CSULA Emeriti Faculty Biography

Name: Vernon F. Leidig

Department: Music

Academic rank: Professor

Year appointed: 1950 **Year retired**: 1983

City of residence: South Pasadena

Email: vmleidig@aol.com

Birth Place: Monterey, California

Birth Year: 1919 **Marital status**: Married

Spouse or partner's name: Marilyn Appel Leidig

Family information: 1820 – Great great grandfather married Marina Escamilla – Monterey. They had 12 children. Great grandfather Tom Watson was the first sheriff of Monterey County. Great great grandfather (1800) George Leidig built a hotel in Vandalia, IL. This was the first capital of Illinois, and both Lincoln and Douglas stayed in the hotel. Vandalia was the capital of Illinois from 1819 to 1839.

Colleges or Universities Attended:	**Year**	**Degree**
Cal State Santa Barbara	1939-43	BA in Music Education
University of Southern California	1952	MS in Music
University of Southern California	1956	MM in Music Education
University of Southern California	1957	D.M.A.-Music Education

Teaching Experience:

Institution	**From**	**To**
Los Angeles Secondary Schools	1943	1950
California State University, Los Angeles	1950	1983

Courses taught:
Music Education – classes in Strings, Woodwinds, Brass, and Percussion. Graduate Music Education. Advisor – Symphonic Brass Choir – toured, including the Orient.

Awards, Honors, Professional Recognition:

- First Outstanding Professor Award
- Who's Who – 1970
- National Recognition for Music Education Publications - 2008

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

- Publications include over 50 movements of symphonies and overtures arranged for middle schools, high schools, honor orchestras and adult orchestras, and
- Three books:
    - *Contemporary Brass Techniques*

    - *Contemporary Woodwind Techniques*
    - *Contemporary Percussion Techniques and Method* (Highland Music Co., 1960).
- Visual Band Methods for various instruments
- Orchestral Albums
- Over 200 publications, 116 of which are still available on Amazon.com.

University Service:

- Director of the brass choir, 1950-1983
- In 1963 the CSULA Brass Choir was selected by the USO to entertain troops in Guam, Okinawa, Japan and Korea for 8 weeks. This included two women and 13 men (a variety show).

Personal commentary:

I taught on the old Vermont Avenue campus from 1950 to 1956. Then we moved to temporary buildings on the present campus. The Vermont buildings consisted of Quonset huts with no air conditioning, but now I feel the students did excel and they were some of the finest I ever had. They were eager to learn and become outstanding teachers. Some later became professors at universities and music supervisors of school districts.

We were on the semester system, and students had more time for maturation of knowledge and skills. Before we heard that in 1967 we were going on the quarter system, I studied the time in class and the credit for professors. We were informed that the three unit semester class would be 4.5 units on the quarter system. Most 3 unit semester classes would become 4 units on the quarter system. This means that the professor was teaching 12 semester units per semester or 24 per year, 8 classes total.

Now, in the quarter system, professors would teach 12 quarter units or 3 classes per quarter, which would be 36 quarter system units per year or 9 classes, with no extra pay. In addition, classes that were 1 and 2 unit semester classes would become 1 and 2 quarter units.

Also students and professors were short changed. There were 6 week summer sessions on the semester system and professors would receive extra pay. It appeared to me that the semester system was superior for the students and for the professors. I wrote an article entitled “The Quarter Quandary,” which was published in the Pasadena Star-News.

These are some of my experiences teaching at CSULA for 33 years.

Date completed: January 2011