

PERSONAL INFORMATION:

Dr. Carl J. Wenning, Department of Physics, Illinois State University

Carl Wenning was director of the Physics Teacher Education program at Illinois State University from 1994 through 2008. He has been a member of the university's Physics Department since 1978. Because Wenning was a certified high school physics teacher, he was given the opportunity to lead the department's Physics Teacher Education (PTE) program. Starting with only five PTE majors and two physics teaching methods courses, the program has since grown to include more than 40 PTE majors and six required undergraduate PTE courses.

Wenning is past president and currently president-elect of the Illinois Section of the American Association of Physics teachers, and current chair of its Ad Hoc Committee for High School Physics Teacher Recruitment, Preparation, and Retention. He has developed several recruitment resources, and is working with a variety of state and national science teacher organizations to increase the number of high school science teacher candidates.

Wenning is now retired but is working part-time on a number of physics teacher education projects, including the National Institute for Physics Teacher Educators.