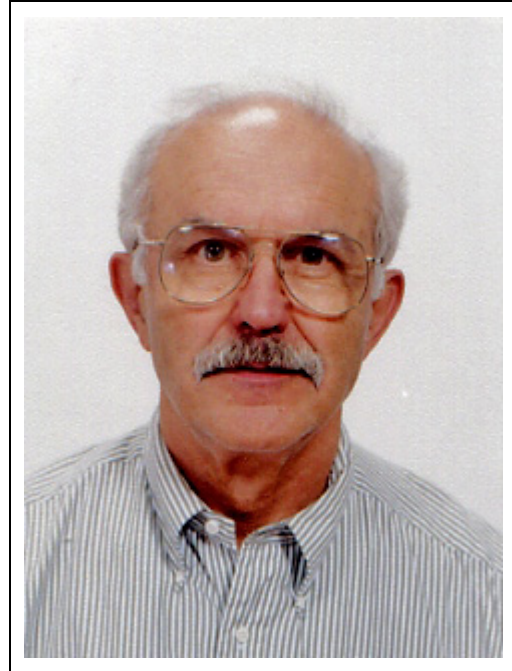


## San José State University Emeritus Faculty Association Biography

**Name:** Roland Hamilton  
**Department:** Foreign Languages  
**Academic Rank:** Professor  
**Year Retired:** 2005  
**City of Residence:** Los Gatos CA



**Facebook Page or Website URL:**

**Birthplace:** Newhall CA                      **Birth Year:** 1936

**Marital Status:** married      **Spouse or Partner's Name:** Celia Zapata

**Children's Names:** Roland Jr. and Paul

**No. of Grandchildren:** 1                      **No. of Great Grandchildren:** 0

<b>Colleges or Universities Attended:</b>	<b>Year</b>	<b>Degree</b>
Sacramento State	1986	BA, Spanish
San José State	1990	MA, Spanish
University of Madrid, Spain	1993	Ph.D. Spanish

<b>Teaching Experience:</b>	<b>From</b>	<b>To</b>
San José State University	1968	2005

## **San José State University Emeritus Faculty Association Biography**

Spanish; Spanish American History

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

SJSU Coordinator, Spanish sections, 2002-5.

Association of Teachers of Spanish and Portuguese, President, 1972.

Association of Foreign Language Teachers, President, 1973.

Institute of Andean Studies, 1970-present.

### **Selected Publications:**

*History of the Inca Empire*, University of Texas Press, 1979.

*Inca Religion and Customs*, University of Texas Press, 1990.

*Narrative of the Incas*, University of Texas Press, 2002.

*The First New Chronicle and Good Government*, 2009.

### **Personal Commentary (please limit comments to one page):**

When I was born my parents lived in Los Angeles, but my uncle on my mother's side was a medical doctor, and he had a hospital in the little town of Newhall, northwest of Los Angeles. My father took my mother to the hospital of my uncle, Dr. Wesley Innis, and my mother's sister Marguerite. My uncle and aunt helped my mother give birth to me.

My father had a garment cleaning business in Los Angeles. When I was three years old, my grandmother on my father's side died, and my folks moved with my brother, Sonny, two years older than me to live on my grandfather's pear farm near the little town of Camino, between Sacramento and Lake Tahoe on Highway 50.

I enjoyed life on the farm, and played in the yard, the orchard and a near by forest. I had a pet chick that I called Pete, but when Pete grew up he turned into a hen and lost interest in me and went for the rooster.

When I was about 10 my father bought a big pear farm in an area between Placerville and Coloma, the gold discovery site. I had learned to ride horses back from my grandfather on my mother's side, and soon bought my own horse, Joe. Later I sold Joe and bought a race horse named Blazer. I had great fun galloping Blazer across the wide fields my father owned.

I went on to study Spanish seriously, lived a year in Caracas, Venezuela, where I

## **San José State University Emeritus Faculty Association Biography**

taught English, and on to Madrid, Spain, where I got a doctorate in Romance Philology, the study of the grammar of Spanish, French, Italian and Portuguese. At the time I was teaching Spanish at San José State University, which I did from 1968 until I retired in 2005. Now my professional activity is translating books written in Peru in Spanish and Quechua, the main Indian language of Peru. The University of Texas Press just published my fourth book, *The First New Chronicle and Good Government*, finished by the author Guaman Poma in 1615.

I met my wife, Celia, at San José State; she is from Argentina and taught Spanish at San José State. In retirement we live in Los Gatos and do a lot of reading and have conversations on our reading almost every night.

**Date Completed:** November 30, 2010