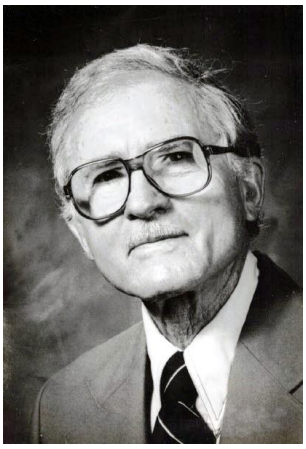
CSULA Emeriti Faculty Biography Questionnaire



Name: Richard Gordon Lillard

Department: English

Academic rank: Professor

Year appointed: 1965 **Year retired**: 1976

City of residence: Los Angeles

If you desire to share your email, please list the relevant information:
lillard@uidaho.edu (daughter Monique Lillard)

Birth Place: Los Angeles

Birth Year: 1909 **Marital status**: Married

Spouse or partner's name: Louise Davis Lillard

Family information: Father was J. B. Lillard (first president of Sacramento City College); grandfather James H. Hoose (professor of education at USC), daughter Monique C. Lillard (professor emerita of law, University of Idaho).

Colleges or Universities Attended:	**Year**	**Degree**
Stanford University	1930	BA in English
University of Montana	1931	MA in English
Harvard University, graduate study		American history and English
University of Iowa	1943	PhD in American Civilization

Teaching Experience:

Institution	**From**	**To**
Los Angeles City College 1933-32, 1932-42, and	1949	1965
UCLA	1947	1949

Courses taught:

Basic English, Melville, Dickinson, Twain, Creative Writing and others.

Description of Scholarly/Creative Activity (for the general reader):

Published many articles, 1932-1986, on history, American Literature, American Studies, and the environment. Published eight books and a monthly column "About Nature" in Westways Magazine. Was considered an early pioneer in the environmental movement in Southern California. A nature park on the Los Angeles River is named after him: the Richard G. Lillard Outdoor Classroom. https://mrca.ca.gov/parks/park-listing/richard-lillard-outdoor-classroom/.

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

Agency or Company	**From**	**To**
Foreman, Los Angeles County Grand Jury	1978	1979
Chairman, Board of Scholars and Consultants, El Pueblo de Los Angeles State Historic Park	1979	1979
President, Forest History Society, Durham, NC	1985	1989

Awards, Honors, Professional Recognition:

Outstanding Professor, California State University Los Angeles, 1968.

FELLOW, Historical Society of Southern California, 1989.

Selected Publications, Presentations and/or Creative Activities:

America in Fiction, with Otis W. Coan, Knopf, 1941.
Desert Challenge: An Interpretation of Nevada, Knopf, 1942.
The Great Forest, Knopf, 1947.
American Life in Autobiography, Stanford U. Press, 1956.
Eden in Jeopardy: Man's Prodigal Meddling with the Environment -- the Southern California Experience, Knopf, 1966.
The Great Southwest, American West Publishing, 1972.
Hank and Horace: An Enduring Episode in Western History, with Mary Hood, Wilmac Press, 1973.
My Urban Wilderness in the Hollywood Hills: A Year of Years on Quito Lane, University Press of America, 1983.
Editor, Letters from the Orange Empire by G. Harold Powell, *Hist. Soc. So. Cal*, 1990.
"About Nature," monthly column in *Westways Magazine*, 1972-80.

University Service:

Chair, English Department, Cal State L.A., 1971-74.

Personal commentary:

Richard Lillard died in March 1990. When he was chair of the English Dept. at Cal State L.A., he worked with students and other faculty to create the Departments of Pan-African Studies, Chicano Studies, and Women's Studies. His daughter is available to share more information about him. lillard@uidaho.edu.

Date completed: January 2022