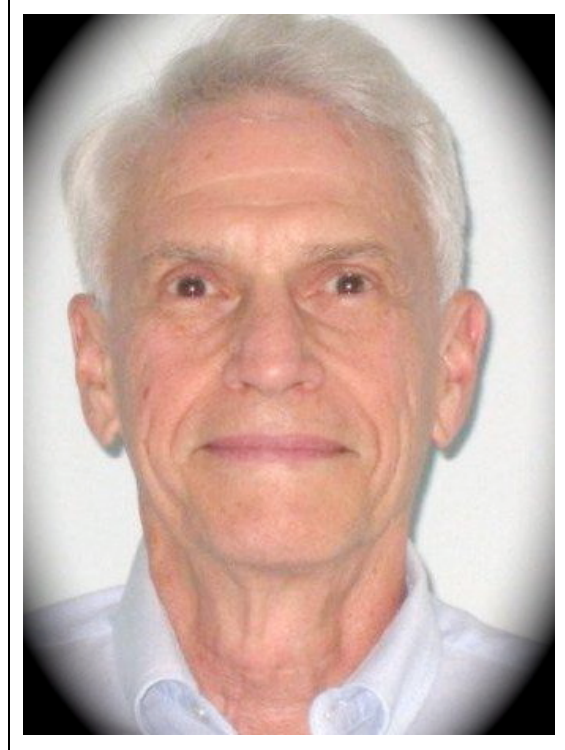


San José State University Emeritus Faculty Association Biography

Name: Don Keeseey
Department: English and Humanities
Academic Rank: Professor
Year Retired: 2006
City of Residence: San Jose, CA



Facebook Page or Website URL:

Birthplace: Cleveland, Ohio **Birth Year:** 1937

Marital Status: Married **Spouse or Partner's Name:** Phyllis

Children's Names: Douglas, Kathryn, Scott

No. of Grandchildren: 4 **No. of Great Grandchildren:**

Colleges or Universities Attended:	Year	Degree
Miami University, Oxford Ohio	1959	B.A.
Michigan State University	1960	M.A.
Michigan State University	1964	Ph.D.

Teaching Experience: **From** **To**

San José State University Emeritus Faculty Association Biography

Michigan State University	1961	1963
University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee	1963	1965
San Jose State University	1965	2006

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

Associate Dean, Humanities and Arts, 1985-1987

Graduate Co-ordinator, English, 1990-2001

Academic Senator, three terms

Selected Publications:

"Contexts for Criticism, " 4th ed. New York, McGraw-Hill, 2003

Against Theory. "Philosophy and Literature," 10 (1986)

The Difficulties of Reader-Response Criticism. "The Journal of Literary Theory," 5 (1985): 15-25

The Distorted Image: Swift's Yahoos and the Critics. "Papers on Language and Literature," 15 (1979): 320-32

Aristotle's Catharsis. "The Classical World," 72 (1978): 193-205

Personal Commentary (please limit comments to one page):

When San Jose State celebrated its 150 years in 2006, I was moved to check the records, and I discovered that I hadn't been teaching there quite that long. Still, I had a lengthy run, and a lucky one. I was lucky to come into the CSU at a time when it was the nation's leader in providing high-quality and low-cost education to middle- and working- class students. I was lucky to find many collegial colleagues and benign administrators, not only in English and Humanities but across the campus. I was lucky to have countless students whose level of maturity and interest made discussing literature a pleasure. Above all, I was lucky to have a job where I got paid to read books and talk about them. I got into university teaching because I couldn't think of anything I'd rather do. Forty years on, I still couldn't. For me, it was the ideal union of vocation and avocation.

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