

## Financial Program Marks 25th Anniversary

Courses include study of economics and equity investments.

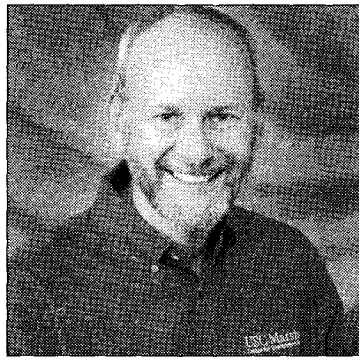
**AT A TIME** when the professionalism of the investment industry is under fire, an innovative educational partnership that teaches and stresses both qualities is looking toward its 25th anniversary.

Since 1985, an estimated 2,500 investment executives have gone through the Chartered Financial Analysts (CFA) Review Program offered by the CFA Society of Los Angeles in conjunction with the USC Marshall School of Business.

The program, a three-year course of study held on campus, utilizes curriculum and study materials developed by the national Chartered Financial Analysts Institute and helps enrollees prepare for a series of exams.

Passing these exams is a requirement for receiving a financial analyst charter.

The charter is regarded as the gold standard of professional credentials within the global invest-



**Lawrence Harris co-directs the three-year program at USC Marshall.**

ment community, said Bill Krantz, a chartered analyst who shares responsibility for directing the program with Lawrence Harris, director of the Center for Investment Studies at USC Marshall.

Economics, financial reporting and analysis, corporate finance, equity investments, fixed income, derivatives, ethical and professional standards, quantitative methods, portfolio management

and wealth planning are among the subjects presented. Krantz and Harris credit Guil Babcock, a former professor of finance at USC, and Bob Hardaway, former president of the Los Angeles Society of Financial Analysts, a predecessor organization, for creating the program. Although other regions of the country had review programs, Southern California did not when Babcock brought the idea to Hardaway, who noted that the Southern California program was modeled on a program offered by the Boston Society of Financial Analysts and Northeastern University.

The program, which began as a once-a-week session on the USC campus, currently provides multiple classes, as well as online lessons used by a number of other Chartered Financial Analyst societies in the United States and abroad. ■