

ALBERT BRECHT

Retired USC Faculty Member



Albert recently stepped down from his position as associate dean and chief information officer at the USC Gould School of Law. Albert first served on USC Lambda's board in 1999 and then again in 2006. During two terms as our president, he oversaw the association's inaugural scholarship fundraising campaign and later launched the "Campus Run Dash for Cash," the latter netting \$5,000 for scholarships. He is also active in the philanthropic LGBT running group, LA Frontrunners. He had this to share with us:

What are your favorite memories of USC?

Being promoted as Director of USC Law Library at the age of 29 in 1975 and offered the Stouffer Chair by the Law School are one of the highlights in my life at USC. But most important, I consider it my pride and joy to see my former colleagues who are now heads of law libraries in other universities.

What advice do you have for new graduates of USC?

Get involved in organizations that match your area of interest. Do not hesitate to take a job that you don't know much about because it will likely turn out to be major learning experience for you.
Pay a lot of attention to your staff and colleagues including those that are not your bosses.

If there was a question you would have asked an alumnus while you were a student, what would it be?

How did they get their first job? Did that job wind up being what they are actually doing for a living?

What does USC Lambda mean to you?

It enabled me to meet some great faculty and students and have camaraderie with people who have helped me grow and who I hope I have helped also.

What does the Trojan Family mean to you? Why is it important to the community?

The Trojan family means a lot to me. It is my second family. I did not know anyone in California when I came in 1972. But the people around me at USC, my fellow workers and faculty members, were very accommodating. I did not have any difficulty adjusting to my new environment because of the familial attitude the people at USC showed me.

The Trojan family has helped a lot of people. Approximately fourteen years ago President Sample created something brand new called the Good Neighbors Campaign. This campaign encourages all USC faculty and staff to make an annual donation the money of which goes to help the needs of the surrounding community. From the beginning, the campaign has been well received. Last year, it has collected over a million dollars to support the campaign. The Good Neighbors Campaign is a prime example of USC's importance to the community.