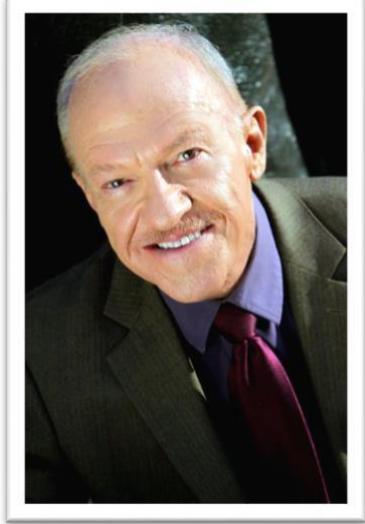


2021 Panunzio Awardee: Wayne Cornelius

Wayne Cornelius, UC San Diego, Professor Emeritus of Political Science, retired in 2009. He joined the UCSD faculty in 1979 and was named Distinguished Professor of Political Science in 1997. He has long been a pre-eminent scholar in Mexican studies and a pioneering researcher on Mexican migration to the United States, and involved in the founding of several important academic institutes, notably UC MEXUS and the Mexican Migration Field Research and Training Program at UCSD, for which he still serves as faculty director. In Cornelius' years after retirement he continued his superb research, visionary program development, invaluable service and application of his professional expertise and research to critical social and political issues, as well as continued to teach and take students to rural Mexico to conduct fieldwork until 2015.



Professor Emeritus Cornelius has been highly productive since retirement, including 56 publications, 13 edited books, in addition to several works written for general audiences. His public national outreach has included 104 op-ed pieces (in major US & Mexican papers); segments on PBS News Hour and CBS “60 Minutes”; and more recently his devotion to high school education. Since retirement he has also turned to global health issues and become part of the core faculty in the Global Public Health Division of the UCSD Medical School; thus he has published in medical journals as well as continuing his interdisciplinary work in the social sciences.

Cornelius' expertise on immigration policy has been long sought-out by public officials and presidential administrations. He was a policy advisor to both candidates Pete Buttigieg and Joe Biden during the 2020 election cycle; has testified before Congress and was more recently an advisor to President Biden's transition team on U.S. immigration and asylum policy. He is a true public intellectual with a real-word impact. In 2012, Mexican President Filipe Calderon awarded Cornelius the Orden Mexicana del Águila Azteca – Mexico's highest honor for non-citizens.

In 2020, already ten years into retirement, he received the Kalman Silvert Award for Distinguished Lifetime Achievement by the 13,000 members of the Latin American Studies Association.