

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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The John Randolph Haynes and Dora Haynes Foundation Names Dr. Raphael Sonenshein as Executive Director

LOS ANGELES, CA - [May 11, 2023] - LOS ANGELES, CA - The John Randolph Haynes and Dora Haynes Foundation is pleased to announce the appointment of Dr. Raphael Sonenshein as its first executive director. Haynes Foundation Board President-Elect Dr. Daniel Mazmanian made the announcement, expressing excitement about the foundation's future under Dr. Sonenshein's leadership. Sonenshein will join the foundation in June.

In celebration of its upcoming 100th anniversary, the Haynes Foundation will launch a new research grant making initiative focused on advancing responsive governance and strengthening democracy in the Los Angeles region. Building on the foundation's history of bridging academic research and action to address complex regional challenges, this initiative seeks to deepen the impact of its grantmaking and contribute to positive change in the lives of Angelenos.

Haynes Foundation President-Elect Dan Mazmanian expressed enthusiasm about Dr. Sonenshein's appointment saying, "Raphel's deep experience in civic leadership and action-focused research, as well as his extensive experience within academia, government, philanthropy, and his strong relationships with civic leaders, policymakers, and local communities, make him an ideal fit to lead the foundation into its next chapter."

Dr. Sonenshein, who has served as the executive director of the Pat Brown Institute for Public Affairs at Cal State Los Angeles since 2012, said, "I am looking forward with great anticipation to working with the Foundation and its Trustees to implement this bold plan to focus actionable research and civic engagement on better governance and a broader democracy in Los Angeles at this moment of both crisis and opportunity for reform."

About the John Randolph Haynes and Dora Haynes Foundation

Established in 1926 by a prominent, reform-minded physician and his suffragist wife, the John Randolph Haynes and Dora Haynes Foundation is a leading supporter of social science research for Los Angeles County. It is also the oldest private foundation in the city.

Each year, the foundation spends up to three million dollars distributing grants and fellowships to individuals at public and private institutions, most of them local. Those funds, in turn, are used to encourage study and research into the underlying causes of social problems within Los Angeles and to recommend ways of addressing them.

For more information on Dr. Sonenshein and The John Randolph Haynes and Dora Haynes Foundation, please visit the foundation website at www.haynesfoundation.org.

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Dr. Raphael J. Sonenshein has been the Pat Brown Institute for Public Affairs (PBI) Executive Director at Cal State LA since 2012, where he has led the development of Civic U, Civic High, the Voices of L.A. survey program, and the Cal State LA candidate debate program. He represents PBI on the steering committee of the Southeast L.A. Collaborative.

Previously, he was Chair of the Division of Politics, Administration, and Justice at CSU Fullerton, where he taught political science and public administration. He received his B.A. from Princeton and his M.A. and Ph.D. from Yale.

Dr. Sonenshein is the author of three books on Los Angeles politics and government and is a highly regarded and influential scholar in the areas of racial and ethnic coalitions and big city politics and government, particularly the Los Angeles region. His first book, *Politics in Black and White: Race and Power in Los Angeles* (Princeton U Press, 1993), won the 1994 Ralph M. Bunche Award from the American Political Science Association as the best political science book of the year on racial and cultural pluralism.

Dr. Sonenshein's research has long drawn support from the Haynes Foundation through research grants. Dr. Sonenshein was one of two awardees to receive the Haynes Foundation Research Impact award. He was also named one of the first Haynes Foundation Fellows and, in that role, designed and implemented a 2001 conference on L.A. governance hosted by the Foundation.

Dr. Sonenshein has been actively engaged in improving local governance and broadening urban democracy. He was an intern in the office of Mayor Tom Bradley and was a field deputy and grants person for 10th district Councilmember David Cunningham.

He served as the Executive Director of the Los Angeles (Appointed) Charter Reform Commission and helped lead the first comprehensive revision of the city charter in 75 years. He also served as Executive Director of the Los Angeles Neighborhood Council Review Commission and has assisted numerous cities in revising their charters.

Dr. Sonenshein was named Best Educator and Distinguished College Faculty Member at CSU Fullerton. He received the Wang Family Excellence Award as one of four professors in the Cal State system for contributions to student success and dedication to CSU's core value of inclusive education. He was the first recipient of the campus-wide Carol Barnes Award for Teaching Excellence.

In the fall of 2008, he held the Fulbright Tocqueville Distinguished Chair in American Studies at the University of Paris VIII. He taught American and Los Angeles racial and ethnic politics to French graduate students, lectured throughout France, and served on several doctoral committees.

Dr. Sonenshein is frequently interviewed in local and statewide media, appearing in the Los Angeles Times, Cal Matters, LAist, KCRW, KNX, local television news, including ABC7, Spectrum 1 L.A., and in national media, including the New York Times, Reuters, and Associated Press. Public officials and community organizations frequently consult him on matters of local governance.

In 2012, Dr. Sonenshein authored the report "We Are Not Giving Up: A Strategy for Homelessness Governance in Los Angeles" on behalf of the Committee for Greater LA. In 2012-2013 he represented Cal State LA on The L.A. Governance Project, an unprecedented six-campus collaboration to develop recommendations for reform of the L.A. city government.