Jack H. Knott, former professor of public policy and management at the University of Illinois, was named dean of the USC School of Policy, Planning, and Development and holder of the C. Erwin and Lone L. Piper Dean’s Chair in August 2005.

In recognition of his sustained contributions to the field of public administration, Mr. Knott was named a fellow of the National Academy of Public Administration in 2007.

Before joining USC, Mr. Knott served on the faculty of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and Chicago from 1997 to 2005. There, he directed the university's Institute of Government and Public Affairs and held a joint appointment as professor of political science at Urbana-Champaign. Before joining the University of Illinois, Knott taught at Michigan State University and held visiting professorships at the University of Arizona and the University of Warwick in the U.K.

Mr. Knott holds a Ph.D. in political science from UC Berkeley, a Master of Arts in economics and comparative politics from the School of Advanced International Studies at Johns Hopkins University and a Bachelor of Arts in history from Calvin College in Grand Rapids, Michigan.

Hasan Ikhrata is the Executive Director of the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG), the largest metropolitan planning organization in the nation, serving six counties, 189 cities and 19 million residents. Mr. Ikhrata has over 22 years of experience in transportation planning in the Southern California Region, in both the private and public sector. Prior to joining SCAG in 1994, Mr. Ikhrata worked for the Los Angeles County Metropolitan Transportation Authority, the South Coast Air Quality Management District and held a Research Assistant position with the University of Southern California and University of California, Los Angeles. His research included work in land use and transportation planning, harnessing the energy of tidal waves; and pile foundations under dynamic loads.
James T. Christy
Regional Director, Los Angeles Regional Census Center, U.S. Census Bureau

As the Regional Director of the U.S. Census Bureau’s Los Angeles region, James T. Christy manages a staff of 500 permanent employees and is responsible for all Census Bureau activities in Southern California and Hawaii.

During activities for the 2010 Census, Mr. Christy oversees the effort of nearly 40,000 workers in 39 offices located throughout Southern California and Hawaii.

In addition to counting the population every ten years, the permanent presence of the Census Bureau in Los Angeles measures the economy through indicators like the Consumer Price Index, the monthly Unemployment Rate and Housing Starts data. It is also involved in producing key social measures for things like poverty, health and well-being, crime and education.

Mr. Christy has worked for the Census Bureau in Washington, DC, Denver, Kansas City and Phoenix. He has served on the Advisory Council for the Ralph and Goldy Lewis Center for Regional Policy Studies at UCLA and as the Chair of the Greater Los Angeles Federal Executive Board.

Chris Williamson
Principal Planner, City of Oxnard

Chris Williamson is currently Principal Planner for the City of Oxnard with responsibility for the evolving 2030 General Plan, Housing Element, CEQA, and large controversial projects. Oxnard is a majority-minority city with a young demographic profile, i.e. the “next generation California.” Mr. Williamson has been an AICP Census Research Fellow and a demographic Fulbright Scholar. He taught planning and GIS at USC and worked as an environmental, policy, demographic, and redistricting consultant. Mr. Williamson worked for the Census Bureau as a Geographer, Survey Statistician, and Special Assistant to the Director. Mr. Williamson holds a Ph.D. in Planning and Policy Analysis from USC, a Masters in Planning from the University of Virginia, and a Bachelor of Science in Geography from the Pennsylvania State University.
Dowell Myers
Director, Population Dynamics Research Group, USC School of Policy, Planning, and Development

Dowell Myers is a Professor in the USC School of Policy, Planning, and Development. He is director of the Population Dynamics Research Group – whose recent projects have been funded by the National Institute of Health, the Haynes Foundation, Fannie Mae Foundation, and the Ford Foundation—and he also is co-director of the new Center for the Study of Immigrant Integration.

Well-known as a specialist in demographic trends and their relation to all areas of policy and planning, Mr. Myers has been a long-standing advisor to the United States Census Bureau and is the author of the most widely referenced text on census analysis. In March 2007, the Russell Sage Foundation published his newest book, Immigrants and Boomers: Forging a New Social Contract for the Future of America, which won the ASA Award for Best Book on Immigration. In fall 2006, Mr. Myers also was recipient of the Haynes Award for Research Impact that was issued on the occasion of the Haynes Foundation’s 80th anniversary.

In the past two years Mr. Myers has testified before the U.S. Congress at Ellis Island and before the Latino Caucus of the California Legislature. He also has spoken about his book before the California Business Roundtable, the Los Angeles Chamber of Commerce, community organizing groups—One LA—and the Chancellor’s retreat for Provosts of all campuses in the California State University System.

His undergraduate degree in anthropology from Columbia University was followed by a Master of Planning degree from UC Berkeley. Mr. Myers holds a Ph.D. in urban planning from MIT and he also studied demography and sociology at Harvard University.

John Pitkin
President, Analysis and Forecasting, Inc.

John Pitkin is a consultant and president of Analysis and Forecasting, Inc., a demographic research firm located in Cambridge, Massachusetts. He is also a Senior Research Associate at the University of Southern California. Prior to becoming a consultant, he was Research Associate at the Joint Center for Urban Studies of Harvard University and MIT, where he did research on housing demographics and population projections. Mr. Pitkin has authored numerous papers on these topics. He holds an A.B. from Columbia University and has studied at Oxford University and the University of Helsinki.

Mr. Pitkin recently co-authored a report on “U.S. Housing Trends: Generational Changes and the Outlook to 2050” published by the National Academy of Sciences. His current research activities include new population projections by nativity, immigrant generation, and state of birth for the state of California and University of Southern California’s California Demographic Futures project.
Mary Heim
Chief, Demographic Research Unit, California Department of Finance

Mary Heim was appointed Chief of the Demographic Research Unit in 2001 and has worked for the Department of Finance since 1979. Initially she worked in the city estimates program that produces the annual January 1 population estimates used to calculate the appropriation limits and to distribute state subvention funds. In 1983, Ms. Heim was first involved in the production of population projections. Since that time Ms. Heim has had primary responsibility for 12 population projection series, along with the day-to-day operations of the Unit. Ms. Heim routinely represents the Department, advises management, consults on demographic issues, develops methodologies and serves as the State’s population expert.

Ms. Heim is a member of the Population Association of America. Her publications include Fertility of Immigrant Women in California; Soaring Growth—California’s 1990 Census Preview; and Demographic Outline Health Care Needs of the 90s. Prior to her work at the Demographic Research Unit, Ms. Heim was a labor market analyst for the Employment Development Department.

Huasha Liu
Director, Land Use and Environmental Planning, Southern California Association of Governments

Huasha Liu is the Director of Land Use and Environmental Planning at the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG), the largest metropolitan planning organization in the nation, serving six counties, 189 cities and 19 million residents.

At SCAG, Ms. Liu oversees compliance with federal requirements (such as air quality and transportation conformity, and environmental justice) and compliance with state requirements such as housing law (e.g., Regional Housing Needs Assessment), California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), and climate change (e.g., AB 32 and SB 375), land use planning and the Compass Blueprint Program. Other major activities include policy development and analysis to address future growth, land use patterns and transportation investment strategies; data, information and new tools development (such as the development of a new integrated land use/transportation model); and benchmarking and assessment of the region’s progress.

Ms. Liu has over 20 years of experience in transportation, regional planning and related fields including ten years of management experience.

In addition, Ms. Liu also has substantial planning experience in Nanjing, China focusing on regional collaboration and public policy for economic development on the Pacific Rim.

In 2004, Ms. Liu was appointed by the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors to serve on the county’s Quality and Productivity Commission.

Ms. Liu earned her bachelor’s degree in Urban and Regional Planning from Nanjing University. She earned her master’s degree in Urban and Regional Planning with a specialization in transportation planning from the University of Southern California’s School of Policy, Planning, and Development.
Jacquelyn McCroskey is the John Milner Professor of Child Welfare at the University of Southern California School of Social Work. Her research includes analysis of service financing, organization and performance measurement in public and not-for profit service delivery systems serving children and families. She is currently evaluating the Department of Children and Family Services’ innovative prevention Initiative. Through her work with county, city and school district policy makers, she has investigated inter-agency cooperation, community relations, and community development in a broad range of service areas, settings and organizational contexts. For over two decades, she has used data and scholarship to inform policy and guide improvements to government systems to improve outcomes for children and families. In 2003, she was named NASW’s California Social Worker of the Year.

Mr. Krackov is the Assistant Vice President for Programs & Partnerships at the Lucile Packard Foundation for Children’s Health, where he manages initiatives to help raise the visibility of children’s issues in California. Prior to the foundation, Mr. Krackov was the Web Managing Editor at Stanford University, and also was a journalist at U.S. News & World Report, where he covered health care and higher education, among other issues. Mr. Krackov holds a bachelor’s degree in history from Washington University in St. Louis and a master’s degree in communication theory from Stanford University.
John Kim
Co-Director, The Advancement Project LA; Director, Healthy City Project

John Kim currently serves as a Co-Director of the Advancement Project LA and the Director of the Healthy City Project. As a Co-Director of AP, Mr. Kim works closely with Co-Directors Molly Munger, Connie Rice, and Steve English on policy research/advocacy initiatives, partnership building, and strategic organizational development efforts. At the same time, Mr. Kim is the founding director of the Healthy City Project which is an all-in-one service referral and public policy research website. Healthy City is widely regarded as one of the most important new tools for LA’s public sector and has been acclaimed as a national model for data-driven policy planning resources. Through his work on Healthy City, Mr. Kim has provided direct policy and research support to local elected officials, philanthropic entities, and countless community-based organizations throughout the region. Mr. Kim has recently been appointed by the Mayor to the Board of Neighborhood Commissioners.

Mr. Kim has long focused on social justice and community development issues in both Oakland and Los Angeles. He started his career as a youth organizer, where he helped to mediate racial tensions among students of color and organize a successful campaign to offer Ethnic Studies in all Oakland Public High Schools. Later on, he became the Executive Director of the Korean Community Center of the East Bay, where he significantly expanded the agency’s financial base and programmatic capacity through the development of new programs in the areas of domestic abuse, community development and community technology. Mr. Kim’s work in the Bay Area has been recognized by KQED/Channel 9 as the 2001 Local Hero of the Year Award and by Oakland’s Mayor Jerry Brown with the proclamation of a “John K. Kim Day” in the City of Oakland.

Armando Jimenez
Director, Research and Evaluation Department, First 5 LA

Armando Jimenez has led First 5 LA’s Research and Evaluation Department since 2000. As a critical part of the organization, Mr. Jimenez has helped to create and implement the tools that measure First 5 LA’s impact on the community. He has a deep understanding of how well-designed research and evaluation can help change the lives of children in L.A. County.

Mr. Jimenez joined First 5 LA as it was just getting off the ground and helped First 5 LA grow to be the teeming organization it is today. When asked how his informed perspective on the growth of the Commission has impacted his overall outlook, his humble response was that now, when he encounters a struggling family in the street or on the subway, he asks himself, “What have I done today to make that family’s life better?” He identifies with the struggles of regular families by remembering his own family’s struggles as he was growing up. This personal perspective enables him to keep the well-being of children and families in the forefront of every decision, and allows the sometimes frustrating minutia of everyday work to take a back seat to the larger goal of strengthening families.
Simon Choi
Chief Demographer and Program Manager, Southern California Association of Governments

Simon Choi is Chief Demographer and Program Manager at the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG). He works with regional experts and local planners, providing technical leadership to develop accurate regional demographic forecasts for diverse urban and regional planning purposes. Mr. Choi develops and maintains the state of art demographic forecasting models.

He conducts a variety of advanced research and analyses on urban and regional growth and planning, population projections, migration modeling, small area demography, and housing. His research findings appear in Journal of American Planning Association, Professional Geographer, Urban Policy and Research, Journal of Korea Planners, etc. He taught classes on urban planning and growth forecasting at University of Southern California, California State University, Northridge, and Seoul Digital University.

Before joining SCAG, he was a researcher of Korea Research Institute for Human Settlements and Executive Director of Korea Planners Association.

He is a member of American Institute of Certified Planners, American Planning Association, Population Association of America, and Western Regional Science Association.

Mr. Choi holds a Ph.D. in planning from the University of Southern California, a Master of City Planning from Seoul National University and a Bachelor of Arts from Yonsei University in Seoul, Korea.
Steve Levy
Director, Center for Continuing Study of the California Economy

Steve Levy is Director and Senior Economist of the Center for Continuing Study of the California Economy (CCSCE) in Palo Alto. CCSCE is a private research organization founded in 1969 to provide an independent assessment of economic and demographic trends in California.

CCSCE works with public institutions and private companies that require an explanation and analysis of California growth trends including detailed projections. Mr. Levy is the principal author of CCSCE’s annual report series on the California economy. CCSCE’s annual reports have acquired a national reputation for credible and independent analyses.

CCSCE’s California Economic Growth—2008 Edition report was released in July 2008. Mr. Levy writes a new series, Numbers in the News—Monthly Memos on Current Topics, which can be downloaded from the CCSCE Web site.

Mr. Levy has been doing research on the impact of immigration on the California economy. CCSCE prepared a paper on immigration issues for the California Economic Strategy Panel and is currently studying the implications of immigration for California workforce policy.

For the past several years Mr. Levy has worked extensively on how the state budget and economy are related. He created the California Budget Challenge and Budget IQ Quiz in partnership with Next Ten. Mr. Levy has also worked with the Rockefeller and San Francisco Foundations to present workshops that serve as a forum for discussing the relationship between the state economy and budget.

Mr. Levy is often asked to speak before public and private groups and has a reputation for being frank and provocative. He is a member of the NOVA (Silicon Valley) Workforce Board, and the Board of the Bay Area Economic Institute, and an advisor to the California Economic Strategy Panel.

Mr. Levy has degrees in economics from MIT and Stanford University.

Tom Holler
Co-Lead Organizer, the Southern California Education Fund and One LA-IAF

Tom Holler is an Industrial Areas Foundation (IAF) lead organizer, currently serving in Los Angeles as Co-Lead Organizer for the Southern California Education Fund and One LA-IAF. His career as an organizer began in Detroit in 1980. He joined IAF in 1986 and was lead organizer of Communities Organized for Public Service in San Antonio, Texas. In 1992 he moved to Omaha to build Omaha Together One Community (OTOOC). He developed and supervised A Metropolitan Organizing Strategy (AMOS) in Des Moines, Iowa, and Community Organizing in Nebraska (rural Nebraska). He served as Executive Director of the Institute of Public Life, the leadership development arm of the IAF organizations in Iowa and Nebraska. With his over 25 years of organizing experience, particularly in leadership development; he is often tapped by the IAF for regional and national leadership training.
22nd ANNUAL
DEMOGRAPHIC WORKSHOP
What is the Future for Children in California?

FELICITY AYLES
Manager of Marketing and Online Communications, the Lucile Packard Foundation for Children’s Health

Felicity Ayles is manager of marketing and online communications for the Lucile Packard Foundation for Children’s Health, and has worked with the foundation and kidsdata.org since 2004. Ms. Ayles heads up marketing and outreach efforts for kidsdata.org and the foundation’s Programs & Partnerships department. Prior to joining the foundation, Ms. Ayles worked as a newspaper reporter in Oregon and California covering education, public safety, and local government. She joined the nonprofit world in 2002, leading communications/web efforts for a foster care agency in Santa Clara County.

VALERIE EDWARDS
Chief Enrollment Analysis Coordinator, Master Planning and Demographics Unit, Los Angeles Unified School District

Valerie Edwards currently serves as Chief Enrollment Analysis Coordinator for the Los Angeles Unified School District’s Master Planning and Demographics Unit (LAUSD), where she is in charge of strategic planning and coordination of all demographic analysis and enrollment projections in support of LAUSD’s 675,000 students and $14 billion facilities Strategic Execution Plan. She is currently directing the automation of enrollment projection procedures for the modeling of geographic attendance boundary distribution and simulation of school choice.

Before coming to Los Angeles, Ms. Edwards was head of Strategic and Capital Planning for the Boston Public Schools (BPS). She worked with a team of internationally-known game-theory economists to re-model BPS’ student assignment algorithm, which resulted in improved school choice equity and parental satisfaction. Ms. Edwards also led a Task Force to create and implement school capacity models based on BPS’ educational policy specifications, thus linking school utilization performance directly to the Superintendent’s educational policy goals for the first time. Ms. Edwards instituted BPS’ first long-range, district-wide student enrollment forecasting process, in conjunction with introducing GIS and mapping capability into the District’s planning processes.

Ms. Edwards has been a frequent participant at Population Association of America’s (PAA) Annual Meetings, serving as session organizer, presenter, panelist and discussant. She is a member of PAA’s School Demography and Applied Demography Interest Groups, the American Planning Association, and the Southern California Association of Governments’ (SCAG) Plans & Programs Technical Advisory Committee.

Ms. Edwards holds a master’s degree in City Planning from the Department of Urban Studies and Planning at MIT.
Mary Ehrenthal Prichard
Demographic Research and Planning Analyst, Master Planning and Demographics Unit, Los Angeles Unified School District

Mary Ehrenthal Prichard is a Demographic Research and Planning Analyst for the Master Planning and Demographics Unit of the Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD). The main focus of her work has included the production of short- and long-range enrollment forecasts for the district’s 600+ schools, the production of specialized demographic research and analysis, including the analysis of internal LAUSD and general population demographic data. She has worked extensively with spatially referenced U.S. Census data within a GIS environment.

Ms. Prichard is co-author of LAUSD’s recent publication entitled “Why is the Los Angeles Unified School District’s Enrollment Declining - When the Los Angeles Area is Growing.” http://mo.laschools.org/fis/nc/ (click on Master Planning & Demographics then click on Analysis and Reports).

Ms. Prichard has served for a number of years in adjunct faculty positions for community colleges in the Los Angeles region as well as at California State University at Los Angeles. She served as President of the Los Angeles Geographical Society from 2002 to 2004.

Her research has been presented at the Association of American Geographers National Conferences and Population Association of America Annual conferences.

She holds bachelor’s and master’s degrees in the field of Geography from Cal State, Los Angeles.

Joseph Carreras
Program Manager, Southern California Association of Governments

Joseph Carreras is a lead policy analyst, program manager and researcher for the Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG). He is a specialist in housing and strategic growth programs and is responsible for the development and implementation of the Regional Housing Needs Assessment and Housing Southern Californians initiatives. Mr. Carreras is also the project program manager of the CALOTS web based mapping and community analysis tool developed in partnership with UCLA. His program focus is to develop consensus-based solutions for analyzing housing market needs and envisioning future growth.

Mr. Carreras has over 30 years of experience in housing and community development planning, program administration and consulting. This includes professional positions with the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), local government and volunteer positions. Mr. Carreras received his bachelor’s degree from Louisiana State University and attended graduate school at New York University and at UC Irvine.
Frank Wen
Manager of Research, Analysis and Information Services Division, Southern California Association of Governments

Frank Wen is the Manager of Research, Analysis and Information Services Division at Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG). Mr. Wen’s Division is responsible for regional growth forecasts, model/tool, and Data/GIS development. He received both Master of Science and Ph.D. degrees from the University of Minnesota, Twin Cities. Mr. Wen’s areas of specialization and research for the degrees were environmental economics, resource economics and regional economics.

Mr. Wen joined SCAG in 1988 and served as Senior Economist between 1993 and 2005. His researches and assignments include: producing growth forecasts, translating growth and demographic shifts into policy implications, conducting economic impact analysis and environmental justice analysis for regional transportation plan, performing income equity and fair share analysis for aviation plan, tracking and reporting on regional economic, housing, and demographic trends.