

## USC News

# Eight USC Professors Named AAAS Fellows

By Suzanne Wu

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Eight USC professors have been named fellows of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) in recognition of distinguished accomplishments in advancing science and serving society.

The tradition of naming fellows to the AAAS, the world's largest general scientific society, dates to 1887. USC faculty from five schools across campus — USC College, the USC Davis School of Gerontology, the Keck School of Medicine of USC, the Herman Ostrow School of Dentistry of USC and the USC Viterbi School of Engineering — are among this year's class of 503 inductees:

- David Caron, professor of biological sciences at USC College;
- Yang Chai, professor and chair of craniofacial sciences and therapeutics at the Ostrow School of Dentistry;
- Eileen Crimmins, holder of the AARP Chair and professor of gerontology at the USC Davis School of Gerontology;
- Katrina Edwards, professor of biological sciences and earth sciences at USC College;
- Jae Ung Jung, professor and chair of microbiology and immunology at the Keck School of Medicine;
- C. C. Jay Kuo, holder of the Fulbright-Nokia Wireless Communications Chair and professor of electrical engineering/systems and mathematics at the USC Viterbi School of Engineering;
- Magnus Nordborg, associate professor of biological sciences at USC College; and
- Jing-Hsiung James Ou, professor of molecular microbiology and immunology at the Keck School of Medicine.

Caron, interim director of the USC Wrigley Institute for Environmental Studies, is honored for his work in marine microbial ecology, “particularly regarding phagotrophic and autotrophic protists and harmful algae blooms,” according to the award committee.

Chai is director of the Center for Craniofacial Molecular Biology and is honored for his work “elucidating the role of cranial neural crest to contribute to birth defects, specifically cleft palate and anodontia through the TGF signaling pathway.”

Crimmins, director of the division of Health and Human Services at the USC Andrus Gerontology Center and co-director of the USC/UCLA Center of Biodemography and Population Health, is honored for “major contributions to the demography of aging, particularly for the developing field of biodemography through incorporating biological information into social and behavioral analyses.”



Edwards, director of the National Science Foundation-supported Center for Dark Energy Biosphere Investigations in Los Angeles, is honored for “important discoveries on interactions between microbes and minerals, especially at the ocean floor, how these influence global biogeochemical processes and for international leadership.”

Jung’s research has focused on the molecular mechanisms that allow viruses to evade the host body’s immune system. He is honored for his insights into the “field of molecular biology in viruses and their gene products as they relate to cell biology, biochemistry and immunology.”



Kuo, a professor in the Ming Hsieh Department of Electrical Engineering and director of the Multimedia Research Group in the USC Viterbi Signal and Image Processing Institute, is honored for “multimedia technologies and applications, particularly for multimedia coding, processing, communication, networking, contents and rights management.”

Nordborg’s research lab focuses on the genetic basis of adaptation. He is honored for “distinguished contributions to the field of population genetics, particularly for pioneering genome-wide association studies in non-human organisms.”



The research conducted by Ou’s laboratory is centered on examining virus-host interactions, particularly for hepatitis B and hepatitis C. Ou is honored for “distinguished contributions to the research of hepatitis B virus and hepatitis C virus and their oncogenesis.”



New fellows will be inducted in an official ceremony on Feb. 19 at the AAAS Fellows Forum during the 2011 AAAS annual meeting in Washington, D.C.

This year’s AAAS fellows will be announced in the AAAS News & Notes section of the journal *Science* on Jan. 28.



David Caron