CSULA Emeriti Faculty Biography

Name: William L. Belan

Department: Music

Academic rank: Professor

Year appointed: 1980 **Year retired**: 2010

City of residence: Monterey Park, California

Birth Place: Berkeley, California

Birth Year: 1950 **Marital status**: Married

Spouse or partner's name: Gabriela Belan

Colleges or Universities Attended:	**Year**	**Degree**
UCLA	1972	BA in Music Education
University of Tulsa	1976	Master of Music (Conducting)
University of Oklahoma	1984	DMA (Choral Conducting)

Teaching Experience:

Institution		
University of South Dakota	1979	1980
California State University, Los Angeles	1980	2010
California State University, Long Beach	1993	1993

Courses Taught:

- Research
- Choral Conducting
- Conducing Seminar
- Choral Ensembles
- Applied Voice
- World Music
- Music Appreciation
- Upper Division Writing / Career Development

Administrative, Business, or Professional Experience (other than teaching):

Agency or Company	**From**	**To**
• Acting Chair, Department of Music	1986	1987
• Church Music (various institutions, currently First Unitarian Church of Los Angeles)	1998	2011

Awards, Honors, Professional Recognition:

- Four sabbatical leaves
- Three meritorious performance awards (CSULA)
- Honorary President of Costa Rica Choral Association
- National Chair for Research and Publications, American Choral Directors' Association (current)

Citation of Selected Publications, Presentations, and/or Creative Activities:

- *Choral Essays, A Tribute to Roger Wagner*. Thomas House Publications, 1993.
- *Conductor's Handbook to the English Madrigal*. Gentry Publications, 2007.
- *Conductor's Handbook to the Performance of Latin American Rhythm*. Gentry Publications, 2011.

University Service:

- Program Review Subcommittee
- Graduation/Commencement Committee

Personal commentary:

Costa Rica (CR) has been an important part of my professional work since September, 1986 when I was invited to conduct a concert and teach master classes at the University for Peace in Escazu, Costa Rica. Since that time I have been a guest professor at the National University for three months (1999), and a frequent guest conductor / teacher. I have been invited to CR more than 40 times up to the present.

Consulting: my post-doctoral work at Claremont Graduate University was to study management with the celebrated Professor Peter Drucker. I spent seven years working with Professor Drucker, which has led to many opportunities to consult and be engaged in business, primarily in the not-for-profit sector.

Three-Summer Master of Music Degree: Choral Conducting. This Special Sessions degree program, which I designed in 2001, is offered through the Division of Extended Education. This accredited MM degree program now has more than 100 students enrolled from eight U.S. states, as well as five international countries. This MM program is the largest choral conducting program of its type in the United States.

The Roger Wagner Center for Choral Studies was chartered by President Rosser in July 1988 to promote the study of choral music and the creation of new choral literature. The Center has provided scholarships to choral conducting students, developed an international choral composition competition with financial underwriting from the Wenger Foundation, published a commercial series of choral compositions, and sponsored workshops and conferences. A web site was developed in order to offer an online choral journal of student research, promote the activities of the Robert Wagner Center, and provide access links to other significant choral web pages.

I designed the **Library of Congress "American Choral Music Project"** in 1999 after a national convention in Washington, D.C. In August 2007 a formal agreement was signed between the Library of Congress and the American Choral Directors Association bringing together the two national organizations to assure the project into perpetuity. I continue to serve as a co-director of this project, which identifies prominent American composers and their choral works that are in the public domain. The project is entitled "American Choral Music, 1870-1923." Selected works appear on the library's web site for downloading and performance. Significant introductory information is offered about the composer, the composition, and the style of performance.

Date completed: June 3, 2011