**MEMORANDUM**

To:             USC Faculty

From:           Ginger Clark, President of the Academic Senate

Date:           June 30, 2016

Subject:        Senate Summary: Reproducibility and Closing 2015-2016 Senate Term


The final Academic Senate resolution I'd like to bring to your attention endorsed a proposal made by our Joint Provost/Senate Committee on Research, focusing on reproducibility in scientific research (attached). Many of you have been following the national discourse on this subject, and others of you have already seen funding sources begin to require more explicit explanations of safeguards to be used to validate findings. The resolution calls on USC to be at the vanguard of that movement, creating our own set of standards and guidelines that explicitly demonstrate our community's commitment to replication and verification of research findings. The attached document also lists a number of journal articles that address this issue in depth.

John Oliver also provides a quick and dirty, humorous perspective on why this matters in science, education, and the media on his show *Last Week Tonight*. It is a late night show on HBO, and for good reason, so…fair warning. Here is a link to the segment: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0Rnq1NpHdmw.

The Academic Senate addressed a number of other issues this year including spring rush, bike safety, and academic computing. You can find these, and all of the Senate documents, at our new Academic Senate Website: https://academicsenate.usc.edu/. Please explore the new site and give us your feedback.

It has been an honor serving as the Academic Senate President. Our faculty are truly phenomenal. I have been left in wonder, inspired, and humbled to work among you this year. It has been at once the most challenging and most energizing year of my career. I am a different person, and I believe a better person, because of my work with you. I got to be a part of something really special, and for that I am forever in your debt.


Yours gratefully,

Ginger Clark