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CURRICULUM VITAE

EDUCATION

Ph.D. Literature / Writing: University of Louisiana at Lafayette, 1994.

M.F.A: University of Iowa Writers Workshop, 1989.

B.A. Literature / Writing (Highest Honors): University of California at Santa Cruz, 1987.

A.A. Liberal Arts (Honors): Cabrillo College, 1984.

ACADEMIC POSTIONS AND UNIVERSITY TEACHING

PROFESSOR OF WRITING AND LITERATURE: Point Loma Nazarene University, 2002-Present, Tenured 2006. ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR, 2000-02. Freshman Writing, World Literature II & III, Poetry (LIT 207, Gen Ed), Poetry (LIT 457, Major course), Advanced Composition, Writing for Professional Careers, Fiction Writing, Creative Nonfiction Writing, Poetry Writing, Intro to Creative Writing, Literary Magazine Laboratory, British Writers II, American Writers II, Special Studies in C.S. Lewis (LIT 490), Honors seminar on C.S. Lewis (Wesleyan Center). Mark Twain Seminar. Irish and Scots Literature (Study Abroad), Advanced Writing Workshop.

ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR OF ENGLISH: Taylor University, 1995-2000. Tenured 1998. ASSISTANT PROFESSOR, 1993-95. American Literature, Fiction Writing, Poetry Writing, Business and Technical Writing, Imaginative Writing, Advanced Writing Workshop, Freelance Writing, Expository Writing, Developmental Writing, American Literature, Adolescent Literature, Intermediate and Advanced Poetry, Advanced Fiction, Writing for Publication, Writing the Novel, Writing For Children, Mark Twain Seminar, C. S. Lewis Seminar, Freshman Seminar, Conference Workshop on C.S. Lewis (at Wheaton).

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF ENGLISH: Lakeland College, 1991-93. Fiction Workshop, C.S. Lewis Seminar, Mark Twain Seminar, Interpretation of Literature, Freshman Seminar, Basic English, Persuasive Writing, Slavery and the Civil War, Lincoln Seminar, Reading and Composition for E F L Students (Japan affiliate campus).

INSTRUCTOR: University of Southwestern Louisiana, 1989-91. Introduction to Literature, English Composition, Remedial Writing, Writing Lab.

TEACHING ASSISTANT: University of Iowa English Department, 1987-89. Interpretation of Literature, Narrative Literature, American Lives (Honors).

INSTRUCTOR: University of California at Santa Cruz, 1985-86. Lower-division poetry and fiction workshops.

ADMINISTRATION / CONSULTING / EDITORIAL

Section Head: LJML Writing Major. 2008-Present.

President, Friends of Freddy: Children's Lit Association for Appreciation of Walter R. Brooks, 2010-2012

Faculty / Consultant: San Diego Christian Writers Conference 2011.

Conference Chair and Editor of conference book: C.S. Lewis and Friends International

Colloquium at Taylor University, 2006, 2004, 2001, 1999, 1997.

Presiding Professor, Wesleyan Center C.S. Lewis Honors Seminar, PLNU, 2004.

Chair, Creative Writing Senior Honors projects, PLNU 2002 and 2004. Grantwriting volunteer, St. Clare's Home for Indigent Women, 2003.

Marketing consultant for ThermoCore International, 2001.

Final Judge, Kokomo Poet's Circle regional poetry competition, 2000.

Academic Advisory Board: *C.S. Lewis: An Examined Life*, a documentary film by Georgia Public Broadcasting.

Literature Panelist, Indiana Arts Commission, 1996.

Sponsor/Executive Editor, *The Driftwood* (Point Loma Nazarene University), 2000-Present.

Sponsor/Executive Editor, Parnassus (Taylor University), 1993-2000.

Fiction Workshop Chair, Great Lakes Writers' Conference, 1991-92.

Faculty Sponsor, Farrago (Lakeland College), 1992-93.

Fiction Editor, Iowa Journal of Literary Studies, 1987-88.

Poetry Editorial Staff, Quarry West, 1985-86.

Editor, Voices in Flight, (Cabrillo College), 1984.

PUBLICATIONS: Poetry

BOOKS

"Dog City After Dark." Anthologized in *Imago Dei: Poems from Christianity and Literature,*Abilene Christian University Press 2012;

Wants and Needs: Slelected Poetry. Self-Published, 2009

No Hands: Selected Poetry. Point Loma Press, 2003.

"Reverie in the Nakashuma Middle-Management Lunchroom" Anthologized in *The Hermit Kingdom.* Texas Tech UP, 1995. Originally published in *Half-Tones to Jubilee*, 1989.

"Scratching the Surface" Anthologized in *Poems That Go Thump in the Dark*, Summer 1994. Originally published in *Plains Poetry Journal*, Spring 1990.

JOURNALS

"Wants and Needs." Texas Poetry Journal, Winter 2005. Also chosen "Poem of the Week" on the TPJ website, October, 2004.

"Dog City After Dark" and "Fat Tuesday." *Christianity and Literature*, Winter 2000. "Dog City" also anthologized in *Christianity and Literature's Best of Fifty Years* issue. 2001.

"Searching for the Classic American Poem of the Late-Twentieth Century." *Insights,* March/April 1997. "

If Great Uncle Bill Were Alive He'd Be Turning in his Grave." *Insights, May/June 1997.* "Faith." *Penwood Review, 1997.*

"Dog City After Dark" and "The Groundhog." The Flying Island, Fall/Winter 1995.

"Ash Wednesday." The Emmaus Journey, March 1995.

"The Forerunner." Hayden's Ferry Review, Fall/Winter 1994.

"In a Crowd of Poets at the Hiroshima Memorial," "Sunset Beach," "Tattoos," *Habasham Review*, vol. III, No. 2. Autumn 1994. 161-167.

"Dear Brother." Southwestern Review, 1992.

"Big Boy." Georgia Review, Spring 1991.

"So Far So Good?" Piedmont Literary Review, 1991.

"Cross Currents." Plains Poetry Journal, Spring 1990.

PUBLICATIONS

Poetry in Journals (continued)

"Conversation With a Pro." Iowa Journal of Literary Studies, 1989.

"Steve LaHara Commits a Rash Act and Regrets It Very Much" Birmingham Review, 1989.

"King Timur." Plains Poetry Journal, 1988.

"Slip Knot." College Magazine (a national publication), 1988.

"Keroacitis." Poultry, 1988.

"Apotheosis." Zyzzyva, 1987.

"Small Claims, Upstairs." (Pushcart Nomination) Quarry West, 1986.

"Scared Rabbit." Piedmont Literary Review, 1986.

Fiction

Novel: Last One to Kansas City is a Hippie. LaHara Media, 2013

"Save Your Breath" (short Story) Carve 2007.

"West of Feltis" (short story), Faultline, 2002.

"Wet Spring" (novel excerpt), Southwestern Review, 1991.

"Larry Vs. Poison Oak" (novel excerpt), *Iowa Journal of Literary Studies*, 1989.

"The Special" (short story), Grue, 1988.

"Patience" (short story), Alchemy, 1987.

"Tex on the Horn" (novel excerpt) Porter Gulch Review, 1987.

"Straight Talk from Tex" (novel excerpt) Porter Gulch Review, 1986.

Drama Production

Showdown at Rancho Grande, one-act play performed by the Gaslight Players, Lafayette Louisiana, Spring 1992.

PUBLICATIONS

Published Books / Journal Articles / Creative Nonfiction

We're All From Somewhere Else: A Southern California Childhood. Cultural Memoir. LaHara Media, 2014

Teaching C.S. Lewis with Lyle Smith. Cambridge Scholars Press, 2007.

Mark Twain Among the Scholars: Rethinking Contemporary Twain Criticism. Editor, with Jim McWilliams: Whitston Press, 2002.

Inklings Forever: Essays Presented at the Second Frances White Ewbank Colloquium on C.S. Lewis and Friends. Editor, five volumes: Taylor U Press, 1997, 1999, 2001, 2003, 2006.

- "Efficacy in Prayer," "On Obstinacy in Belief," "Lilies That Fester," "Lewis on Atheism," "Lewis on Corruption of Nature," "Lewis on Faith," "Lewis on Paganism," "Lewis on Hell," "Lewis on Purgatory." Signed articles in C.S. Lewis: A Reader's Encyclopedia. Ed. Jeffrey Schultz: Zondervan, 1998.
- "A Mixed-Up and Splendid Ending." *Readings in Huckleberry Finn*. Greenhaven Literary Companion Series. San Diego: Greenhaven, 1998.
- "Overreaching: Critical Agenda and the End of Huckleberry Finn." *Adventures of Huckleberry Finn: A Case Study in Critical Controversy.* Boston: Bedford/St. Martins, 1995. Originally published in *Texas Studies in Literature and Language* 33:4 (Winter 1993). Also reprinted on CD ROM by the University of Buffalo Huckleberry Finn Project, 2001.
- "You've Come a Long Way, Dude—A History." American Speech 69.3, Winter 1994.
- "Mark Twain in Washington" and "Mark Twain on Government." *The Mark Twain Encyclopedia*. Ed. James D. Wilson, 1992.
- "Phil Ochs and the Old Prof, 1969." Chronicles of Culture (Sept 1988).

Reviews, Columns, Endorsements, Critical Evaluations, and Annotated Bibliographies

- Back cover endorsement. Irrigating Deserts: C. S. Lewis on Education by Joel Heck. Concordia Publishing, 2006.
- Internet columnist for PulseMedia International: Thirty-six columns on literature, travel, religion, health, and pop culture. 2004 2005.
- Review: Tasting the Dust, by Jean Janzen. Christianity and Literature, Winter, 2001.
- Character Analysis and Critical Evaluation for *Seventeen* by Booth Tarkington. *Cyclopedia of Literary Characters*, Revised Edition. Los Angeles: Salem, 1998.

PUBLICATIONS

Reviews, Columns, Endorsements, Critical Evaluations, and Annotated Bibliographies (continued)

- Author profiles and bibliographies: *Charles Jackson, Isaac Bashevis Singer, Booth Tarkington, Tom Wolfe, Herman Wouk*. Signed articles in *Cyclopedia of World Authors*, Revised Edition. Salem, 1997.
- Critical Evaluation and Bibliography: *On the Road* by Jack Kerouac. *Masterplots: Twentieth Anniversary Revised Second Edition*. Salem, 1996.
- Critical Evaluation and Bibliography: *The Lost Weekend* by Charles Jackson. *Masterplots: Twentieth Anniversary Revised Second Edition.* Salem, 1997
- Critical Evaluation: Starship Troopers by Robert A. Heinlein. Magill's Guide to Science Fiction and Fantasy Literature. Salem, 1996.
- Review: Thornton Wilder: A Reference Guide, 1926-1990. Bulletin of Bibliography 52, Sept. 1995.
- Review: Sir Richard Burton: A Biobibliographical Study. Bulletin of Bibliography 47:3, Sept. 1990.
- Reviews: Television Network Prime-Time Programming, 1948-88; Unsold Television Pilots: 1955-1988; Gunsmoke: A Complete History. Bulletin of Bibliography 47:4, Dec. 1990.

READINGS / LECTURES / CONFERENCE PAPERS / PRESENTATIONS

- Plenum Speaker: Teaching C.S. Lewis": C.S. Lewis and Friends International Conference, Taylor University, May 28, 2014
- Lecture Series on C.S. Lewis. San Diego School of Christian Studies, Winter and Fall, 2005-2008.
- Lecture Series on C.S. Lewis. First Methodist Church, San Diego. 2001, 2003, 2005.
- Essay: "The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe: Subversive Book, Subversive Film?" Essay / Lecture for the San Diego School of Christian Studies, December 2005.
- "He Said He Was a Dinosaur: C.S. Lewis and Chronological Snobbery in Academia." C.S. Lewis Southwest Conference, Oklahoma City University, April 2003.
- "Iconoclasts of a Feather: C.S. Lewis and Mark Twain." C.S. Lewis Summer Institute, Oxford and Cambridge, July 2002.

READINGS / LECTURES / CONFERENCE PAPERS / PRESENTATIONS (continued)

- Reading: Selected Poems. PLNU Literature, Journalism, and Modern Languages Literary Tea. November 2001, October 2004.
- Panel on Teaching C.S. Lewis. Frances White Ewbank Colloquium on C.S. Lewis and Friends, Taylor University, November 2001.
- "The Gently Sloping, Unmarked Path: C.S. Lewis's Vision of Hell." Frances White Ewbank Colloquium on C.S. Lewis and Friends, Taylor University, November 2001.
- Poetry Reading/Teleconference. Cedarville Reading Series, Cedarville College, May 2001 "Chapbooks as Capstone in Creative Writing Courses." AWP International Conference. Published in The Pedagogy Papers 2001. Fairfax VA: Associated Writing Programs, 2001.
- Poetry Reading and lecture, Cedarville Reading Series, Cedarville College, March 2000.
- "Move Over, John Bunyan?: C.S. Lewis in the 21st Century" and "C.S. Lewis's Unconventional View of Hell." Weekend Seminar, St. Michaels Episcopal Church, Toledo, Ohio, March 2000.
- "Past the Ravening Lions of Presentism: Lewis and Future Chronological Snobbery." C.S. Lewis and Friends Colloquium, Taylor University, November 1999.
- Selected Poems. Indiana College English Association Conference, October 1999.
- "C.S. Lewis in the Next Century." Lecture and panelist for the Forester Lecture Series, Huntington College, November 1998.
- "Mixed Genre Writing Ice Breaker." AWP International Conference, April 1998. Published in *The Pedagogy Papers*. Laurie Drummond, ed. Fairfax VA: Associated Writing Programs, 1998.
- Reading: Selected Poetry. Taylor University Preview Days, March 1997.
- "Faith, Fact, and Fiction: Hawthorne's Fatal Choices between Reason and Moral Imperative." Indiana College English Association Conference, October 1996.
- Selected Poems. Indiana College English Association Conference, October 1996. "Group Poems Under Pressure." Associated Writing Programs National Conference, April 1996.
- Selected Poems. Mideast Christianity and Literature Conference, October 1995. "Fiction From Real Life: A Teaching Guide for Creative Writing." AWP International Conference
- 1995. Published in *The Pedagogy Papers*. Sellers, Heather and Lori Marsdorf, eds. Norfolk VA: Associated Writing Programs, 1995.
- "The Prophetic Edge of the Twentieth Century: Notes on the British 'Tragic Comedians.'" Indiana College English Association conference, Muncie, IN. October 1994.
- Selected Poems. Indiana College English Association Conference, October 1994.

READINGS / LECTURES / CONFERENCE PAPERS / PRESENTATIONS (continued)

"The Damnation of Theron Ware: A Hardshell Methodist Redemption Tract?" Conference on Christianity and Literature, Mississippi, March 1994.

"Dude, A History." (language /popular culture) Louisiana Philological Association, Spring 1991.

FELLOWSHIPS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

Wesleyan Center Summer Writing Fellowship, PLNU 2004. Wesleyan Center Grant for Monograph Series publication, PLNU 2003

PLNU Alumni Association Grant, PLNU 2002.

Provost Discretionary Award for International Conference Paper, PLNU 2002.

Full doctoral fellowship: University of Louisiana, 1989-91.

Graduate Assistantship: Iowa Writers' Workshop, 1987-89.

Irvine Full Tuition Scholarship: UCSC, 1986-87.

Shaffer Tuition Scholarship: Cabrillo College, 1984.

Flores Scholarship for Outstanding English Student: Cabrillo College, 1984.

AWARDS

Winner, San Diego Book Awards Unpublished Memoir 2011.

Semi-Finalist, San Diego Book Awards, 2002. Included in "Best of Fifty Years" issue of Christianity and Literature, 2001.

Finalist, Black Dirt National Poetry Contest, 1998.

Midwest Writing Conference Poetry Prize, 1995.

Voorhies Graduate Writing Award (U of Louisiana), 1990, 1991.

Donald Justice Poetry Prize (U of Iowa), 1988.

The Mind's Eye Fiction Award, 1988.

The Lyric National College Poetry Contest, 1987.

Chancellor's Undergraduate Award for Humanities (UCSC), 1986, 1987.

Pushcart Prize nomination (Quarry West), 1986.

Lonnberg-Smith Award for Poetry (Cabrillo College), 1984.

Jowers Award for Fiction (Cabrillo College), 1983.