# CSULA Emeriti Faculty Biography

**Name:** Kenneth A. Wagner

**Department:** Political Science

**Academic rank:** Professor

**Year appointed:** 1969 **Year retired:** 2001

**FERP years:** 2001-2006



**City of residence:** South Pasadena

**Email:** kandjwaggs@gmail.com

**Birth Place:** Aberdeen, South Dakota

**Birth Year:** 1936

**Marital status**: Married since 1960 to Joan Wagner

**Family information:** Three children: Lon, Lynn, and Daniel and seven grandchildren

**Colleges or Universities Attended:**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| South Dakota State University | BS in Political Science | 1959 |
| South Dakota State University | M.Ed. Social Science | 1964 |
| University of Iowa | Ph.D. Political Science | 1970 |

| **Teaching Experience:** | **From:** | **To:** |
|---|---|---|
| Watertown, South Dakota, Secondary School | | |
| Teacher of American History and Government | 1960 | 1966 |
| California State University, Los Angeles | 1969 | 2006 |

**Courses taught:**

- Judicial Process
- Judicial Behavior
- American Constitutional Law: Civil Rights
- American Constitutional Law: Federalism
- American Constitutional Law: Civil Liberties
- Comparative Judicial Systems
- Government and American Society
- Introduction to Political Science
- Quantitative Methods
- Community Service Internships
- Independent Supervised Studies
- Social Science and Law
- Political Socialization
- Pro-seminar in Legal Process
- Seminar in Public Law
- Rights and Justice in Communication and Politics

**Awards, Honors, Professional Recognition:**

- Principal Investigator, Co-Director, or leadership team member for research grants awarded by the Cleveland Foundation, the Spencer Foundation of Chicago, The Commission on the Bicentennial of the U.S. Constitution (2), the National Endowment for the Humanities (6) and the California History-Social Science Project. The six National Endowment for the Humanities grants totaled more than $595,000.00. They each involved four-week Institutes for secondary school teachers of American History and Government that were held on our campus.
- I received a monetary award for Meritorious Performance and Professional Promise and an Innovative Instruction Award for a Prototype Integrated course for the Model Teacher Education Program.
- I served as President of the Southern California Political Science Association and served, for several years, on the Executive Council of the Pacific Coast Association of Prelaw Advisors.

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

- "The Civic Awareness of Five- and Six-Year-Olds," The Western Political Quarterly 29 (September 1976), with S. Moore, J. Lare and S. McHargue, pp. 410 -424.
- "Developing Notions of Law and Morality in Kindergarten Through Third Grade School Children: A Longitudinal Perspective," Proceedings of the Eighth Annual Conference on Piagetian Theory (Los Angeles, University of Southern California, 1983), with J. Lare and S. Moore, pp. 464 – 470.
- *The Child's Political World: A Longitudinal Perspective* (New York: Praeger, 1985) with S. Moore and J. Lare.
- *Becoming Informed Citizens: Lessons on the Constitution for Junior High Students* (Claremont, CA: Regina Books, 1988) with J. Hyland, D. Dewey and V. Rettinger.
- "American Government and Politics for Future Teachers," in Teaching Teachers About Law in the 90s: Models Methods and Means (American Bar Association, 1993), pp. 7-9.
- *Becoming Informed Citizens: Lessons on the Bill of Rights for Secondary School Students* (Claremont, CA: Regina Books, 1995) with D. Dewey and J. Hyland.
- *Becoming Informed Citizens: Lessons on the Constitution for Secondary School Students*, revised ed. (Claremont, CA: Regina Books, 1995) with D. Dewey, J. Hyland and V. Rettinger.
- *Controversial Presidential Elections: The Electoral College and the Elections of 1800, 1824, 1876 and 2000* (Claremont, CA: Regina Books, 2001) with D. Dewey and J. Hyland.

I demonstrated how the lessons on the Bill of Rights and the Constitution convey effectively the history and politics of these documents at an American Bar Association Meeting in Chicago, at an Institute for mentor teachers from 14 western states held at Willamette University, at meetings of the National Council of the Social Studies in New York and Chicago, at the California State University System-wide Civic Education Enhancement Project Conference and at several annual meetings of the California Council for the Social Studies throughout California. I was the principal author for all of these lesson books that have been used by more than one thousand teachers in California and throughout the nation.

**University Service:**

- Associate Department Chairperson, 1970-1975, 1886-1991, 1996-2001.
- Director, Social and Behavioral Science Data Archive, 1970-1980 and 1983-1985.
- Organizational Representative, Inter-University Consortium for Political and Social Research, 1970-1974, 1976-1980, and 1983-1985.
- I was one of three system representatives – with Betty Nesvold (Cal State Long Beach) and Philip Gianos (Cal State Fullerton) – who negotiated our system-wide membership in the Inter-University Consortium for Political and Social Research at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor.
- Department Chairperson, 1980-1983.
- University Representative, Systemwide Social Science Research and Instructional Council, 1976-1980 and 1983-1985.
- Committee on Committees, 1991-1996, Vice Chairperson 1996.
- Academic Senate, alternate 1982-1984, Vice Chairperson Summer 1984.
- University Liaison to the Law School Admissions Council.
- Faculty Advisor for the Los Angeles Superior Court Judicial Internship Program, 1983 - 1991.
- University Principal Prelaw Advisor, 1985-1999.
- Social Science Representative to the Systemwide Civic Education Enhancement Project, 1987-1989.

At the School level, I served multiple years, frequently as Chairperson or Secretary, on the Assembly, Elections Committee, Academic Resources, Instructional Affairs, Faculty Affairs and personal committees, A and B as well as Retention and Tenure.

At the Department level, I often served as Chairperson of Committees A and B, Peer Review, Chair Selection, Instructional Affairs, Faculty Affairs, Graduate Affairs, Recruitment, Part-time Personnel, FAR 1, 2 and 3, as well as Scholarship Coordinator.

**Personal Commentary:**

During my years at CSULA I was privileged to be part of several "firsts." In 1970, I was our first campus representative to the Inter-University Consortium for Political and Social Research. At the same time I created and became Director of the Campus Social and Behavioral Science Data Archive.

In 1983, I became the Campus Faculty Advisor for the newly created Los Angeles Superior Court Judicial Internship Program. I supervised a select group of students each year who spent approximately six hours per week with a judge in both a criminal and a civil Court. The internship gives students confidence that they can be successful In law school.

In Fall quarter 1997, I taught the first prototype integrated course in the innovative Model Teacher Education Program. I was selected to team teach the American Government and Politics Couse as a result of my involvement with several Summer NEA Institutes for Secondary School teachers of American Government and the subsequent writing and publication of lesson materials concerning the US Constitution and the Bill of Rights.

In my late ‘70s I still enjoy playing Senior Softball and golf as well as spending time with grandchildren, doing my own yard work, and being involved in activities at church.

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