



Dan O'Connor, Ph.D.

*Interim Associate Dean, College of Liberal Arts
California State University, Long Beach*

Dan O'Connor currently serves as Interim Associate Dean of the College of Liberal Arts at California State University, Long Beach. Prior to this appointment, Dan served as Chair of the Academic Senate, where he facilitated university-wide conversations and legislation on matters critical to the university community.

For eight years, Dan also chaired the Department of Liberal Studies at CSULB. In this role, he helped design, develop, and administer one of the top programs in the CSU for undergraduate preparation of future elementary teachers. The Integrated Teacher Education Program (ITEP) and Urban Teaching Experience and Academics in a Clinical Home program (UTEACH) have received national and international accolades for their excellence in teacher preparation.

Dan is a recognized leader in the professional development of higher education faculty. He has conducted seminars for faculty at CSULB, local community colleges, and from universities in China and India.

Teaching has always been Dan's passion. He has twice been awarded the "Most Valuable Professor" award at CSULB's commencement ceremonies. As part of his teaching practice, Dan has taken several groups of students to New Orleans during Alternative Spring Break where they have assisted in the rebuilding efforts following the devastation of Hurricane Katrina. For three of the last four years, Dan has taught a winter session study-abroad course in Ireland.

Dan's research interests are in the area of American political thought. He has given many invited lectures and professional papers on the works of John Dewey and democratic theory. He earned a Bachelor's degree in political theory from UC Berkeley and a Ph.D. in political theory from UCLA. Dan also holds a Certified Specialist of Wine certificate from the Society of Wine Educators.