Gender, and Generation in Local Government.” Journal of Public Administration Research and Theory, April, 2022
A majority of people around the world are concerned about climate change

A majority of people (69%) around the world and on each continent are now reporting concerns about climate change, according to a study co-authored by Wändi Bruine de Bruin, Provost Professor of Public Policy, Psychology, and Behavioral Science. The findings were based on the Lloyd’s Register Foundation World Risk Poll, which surveyed more than 125,000 participants from 142 countries.

However, worldwide and on every continent, people with a college degree were more likely to express concerns about climate change than people with less education. This may mean a college degree is needed to understand a complex topic such as climate change. In contrast, people did not seem to need a college degree to recognize that their local weather was getting worse: There was no relationship between education and severe-weather concerns.

It probably doesn’t help that climate change communication from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change and other organizations tend to be written at the university level. In a separate study, Bruine de Bruin worked with the United Nations Foundation, which supports the IPCC communication strategy, to identify everyday language to describe climate change. For example, when talking about “climate change mitigation” the authors suggested saying “actions we can take to fight climate change,” because the word “mitigation” was frequently misunderstood.

2. “Public Understanding of Climate Change Terminology.” Climate Change, Aug., 2021
USC Price students advise school system on expansion plan

An organization that operates 24 tuition-free charter schools in underserved communities in Southern California turned to a group of USC Price masters students to help them determine their expansion plan. The students analyzed school site expansion options in San Diego for their capstone project, in which students tackle real-life policy challenges to complete their degrees.

The group made two major recommendations: KIPP SoCal Public Schools should open a charter school for transitional kindergarten- through fourth-grade students, and the school should be in one of two underserved neighborhoods in San Diego — Barrio Logan or Logan Heights.

The USC Price group, all now USC graduates, analyzed student demographics, graduation rates, and enrollment trends. They considered the demographics of different neighborhoods and the environmental justice issues associated with potential sites. The group also examined how KIPP SoCal could engage stakeholders, from students to community members, and compared different charter management structures.

The students’ findings not only helped KIPP SoCal, but also won the John Randolph and Dora Haynes Foundation Recognition Award for Outstanding Performance — the USC Price School’s top honor for capstone projects. The students were Jared Barnett (MPA ’23), Chelsea Guevara (MNLM ’23), Michael Schumer (MPA ’23), and Nadia Watts (MNLM ’23).
2023 research expenditures expected to be on par with 2022

Research proposals and funding opportunities temporarily increased by COVID-19

Publication record remains strong

Referred Pubs | Books | Chapters and Monographs | Non-Referred Pubs
---|---|---|---
2016 | 147 | 35 | 7
2017 | 136 | 27 |
2018 | 173 | |
2019 | 206 | |
2020 | 182 | |
2022 | 178 | |
INFORMING POLICY

USC Price research is cited on both sides of the aisle

2013 2014 2016 2017

2018 2019 2020 2021 2022

MEMBERS OF NATIONAL ACADEMIES

Dana Goldman
- National Academy of Medicine
- National Academy of Social Insurance
- National Academy of Public Administration

Daniel McFadden
- National Academy of Sciences
- American Academy of Arts & Sciences

Leonard D. Schaeffer
- National Academy of Medicine
- National Academy of Social Insurance

Elizabeth Graddy
- National Academy of Public Administration

Yan Tang
- National Academy of Public Administration

Paul B. Ginsburg
- National Academy of Medicine
- National Academy of Social Insurance

Sir Angus Deaton
- National Academy of Sciences
- American Academy of Arts & Sciences

Wändi Bruine de Bruin
- UK Academy of Social Sciences

Jim Ferris
- National Academy of Public Administration

Geraldine Knatz
- National Academy of Engineering

Though the American economy is stronger than ever, my Administration’s work is not yet done. With a continued focus on policies that increase economic growth, promote opportunity, and uplift our workers, there is no limit on how great America can be.

– President Donald J. Trump

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NEW INITIATIVES

Professor Marlon Boarnet and the METRANS Transportation Consortium won a $15 million grant from the U.S. Department of Transportation to study the future of transportation, ranging from dockless travel to zero emission trucks.

"By bringing together an extraordinary faculty spanning 10 institutions, we will work in partnership with government, nonprofits and the private sector to improve the transportation system."

Marlon Boarnet, director of METRANS Transportation Center

USC Price School to have a major role in USC’s new Capital Campus

- USC opened new Washington, D.C., campus in April 2023
- The building is the university’s anchor on the East Coast
- Provides immersive educational experience for undergraduate and graduate students
- Facilitates greater interaction among scholars and policymakers

“There is no substitute for personal interactions with lawmakers, staffers and regulators that can now take place with greater frequency and depth thanks to this magnificent new campus.”

Dana Goldman, dean of the USC Price School and C. Erwin and Iona L. Piper Chair

The USC Price School launches a new kind of medical training

- Students at the Kaiser Permanente School of Medicine earn a Master of Health Administration from the USC Price School
- Enrollment in the MHA begins in the third year of medical school
- The program prepares medical students for leadership in medicine and health administration

A new real estate degree combines academic disciplines

- The USC Price School and the USC Marshall School of Business launched a new world-class combined degree: Bachelor of Science in Real Estate Finance and Development
- The degree pairs the USC Price School’s strength in real estate development with Marshall’s expertise in real estate finance
- The degree draws from each school’s proficiency in real estate education and industry engagement
FEATURED OP-EDs (excerpts)

California needs to invest in solutions for the water crisis, not a bullet train

The state is once again in charge of the nation’s biggest public works project, a 171-mile high-speed rail line between Bakersfield and Merced — the “starter” portion of the long-sought bullet train linking Los Angeles and San Francisco. The estimated total cost for the 500-mile system is $113 billion. Instead of spending billions to drill rail tunnels through seismically active mountains and disrupt communities, the state should embark on a massive public works effort to meet its water needs.

Immigration reform is dead. It will be hard to revive

When Congress adjourns this week without repairing our dysfunctional immigration system, a generation-long quest for a bipartisan grand bargain will die, and we will enter an era of mounting chaos, economic losses and tragedy. What we now see at the southern border is just a foretaste.

During the past two years, a multitude of options were available — some sweeping, some specific. Immigration is not a search of unknown cures. Yet nothing was done about the major maladies. That’s a bad outcome in ordinary times; it is a disaster when an immigration system, in crisis for more than a decade, is now imploding.

How to save patients money by ending one type of insurance coverage

Even if they have health insurance, Americans routinely face surprisingly high charges at the pharmacy counter. A radical-sounding solution would drastically curtail this experience and save billions of dollars in the bargain: End insurance coverage for low-cost generic drugs, which represent 90 percent of all prescriptions.

Health insurance once made essential medicines affordable and, for expensive brand-name drugs that can treat cancer or control rare diseases, it still does. But as insurance and intermediary practices have evolved, they have made generics pricier.

Eliminating insurance for generics might make patients nervous at first, but the payoff would be stable and affordable prices. An opaque, profit-generating structure that provides no value for patients would be stripped away.

by USC Price Dean Dana Goldman and Alain Enthoven, economics professor emeritus at Stanford University

by Roberto Sura, USC Price School professor

by Erin E. Trish, co-director of USC Schaeffer Center, and Karen Van Nuys, executive director of the Value of Life Sciences Innovation program at USC Schaeffer Center

AP

Associated Press

Americans are deeply opposed to cutting into Medicare or Social Security benefits, poll suggests

“It’s particularly problematic for Social Security. In Social Security, you have a situation where if you make changes now, they can be quite modest. If you wait until 2035, they’re going to be draconian.”

Paul Ginsberg, professor of the Practice of Health Policy and Management

Smithsonian Magazine

New U.S. law will boost marijuana research

“It means, with federal research dollars, we can examine the health effects of products already being used and sold in legal markets.”

Rosalie Pacula, professor and Elizabeth Garrett Chair in Health Policy, Economics, and Law

CNBC

Blocking FDA approval of abortion pill could stifle innovation in the biopharma industry, experts say

“Pharma companies might restrain their spending and investors might inject less money into the industry because of a reduction in their expected revenues and returns.”

Darius Lakdawalla, professor of Pharmaceutical Economics and Public Policy
People who are bad with numbers often find it harder to make ends meet

People who are bad with numbers are more likely to experience financial difficulties than people who are good with numbers. That’s according to our analyses of the Lloyd’s Register Foundation World Risk Poll.

Prior studies in the United States, United Kingdom, the Netherlands and Peru had also found that people who are bad with numbers are financially worse off. But our analyses of the World Risk Poll further showed that people who are bad with numbers find it harder to make ends meet, even if they are not poor.

Our analyses also indicate that staying in school longer is related to better number ability. People with a high school degree tend to be better with numbers than people without a high school degree. And college graduates do even better. But even among college graduates there are people who are bad with numbers — and they struggle more financially.

Don’t move just yet. Soon there will be brand-new cities built around work from home — with cheaper housing, better schools, and smarter government

... perhaps the most exciting prospect of the work-from-home era will be the chance to build entirely new cities to serve the needs of a new breed of workers. These brand new “Remotevilles” will emerge at the fringe of major cities, offering new housing at a lower price while still having access to the amenities of traditional urban hubs.

As these new residential communities compete for remote workers, they will have strong incentives to figure out new approaches for creating vibrant local communities — from dynamic education to innovative street safety.

The Inflation Reduction Act is already killing potential cures

It may take years before we can fully appreciate the impact of the inflation Reduction Act on the pharmaceutical industry, but we’re already getting signs of the damage. While Democrats boast that they’ve given Medicare the power to “negotiate” drug prices, the effect has been to saddle manufacturers with a complex and ill-conceived price-setting scheme. In response, many have canceled drug-development programs, resulting in an unfortunate but predictable loss for patients nationwide.

The Democrats may have achieved a short-term talking point for the midterm elections, but in the long term this partisan health care bill will prevent patients from receiving innovative, lifesaving treatments. A new Congress would serve Americans well by replacing the Inflation Reduction Act with an approach that recognizes the need for economic incentives to bring new treatments to patients.
How safe are electrical power grids in the U.S.?
“The grid is extremely large. ... because you’re looking at a space, in terms of acreage across the country, that’s so large, it’s extremely challenging to monitor and protect. And many of these places are very remote, and so officers have to get there. And by the time they do, the attackers are already gone.”

Erroll Southers, USC Price School professor of the practice in national and homeland security

West Coast longshoremen and port operators say they’re determined to reach an agreement, but truckers and retailers relying on cargo are uneasy.
“In the past, the federal government would swoop in at the end when negotiations were at a stalemate. The relationship that developed between the ports and the Biden administration as a result of the supply chain crisis is something that did not exist before.”

Geraldine Knatz, professor of the practice of policy and engineering and former executive director of the Port of L.A.

“[It] is “pretty close to a consensus” that these schemes have not been successful in the US. “If you think government incentives will at least earn back what they spent, you’re wrong.”

Erroll Southers, USC Price School professor of the practice in national and homeland security

National Public Radio

Same-sex couple households in U.S. surpass one million
“Im most struck by how widespread this distribution of same-sex couples is. It’s in every state. It’s not just a West Coast or Left Coast, it’s America.”

Dowell Myers, professor and director, Population Dynamics Group

America, the Bland
“They [dingbat apartments] were initially really maligned as the crystallization of pure real estate rationale with architecture that was just tacked on. But we built enough of them so that you could rent them for an affordable price. And now, they’re being celebrated for their midcentury modern design, and there’s a lot of nostalgia for them.”

Liz Faletta, program director, Urban Planning Programs

The New York Times

Blackstone fund deal highlights private market risks
The problem is, it’s hard to know what an asset is worth if it doesn’t trade regularly. “The thing about nontraded funds and illiquid assets is their valuations as reflected in net asset value are stale.”

Spencer Couts, assistant professor specializing in alternative investments

The Guardian

Australia is spending millions to lure Hollywood productions. But is it worth it?
[It] is “pretty close to a consensus” that these schemes have not been successful in the US. “If you think government incentives will at least earn back what they spent, you’re wrong.”

Michael Thom, associate professor of Public Policy

Investopedia
“Anyone watching geopolitics today knows that our technological capabilities, especially in space, must be safeguarded more carefully than ever before.” — Jane Harman
Price Presents is the USC Price School’s premier webinar series about issues confronting society. Each webinar features experts from the USC Price School and across USC, as well as from other universities, government agencies, the business sector, and nonprofits.

**Avoiding Cannabis Chaos:** Better Policies and Strategies for a Legal Market

“Part of the goal of legalizing recreational use was to try to bring cannabis sales out of the shadows and reduce the harms common to many illegal markets. Legalization has not fully delivered on this promise.”

Mireille Jacobson, co-director of Aging and Cognition Program, USC Schaeffer Center

**Rebuilding Ukraine:** The Human Factor

“Russia as a threat is not going to disappear. So what is going to be important is to have some type of military insurance. This is going to make investment in Ukraine, especially mortgages, more attractive.”

Yuri Gorodnichenko, Quantedge Presidential Professor of Economics, Department of Economics, University of California, Berkeley

**The Power of One:** Individual Actions to Stem Climate Change

“There are so many positive things that we can do to take actions that actually improve our own individual lives as well as make a difference for climate change.”

Gale M. Sinatra, Stephen H. Crocker Chair, Professor of Education and Psychology, and associate dean for research, USC Rossier School of Education

**Food for Thought:** A Conversation with Michael Pollan

“Unless you are going to change the system, you’re not going to be able to tackle obesity and type-2 diabetes, you’re not going to be able to tackle food insecurities in urban areas.”

Michael Pollan, author and journalist

**Conference:** Solutions for a Sustainable Future

**Terminating Hate:** Breaking the Cycle of Extremism

“I was born with a father that was a Nazi. Think about that. One generation later, here we are together, hugging each other, touring the concentration camp, talking about the atrocities that went on, the 1.3 million people that were killed there. I said, ‘This is how we can change. I don’t have to do exactly what my father did. I don’t have to copy him. We can change.’”

Arnold Schwarzenegger, Former governor of California; Governor Downey Professor of State and Local Policy; chairman, USC Schwarzenegger Institute
FACULTY DIRECTORY

Emma Aguila
Associate Professor
Economics of aging, health economics, and applied econometrics

Grace Bahng
Professor (Teaching); Vice Dean for Undergraduate Programs; Program Director
Policy analysis, experiential learning, community development, international development

Christine M. Beckman
Professor; Director,
Price Center for Social Innovation
Social innovation and inequality, organizational learning and interorganizational networks, entrepreneurship and social entrepreneurship, technology and work, organizational control

Antonio M. Bento
Professor of Public Policy and Economics
Environmental and energy economics, urban economics, public economics, transportation policy, climate policy, environmental regulation

Tara Blanc
Associate Professor (Teaching)
Civic engagement, leadership, public service ethics, political behavior

Marlon Boarnet
Professor; Director, METRANS Transportation Center
Transportation, travel behavior, urban growth patterns, regional science, urban economics

Geoffrey Boeing
Assistant Professor
Transportation networks, urban form, data science, urban informatics

Mary Lynne Boorn
Associate Professor (Teaching); Program Director, Wilbur H. Smith III Department of Real Estate Development at USC Price
Principles of real estate, real estate finance, real estate development

Wändi Bruine de Bruin
Provost Professor of Public Policy, Psychology, and Behavioral Science; Co-Director, Behavioral Sciences Program, USC Schaeffer Center
Psychology of risk perception and communication, behavior change interventions, social science of science communication, age differences in decision-making and well-being

Alice Chen
Associate Professor; Vice Dean for Research
Health economics, labor economics, applied microeconomics

Santina Contreras
Assistant Professor
Environmental planning, natural hazards, community engagement, international development, engineering for development

Spencer Couts
Assistant Professor
Alternative investments, commercial real estate finance, institutional investment

Elizabeth Currid-Halkett
Professor; James Irvine Chair in Urban and Regional Planning
Economic development, the arts, cultural economy, social networks, urban growth, economic geography

Phil Dalton
Professor of the Practice of Health Services Administration and Policy
Health policy and management, community health needs, national health care delivery, strategic planning, mergers and acquisitions

Jorge De La Roca
Associate Professor
Urban economics, labor economics, economic geography, urban migration

Angus Deaton
Nobel Laureate; Presidential Scholar; Distinguished Fellow, USC Schaeffer Center
Poverty and inequality, international affairs, determinants of health and economic development, randomized controlled trials

Moussa Diop
Associate Professor
Rental markets, real estate finance, mortgage securitization, corporate real estate, international real estate investment

Jason Doctor
Professor; Norman Topping National Medical Enterprise Chair in Medicine; Chair, Health Policy and Management Department; Co-Director, Behavioral Sciences Program, USC Schaeffer Center
Physician behavior and psychology, behavioral economics and health, patient choice and decision-making, health policy and implementation, treatment preferences, prescriptions, health informatics

Nicolas Duquette
Associate Professor
Nonprofit economics, public finance, economic history

The National Academy of Sciences, Engineering and Medicine appointed two Price School faculty members to units offering expert advise, and bestowed a prestigious honor on a third faculty member.

Professor Adam Rose was appointed co-chair of Applied Research Topics for NASEM’s Committee on Hazard Mitigation.

Professor Rosalie Pacula will serve as co-chair of the NASEM Forum on mental health and substance use disorders.

Professor Neeraj Sood was recognized by NASEM for “extraordinary service to the nation in matters of science, engineering, and medicine.”
Professor Elizabeth Currid-Halkett won a Guggenheim Fellowship. Chosen following a rigorous application and peer-review process, Currid-Halkett is one of 171 winners selected from nearly 2,500 applicants.

Professor Genevieve Giuliano was elected a fellow of the Regional Science Association International (RSAI), which globally recognizes her as a regional scientist with outstanding research credentials. Additionally in February 2023, she was named a USC Distinguished Professor, which is among the university’s highest academic honors.

ACHIEVEMENT

Professor Elizabeth Currid-Halkett won a Guggenheim Fellowship. Chosen following a rigorous application and peer-review process, Currid-Halkett is one of 171 winners selected from nearly 2,500 applicants.

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FACULTY DIRECTORY

Nicole E. Esparza
Associate Professor
Nonprofit organizations, networks, philanthropy, urban inequality

Liz Falletta
Professor (Teaching); Program Director, Urban Planning Programs
Architecture, urban design, design criticism

James M. Ferris
Emeritus Evans Olson Chair in Non-Profit Entrepreneurship and Public Policy; Vice Dean for Faculty Affairs; Director, Center on Philanthropy and Public Policy
Philanthropy, nonprofit economics, public finance, public policy, institutional analysis

Paul B. Ginsburg
Professor of the Practice of Health Policy and Management; Senior Fellow, USC Schaeffer Center
Health policy, health care financing and delivery, health care markets

Genevieve Giuliano
Distinguished Professor; Margaret and John Ferraro Chair in Effective Local Government Transportation policy, metropolitan spatial structure, travel demand, urban transportation

Dana P. Goldman
Dean, USC Sol Price School of Public Policy; Distinguished Professor of Public Policy, Pharmacy, and Economics; C. Erwin & Ione L. Piper Chair; Leonard D. Schaeffer Director’s Chair, USC Schaeffer Center
Health economics and finance, health policy, the role of prevention in health care, health care reform, pharmaceutical regulation and innovation, precision medicine, value of delayed aging

Elizabeth Graddy
Professor; Jeffrey J. Miller Chair in Government, Business, and the Economy
Institutional economics, governance, nonprofit organizations, industry structure

Alexandra Gradddy-Reed
Associate Professor
Public economics, philanthropy and nonprofits, social innovation, science and innovation policy, research and development

Richard K. Green
Professor; Director and Chair, USC Lusk Center for Real Estate; Chair, Wilbur H. Smith III Department of Real Estate Development
Economics, housing markets, housing policy, tax policy, transportation, mortgage finance, urban growth

Howard Greenwald
Professor
Health service delivery, organizational behavior, survey design

Christian Grosse
Professor of Political Science and International Relations and Public Policy; Academic Director, USC Schwarzenegger Institute for State and Global Policy
American government; political institutions; political representation; the politics of the policy-making process; electoral behavior and campaigns; race, ethnicity, and politics; political and electoral reforms; field and survey experimental techniques to study the behavior of legislators, candidates, and other political elites

Norris Gunby
Associate Professor (Teaching)
Health services administration, strategic and operational management in long-term care, racial microaggressions in health care

Jane Harman
Presidential Scholar in Residence; Former U.S. Representative, California’s 36th Congressional District
Distinguished Fellow and President Emerita of Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars

Michael E. Harris
Professor of the Practice of Health Services Administration and Policy
Health care contracting, health care policy and reform, emerging health care delivery business models, health care innovation and its impact on health care delivery systems, health care prevention, wellness, patient access

James Heckman
Presidential Scholar in Residence
Nobel Laureate
Economics of human development, skill formation, inequality, social mobility

Eric Heikkila
Professor
Urban development, economic development, East Asian cities, urban economics, urban information systems

Jeffery A. Jenkins
Provost Professor of Public Policy, Political Science, and Law; Maria B. Crutcher Professor of Citizenship and Democratic Values; Director, PIPE Collaborative
American political institutions and development, Congress, political parties, lawmakers, separation-of-powers, political economy
### FACULTY DIRECTORY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Title/Role</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Rym Kaki</strong></td>
<td>Associate Professor (Teaching); Program Director, Master of Public Administration (Fall 2023); Director, Master of International Public Policy and Management</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Public and nonprofit organizations management, public policy analysis, urban poverty policy, social entrepreneurship, institutional design, program evaluation and social impact assessment</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Annette M. Kim</strong></td>
<td>Associate Professor; Director, Spatial Analysis Lab</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Housing and land use; international development planning; East Asian urbanization; race, arts, and placemaking; critical mapping and urban analytics</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Geraldine Knatz</strong></td>
<td>Professor of the Practice of Policy and Engineering</td>
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<td>Seaport policy and management, maritime transportation, international trade, seaport sustainability, environmental impact analysis</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Darius Lakdawalla</strong></td>
<td>Professor of Pharmaceutical Economics and Public Policy; Quintiles Chair in Pharmaceutical and Regulatory Innovation; Director of Research, USC Schaeffer Center</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Economics of health risks, value and determinants of medical innovation, economics of health insurance markets</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>William D. Leach</strong></td>
<td>Professor (Teaching)</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Collaborative governance, planning, social policy, environmental policy, health policy, marine aquaculture</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>LaVonna B. Lewis</strong></td>
<td>Professor (Teaching); Dean of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion</td>
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<td></td>
<td>American politics, public policy (most notably health policy), interest groups, federal programs</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Danyao Li</strong></td>
<td>Assistant Professor</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Public management, representation and diversity, bureaucratic decision-making, social equity and justice, law enforcement</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>John Loper</strong></td>
<td>Associate Professor (Teaching)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Real estate development, real estate finance, urban and suburban development, master planned communities, urban design</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Pamela McCann</strong></td>
<td>Associate Professor</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>American political institutions, bureaucratic delegation, intergovernmental politics, legislative behavior, public policy, and policy diffusion</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>T.J. McCarthy</strong></td>
<td>Associate Professor (Teaching)</td>
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<td>Labor economics, health economics, economics of education, public economics, program evaluation</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Daniel McFadden</strong></td>
<td>Nobel Laureate; Presidential Professor of Health Economics</td>
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<td>Health economics, economic theory and mathematical economics, environmental economics, econometrics</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Glenn Melnick</strong></td>
<td>Professor; Blue Cross of California Chair in Health Care Finance</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Health economics, health finance, health care systems, managed care</td>
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<td><strong>Leonard Mitchell</strong></td>
<td>Professor of the Practice of Economic Development; Executive Director, Center for Economic Development</td>
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<td>Real estate development finance and law, regional and local economic development, economic development finance and law, international trade finance and law</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Karen Mulligan</strong></td>
<td>Assistant Professor (Research)</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Health economics, applied micro econometrics, labor economics</td>
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<td><strong>Juliet Ann Musso</strong></td>
<td>Associate Professor; Vice Dean for Graduate Programs; Director, MPA Programs (effective 01/2024)</td>
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<td>State and local governance, federalism, urban political economy, fiscal policy, community governance, government performance</td>
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<td><strong>Dowell Myers</strong></td>
<td>Professor; Director, Population Dynamics Research Group</td>
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<td>Demographic change, future of California, housing impacts, workforce and education, immigration and assimilation, communication for consensus about change</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Deborah J. Natoli</strong></td>
<td>Professor (Teaching)</td>
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<td>Adult development and learning, leadership, human behavior and organizations, depth psychology and psychoanalysis</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Lisa Ozaeta</strong></td>
<td>Assistant Professor (Teaching)</td>
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<td>Health policy, health care cost and resource utilization, health state preference assessment</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Rosalie Pacula</strong></td>
<td>Professor; Elizabeth Garrett Chair in Health Policy, Economics, and Law</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Economics of addiction, addiction policy, delivery and financing of addiction treatment, cannabis and opioid policy</td>
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**ACHIEVEMENT**

Professor Erroll Souther was appointed to the California Commission on the State of Hate by Gov. Gavin Newsom.

Eric Heikkila assumed the position of president-elect of the Western Regional Science Association.

Alexandra Graddy-Reed was selected as an entrepreneurship policy fellow by the Association for Public Policy Analysis & Management.

Jorge De la Roca was named an editor of the *Journal of Economic Geography.*
Mindy Romero
Assistant Professor (Research); Founder and Director of the Center for Inclusive Democracy
Political sociology, voting rights and electoral participation, Latinx political behavior, collective political behavior, youth civic engagement, identity and political movements, social stratification, new technologies and civic engagement

John A. Romley
Associate Professor of Public Policy and Pharmaceutical & Health Economics; Director, PhD Programs
Hospital industry, health-care productivity/efficiency, environmental health disparities

Adam Rose
Professor (Research)
Energy and environmental economics, public policy, natural hazards and terrorism, regional science, applied general equilibrium modeling

Leonard D. Schaeffer
Judge Robert Maclay Widney Chair
Former CEO, Wellpoint, and former administrator, U.S. Health Care Financing Administration

Arnold Schwarzenegger
Former Governor of California; Governor Downey Professor of State and Local Policy; Chairman, USC Schwarzenegger Institute for State and Global Policy
Extremism, climate change policy, good governance, gerrymandering, infrastructure

Lisa Schweitzer
Professor
Environmental justice, sustainable transportation, hazardous materials in urban environments, community environmental quality

David C. Sloane
Professor; Chair, Department of Urban Planning and Spatial Analysis
Urban history, community health planning, health disparities, cultural landscapes

Neeraj Sood
Professor; Director, COVID Initiative, USC Schaeffer Center
Infectious diseases, health care costs, global health, economic epidemiology, health insurance, markets and benefits design, medical innovation and regulatory policy, Medicare and aging

Erroll G. Southers
Professor of the Practice in National and Homeland Security; Associate Senior Vice President, Safety and Risk Assurance
Counterterrorism, homegrown violent extremism, school violence prevention

Lois M. Takahashi
Professor (Teaching); Houston I. Flournoy Professor of State Government; Coordinator, Master of Public Administration, Sacramento
Public and social service delivery to vulnerable populations in the U.S. and in Southeast/ South Asian cities

Shui Yan Tang
Professor; Frances R. and John J. Duggan Professor in Public Administration; Chair, Department of Public Policy and Management
Institutional analysis and design, collaborative governance, local and community-based governance, common-pool resource governance, environmental politics and policy, microfinance

Michael Thom
Associate Professor (Teaching); Director, Doctorate of Policy, Planning, and Development Taxation, public finance, regulatory policy, public policy analysis, political philosophy

Bryan Tysinger
Assistant Professor (Research); Director of Health Policy Microsimulation, USC Schaeffer Center
Modeling health and economic outcomes over the life course, dynamic microsimulation modeling, valuing the burden of disease, medical innovation and disease prevention, international comparisons of health policy solutions, Alzheimer’s disease and related dementias

Dora Kingsley Vertenten
Professor (Teaching); Coordinator, Master of Public Administration- Online
Public policy, intergovernmental management, non-profit management, strategic planning, social media and information technologies useful in collaborative and participatory democracy

Detlof von Winterfeldt
Professor of Industrial & Systems Engineering and Policy, Planning, and Development; J.A. Tiberti Chair in Ethics and Decision Making; Executive Director, USC Center for Sustainability Solutions
Decision analysis, risk analysis, environmental policy, behavioral decision research, homeland security

Frank V. Zerunyan
Professor of the Practice of Governance; Director, Executive Education Programs; Director, ROTC Programs
Local governments, administrative law, public private partnerships, leadership, negotiation, executive education

Julie M. Zissimopoulos
Professor; Co-Director, Aging and Cognition Program, USC Schaeffer Center
Economics of aging, economics of the family, labor economics, health economics