

Shaping the future
of journalism and public relations

POSITION DESCRIPTION

Director, School of Journalism Annenberg School for Communication and Journalism University of Southern California

The Annenberg School for Communication and Journalism at the University of Southern California seeks a director to lead its accredited School of Journalism beginning July 2013.

The timing of this opening presents a rare opportunity to re-imagine the role of a journalism and public relations school during a period of intense transformation of the news and public-relations industries.

Annenberg is preparing to expand into a new building that will house a state-of-the-art integrated news room for the school's broadcast, digital and radio news outlets, as well as its student-led public-relations firm. The new director will be in charge of organizing these resources so that the work of students has an impact throughout Los Angeles and beyond.

USC Annenberg is seeking a candidate with the vision for how to turn the school into a laboratory of relentless experimentation and innovation. Candidates should demonstrate a willingness to break with practices that don't push the professions forward and an eagerness to promote an environment of risk-taking.

The ideal candidate is passionate about the missions of journalism and public relations, and recognizes that the changing media and societal landscape calls for forward-thinking, innovative, ethics-based education in both fields. She or he must be committed to the professions, to the training of the next generation of practitioners, and to the value and use of scholarly work relevant to both fields.

The candidate should have a distinguished professional background as well as a familiarity with the academic community. Managerial experience is highly desirable. He or she should be a national leader among journalism and/or strategic communication professionals and educators, eager to take advantage of recent technological developments to build innovative, cutting-edge curricula. He or she will have the vision, creativity and leadership necessary to maintain programs that prepare students for success in rapidly changing industries. Even in a moment of profound change, the candidate must be able to articulate the centrality of the ethical and civic traditions of the journalistic and public relations fields.

Working with the dean of the USC Annenberg School for Communication and Journalism and the director of USC Annenberg's School of Communication, the candidate should be a team player able to engage colleagues throughout the university, successfully operating at the highest interdisciplinary and international levels.

DOCTORAL

Communication

MASTER'S

Broadcast Journalism

Communication
Management

Global Communication

Online Journalism

Print Journalism

Public Diplomacy

Specialized Journalism

Specialized Journalism
(The Arts)

Strategic Public Relations

BACHELOR'S

Communication

Broadcast and
Digital Journalism

Print and
Digital Journalism

Public Relations

Specific Responsibilities

Reporting to the dean of the USC Annenberg School for Communication and Journalism, the director of the School of Journalism is a tenured position with responsibility for:

- Developing, in conjunction with the faculty and the dean, the School's evolving mission, goals and long-range strategic plans.
- Providing leadership in academic and professional communities; helping to lead public and scholarly debate on the future of journalism and public relations; promoting and participating in teaching and scholarly research.
- Leading recruitment of new faculty; providing academic leadership and professional development opportunities to faculty; assigning appropriate administrative roles to faculty.
- Developing and managing the School of Journalism's budget; maintaining and updating the school's courses and curriculum; preparing reports necessary for the university and national accrediting agencies.

Traits and Characteristics

The director will have exceptional verbal and written skills, substantial experience working successfully under pressure in a complex environment, and the proven ability to develop and maintain excellent working relationships with many constituencies. The ideal candidate will already be, or in the process of becoming, a nationally celebrated practitioner with outstanding achievements as a scholar, experience in academic life and an impressive record as an institution-building administrator.

While most candidates have more experience in either professional or academic life, all candidates should have some experience in both. Candidates will have a strong vision for the future of journalism and public relations education as well as for the challenges and opportunities created by new technologies and business models, the role of the school in a multicultural community and global society, and the special part that can be played by USC Annenberg's School of Journalism. All candidates should have the professional and/or academic credentials and stature to be eligible for tenure as a full professor at USC.

Education and Compensation

An advanced degree is preferred. Salary and benefits will be competitive and commensurate with qualification and experience. Relocation assistance may be available.

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Application or Nomination:

Submit curriculum vitae or resume and a letter of interest to:

Professor Larry Gross
Vice Dean
USC Annenberg School for Communication and Journalism
3502 Watt Way, Suite 305
Los Angeles, California 90089-0281
FAX: (213) 740-3913
E-mail: lpgross@usc.edu

Application review begins August 15, 2012.

USC values diversity and is committed to equal opportunity in employment. Women and men, and members of all racial and ethnic groups, are encouraged to apply.

About the University of Southern California

The University of Southern California is a leading private research university. Founded in 1880 and elected to membership in the Association of American Universities in 1969, USC is among the top dozen universities in the United States in funded research. Named College of the Year 2000 by *Time* Magazine/Princeton Review for its involvement with neighboring communities, USC has grown dramatically in the past decade. This is thanks to vigorous leadership, a series of major gifts, its location in an urban center on the Pacific Rim, and the unique interdisciplinary opportunities made possible by combining the strengths of its Dornsife College of Letters, Arts & Sciences and outstanding professional schools in business, engineering, journalism, law, medicine and other fields.

About the USC Annenberg School for Communication and Journalism

Located in Los Angeles at the University of Southern California, the USC Annenberg School for Communication and Journalism is among the nation's leading institutions devoted to the study of journalism, communication and public relations.

About the School of Journalism

Founded in 1927 and joined with the Annenberg School for Communication in 1994, USC Annenberg's School of Journalism provides training in the theory and practice of journalism and public relations. In addition to bachelor's and master's degrees in journalism and public relations, USC Annenberg is home to a number of research centers and professional education programs covering topics ranging from digital media integration to arts journalism to strategic public relations.

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