**ACADEMIC SENATE**

**CANDIDATE INFORMATION FORM**

**SPRING 2021**

***Name*:** Gary Painter

***Academic Rank*:** Professor

***Department/School*:** Sol Price School of Public Policy

***Graduate degrees (with year, university, and discipline****):*

PhD Economics (1996), UC Berkeley

***Major academic responsibilities:***

Department Chair, Public Policy;

Director, Price Center for Social Innovation;

Director, Homelessness Policy Research Institute

***Previous* service *on USC, Senate, or school committees:***

Member, Working Group on University Culture, 2019-present

Member, Academic Senate, 2003-2005, 2017-2018.

Member, Committee on Deadlines and Leaves, 2017-present.

Member, Committee on Work and Family Life, 2011-2016.

Member, Dean’s Search Committee, Davis School of Gerontology, 2011-2012.

Member, Academic Leadership Committee, 2006-2011.

Member, Faculty Environment Committee, 2003-2005.

Member, Academic Honesty Committee, 1997-1998.

Numerous School Governance committees.

Chair of Faculty Council twice; Member of Faculty Council seven times

***Previous* administrative *responsibilities at USC:***

2015-present Director, USC Sol Price Center for Social Innovation

2017-present Director, Homelessness Policy Research Institute

2019-present Chair, Department of Public Policy

2011-2015 Director, Graduate Programs in Public Policy, USC Price School of Public Policy

2002-2015 Research Director, Lusk Center for Real Estate, USC Price School of Public Policy

2012 Senior Associate Dean for Academic Affairs, USC Price School of Public Policy

2010 Director, Graduate Programs in Public Policy and Management, USC Price School of Public Policy

2008 Associate Dean for Research and Technology, USC Price School of Public Policy

2005 Director, Program in Public Policy, USC Price School of Public Policy

1998 Director, Program in Public Policy, USC Price School of Public Policy

***Previous* service *to scholarly or professional associations:***

President American Real Estate and Urban Economics Association (AREUEA), 2013

Vice President American Real Estate and Urban Economics Association (AREUEA),

2011-2012

Board of Directors American Real Estate and Urban Economics Association (AREUEA),

2008-2010, 2014-2016

Policy Council Association for Public Policy and Management (APPAM), 2008-2011

Editorial Board Real Estate Economics, 2013-present; Journal of Urban Economics, 2014-present, Journal of Real Estate Finance and Economics, 2020-present

***Personal statement: why do you want to serve in this role for the Senate?***

This year is my silver anniversary at USC, and I am deeply humbled and honored to be asked to stand for election to the position of Vice President of the Academic Senate. USC has been my only academic home and I care deeply about it. I know that many of my colleagues feel the same way. It goes without saying the past five years have been very difficult as the environment and climate cultivated by our former president helped contribute to a set of harms that continue to reverberate within our University. At the same time, much work has been done within the faculty, staff, and University leadership to take concrete strides to make USC a place that all of our community can thrive and excel.

The reason that I want to serve in this role is that I want to contribute in every way I can to help USC be the best University possible. As we emerge from the pandemic, USC faculty have the opportunity to contribute more than ever to address some of the grand challenges (sustainability, housing insecurity, etc.) society continues to face. In so doing, USC must continue to cultivate an environment where faculty can conduct cutting edge research and provide and evolve educational programs to meet the needs of the world. In my view, this can only be done successfully when faculty are engaged with all members of our University community, including students, alumni, staff, administration, and community partners.

If elected, there are three areas that I believe the Senate should continue to work on to strengthen and enhance the impact of our faculty. First, it is important for the faculty to be central in working with our USC community to improve our culture. While the concept of workplace culture still remains a bit amorphous to some, it is central to advancing the mission of the University. For those not familiar with the culture work, we have identified 6 unifying values: Integrity, Excellence, Diversity, Equity and Inclusion, Well-being, Open Communication, and Accountability. Faculty play a central role in engaging with students, staff, alumni, and external stakeholders, and therefore must be central to this process.

Second, I applaud the work of the Senate over the last few years in clarifying the roles and responsibilities of both tenure track and RTCP faculty. There has been a lot of progress to more fully integrate RTCP faculty into the community, and there is still more work to be done.

Third, I believe it is important for the faculty senate to work with our administration, staff, and students to help USC become a stronger University community partner. I believe we can reimagine models of community engagement that go beyond models of charity and participatory research so that community partners can help co-produce solutions to society’s biggest challenges. Faculty are already doing this in many parts of our work, and I believe that if we work together, USC can become the model for other universities to follow in building authentic community partnerships.