July 31, 2019

Dear USC Community,

It is my pleasure to announce the appointment of Winston B. Crisp as vice president for student affairs, effective August 16, 2019. Mr. Crisp joins USC with decades of experience in student affairs, most recently as vice chancellor for student affairs at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. He is a highly accomplished, creative, and compassionate leader known for putting students first and bringing their voices into his leadership.

As vice president, Mr. Crisp will take the helm of USC Student Affairs, which includes 300 staff and serves about 20,000 undergraduate and 27,500 graduate and professional students, runs student services and recreational sports, and manages nearly 1,000 student organizations. He will look for new ways to strengthen our already-excellent residential college program, which extends the learning experience beyond the classroom for first-year undergraduates by building meaningful connections with residential assistants and faculty.

The first person in his family to attend college, Mr. Crisp brings this important perspective to everything he does. His experience matches well with our university’s efforts to increase access to higher education among first-generation students. He knows how to help students feel like they belong, and give them the tools to succeed, both at the university and in life. He sees each student as an individual.

Mr. Crisp also enjoys teaching students, and has taught courses that explore topics such as leadership, ethics, morality, and individual liberty. He is an expert on student development, and will work closely with his new colleagues to promote well-being among USC students. This will build on his earlier work, as he previously led a mental health task force that assessed the scope of needs for students and provided important recommendations on new policies and programs.

In leading Student Affairs here at USC, Mr. Crisp joins a strong division, thanks to the staff and the terrific leadership of Dr. Monique Allard, who has been serving as interim vice president during this transition period. He is looking forward to joining them as we welcome the Class of 2023 in just a few weeks.

Mr. Crisp earned his undergraduate degree at Johnson C. Smith University in Charlotte, N.C., and his law degree at UNC. After graduating, he became the law school’s first assistant dean for
student affairs and first associate dean for student services. When he left the law school, and took on more responsibility in university-wide roles, the Student Bar Association created the Winston B. Crisp Award for students who exemplify his exceptional leadership qualities. This award continues to be awarded today.

Please join me in welcoming Winston to the Trojan Family.

Sincerely,

Carol L. Folt
President