



Dr. Michèle G. Turner, Associate Vice President
USC Office of Business Opportunity
University Relations/Civic Engagement and Economic Partnerships

Dr. Michèle G. Turner is a visionary leader whose career spans corporate innovation, higher education leadership, and entrepreneurial excellence. Her work bridges institutional strategy and community empowerment, advancing equitable access to opportunity across sectors.

At the University of Southern California, Dr. Turner leads enterprise-wide initiatives to expand business access and opportunity, ensuring inclusive economic participation through local business engagement and supplier development. Her pioneering programs—Trojan Shop Local, a digital platform showcasing small and local businesses surrounding USC campuses, and the Small Business Leadership Development Program, a collaboration with the USC Marshall School of Business Executive Education—reflect her commitment to translating institutional influence into measurable community impact.

Previously, Dr. Turner served as Executive Director of the USC Black Alumni Association, where she advanced scholarship, mentorship, and leadership initiatives for generations of Trojans, raising more than \$10 million in scholarships and endowments. Earlier in her career, she held senior consulting and marketing management positions at IBM, where she led strategic initiatives for global Fortune 50 and Fortune 100 clients, including American Express, Procter & Gamble, and The Walt Disney Company. She was recognized nationally for developing innovative solutions that advanced organizational performance and client engagement. As founder and general manager of a successful healthcare business for nearly three decades, she brings a seasoned perspective on ownership, business resilience, and sustainable growth.

A two-time Trojan, Dr. Turner earned her Ed.D. in Global Executive Leadership Policy from the USC Rossier School of Education, conducting research in Qatar, the United Arab Emirates, and at the Hong Kong University of Science and Technology. She also holds an MBA from the UCLA Anderson School of Management and a B.S. in Entrepreneurship and Finance from the USC Marshall School of Business. She also holds management development certificates from the Harvard School of Business and the University of Virginia Darden School.

Deeply engaged in civic and economic development, Dr. Turner serves on several local chambers and advisory councils, mentors emerging leaders and business founders, and is an advocate for inclusive growth. She is the author of *Affirmed: Life Lessons in Racial Healing* and is currently at work on her second book. Dr. Turner enjoys writing, gardening, and hiking, and has walked the Virginia Creeper Trail—located in the Blue Ridge Mountains of Virginia—since the age of three.