Introducing Dean Yannis C. Yortsos

Yannis C. Yortsos, a noted chemical engineer and university administrator, is the new dean of the University of Southern California Viterbi School of Engineering and the new holder of the Zohrab A. Kaprelian Chair in Engineering. Yortsos had served as dean of the school since June 2005 on an interim basis. Prior to that, he was senior associate dean for academic affairs and had also chaired the school’s Department of Chemical Engineering.

During his time overseeing the USC Viterbi School’s academic affairs, the school enjoyed significant gains in student strength and in the quality of all its academic programs. His comprehensive retention program also dramatically strengthened the undergraduate program of the school.

Yortsos joined the USC faculty in 1978 and was named the Chester F. Dolley Professor of Petroleum Engineering in 1995. He is highly regarded for innovative work relating to the mechanics of fluids in porous media, with specific application to oil recovery. He earned a diploma in chemical engineering from the National Technical University in Athens, Greece, and M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in chemical engineering from the California Institute of Technology.