

CURRICULUM VITAE

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EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND

- 1986 Ph.D. English and Creative Writing
University of Houston
Houston, TX
[Written Exams: Old and Middle English, Renaissance 1600-1660, Rhetoric and Composition Theory, and Early American. Oral Exam Topic: James Joyce's **Dubliners**. Dissertation: **Lifetime Possessions**, a collection of original poetry with a preface.]
- 1977 M.F.A. English and Creative Writing
University of Iowa's Writer's Workshop
Iowa City, IA
[Examination Paper Topic: Wallace Stevens. Thesis: **Waking By Moonlight**, a collection of poems.]
- 1973 B.S. Education with English Major
University of Nebraska
Lincoln, NE

PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND

- July 1, 2007-: Interim Dean, Miss State Univ.
January 1, 2004-: Director of The Institute for the Humanities, Miss State Univ.
July 1, 2001-07: Associate Dean of Arts & Sciences, Miss. State Univ.
July 1, 1998-: Professor of English, Miss. State Univ.
July 1, 1997-2001: Director of Freshman English, Miss. State Univ.
Fall 1994-95: Director of Creative Writing
Spring 1991-: Associate Professor of English & Creative Writing with Tenure, Miss. State Univ.
Fall 1989-1991: Assistant Professor of English & Creative Writing, Miss. State Univ.
Fall 1988-1989: Chairman of English, Mercyhurst College, Erie, PA.
Fall 1986-1989: Assistant Professor, Mercyhurst College, Erie, PA.
Fall 1984-1986: Adjunct Professor of English, Univ. of Houston, TX.
Fall 1984-1985: Adjunct Professor of English, Houston Baptist Univ., TX.
Summer 1983-1984: Adjunct Professor of English, Houston Com. College, TX.
Fall 1979-1984: Teaching Fellow, Univ. of Houston, TX.
1978-1979: Lecturer in English, Memorial Univ. of Newfoundland, CANADA.

ACADEMIC COURSES TAUGHT

Graduate

Craft of Poetry

Undergraduate

Remedial Writing for the Learning Disabled

Form and Theory (Poetry)
Contemporary Poetry
Seminar in Poetics
Twentieth Century Poetry

Composition (Basic & Advanced)
Creative Writing
American Lit. I&II
English Lit. I & II

MASTER OF ARTS THESES COMMITTEES:

- Chaired **6** thesis committees, 1989--Present.
- Served as a member on **14** thesis committees, 1989--Present.

BOOK AND ANTHOLOGY PUBLICATIONS

Lifetime Possessions was selected by Margaret Holley from 173 entries as the winner of the Sixth Annual Riverstone Press Poetry Award. The manuscript was published in December 1997 by Riverstone Press. The following poems appear for the first time in that collection: "First Light," "Blackbird," "The Ascent," "The World Says," "The Selfsame Harp," "The Stone," and "The Hammer." The other poems first appeared in *Brass City*, *Indiana Review*, *Pleiades*, and *Z Miscellaneous*.

World Effects was selected from 110 entries by Naomi Shihab Nye as the winner of the 1990 Stanley Hanks Poetry Award, sponsored by the St. Louis Poetry Center, and was published in January 1991 by *Nevertheless Press*. The following poems appeared for the first time in that collection: "Stars," "Cherry Orchard," "Death of the Romantic Poet," and "New Wave". The other poems first appeared in *Bitterroot*, *Blue Light Red Light*, *Kansas Quarterly*, *The New Yorker*, *Outlook*, *Poetry*, and *Timbuktu*.

"Invitation from a Deceased Spanish Poet" reprinted from *Poetry* in **Annual Survey of American Poetry: 1986**, Roth Publishing Company, Great Neck, New York.

JOURNAL PUBLICATIONS:

"Coffee Shop," "Sidewalk Cafe" (Reprinted and translated into Spanish), "The Voice Behind the Sun" and "Allegory at Sundown," *Magic Realism*, Pyx Press, P.O. Box 620, Orem, Utah 84059-0620 Forthcoming.

"Rescue," *The Silver Web: A Magazine of the Surreal*, Buzzcity Press, P.O. Box 38190, Tallahassee, FL 32315, Issue 15, January 2002.

"The Portrait" and "Prisoner 44070," *Illya's Honey: A Quarterly Journal*, P.O. Box 225435, Dallas, TX, Vol. 7, No 2, 2001.

"Selection," *California Quarterly: California State Poetry Society*, P.O. Box 1800, Paradise, CA, Vol. 26, No 4, 2000.

"On Reading with the Apparent and Inevitable Presence of the Color Blue" and "The Poet Contemplates His Life in Early Hours of the Morning," *Artisan* P.O. Box 157 Wilmette, IL 60091, Vol 6, No.2, 2000.

"Penumbral Decorum," *Crazyhorse*, Univ of Arkansas, Little Rock, AR No. 56, 1999.

"Upon the Discovery of a Family Cemetery, Cade's Cove, Tennessee," *Jabberwock Review*, Mississippi State Univ, Vol. 20, no. 2, Spring 1999.

"Tales of Grief and Destruction," *The Yalobusha Review*, Univ of Mississippi, Oxford, MS Vol IV, 1998.

"Invitation from a Deceased Spanish Poet," Reprinted from *Poetry* in **Annual Survey of American Poetry: 1986** Compact Disk Version, Roth Publishing, Great Neck, New York, Spring, 1998.

"Father Son" and "Badlands," *American Poetry Monthly*, 314 North Lewis, Suite 313, Tahlequah, OK 74464, Nov. 1997 Vol. 1 Issue 3.

"Blue Skies" and "Straw Heart," *Pleiades*, Dept. Of English, Central Missouri State Univ., Warrensburg, MO 64093, Spring 1997 Vol. 17 no. 2.

"Survival" and "Vagabond," *Bass City*, 77 Williamson Dr., Waterbury, CT 06710, July/August 1996, no. 5.

"Pleasure Cruise," *S.L.U.G.fest, Ltd.*, P.O. Box 536, Leominster, MA 01453, Summer 1994 Vol. 5 no. 1.

"Waking by Moonlight," *POMPA* (Pub. of Mississippi Philological Assoc.), Univ. of Southern Mississippi, Hattiesburg, MS, 1992.

"The Smaller You," *The Plum Review*, 1654a Avon P., NW, Washington, D.C. 20007, Fall/Winter 1991.

"The Greater Dark" and "World Effects," *POMPA* (Pub. of Mississippi Philological Assoc.), Univ. of Southern Mississippi, Hattiesburg, MS, 1991.

"The Prince of Friends" and "Sidewalk Cafe," *Outlook*, Dept. of English, Mercyhurst College, Erie, PA 16546, 1991.

"Ninth and Charles," *Blue Light Red Light*, 496A Hudson St. Suite F42, New York, NY 10014, No.3 1990.

World Effects, *NEVERTHELESS PRESS*, Winner: Stanley Hanks Poetry Chapbook Award, St. Louis Poetry Center, St. Louis, MO, 1990.

"Drinking Beer with Friends, Houston, 1988," *Bitterroot*, International Poetry Journal, Box 489, Spring Glen, NY 12483, Summer 1990.

"Daniel," *The Albany Review*, 4 Central Ave, Albany, NY 12210, Autumn 1989.

"Rain," *Z Miscellaneous*, P.O. Box 20041, New York, NY 10028, Spring 1989.

"Missing" (under the title "A Child"), *Mind in Motion*, P.O. Box 1118, Apple Valley, CA 92307, Autumn 1989.

"Instructions for Leaving College Without a Degree," *Timbuktu*, P.O. Box 469, Charlottesville, VA 22902, Fall/Winter 1988

"Weeping Angel," *Kansas Quarterly*, Dept. of English, Kansas State University, Manhattan, KS 66506, Spring/Summer 1987

"Invitation from a Deceased Spanish Poet" and "Ode to Sleep," *Poetry*, 60 West Walton St., Chicago, IL 60610, July 1986.

"For Now and Always," *The New Yorker*, W. 43rd Street, New York, NY 10036, Oct. 28th 1985.

"Lily of Intense Dreaming," *Indiana Review*, 316 No. Jordan Ave., University of Indiana, Bloomington, IN 47405, Spring 1985.

"St. Mary's Bay" and "The Blue Soldier," *Domestic Crude*, Dept. of English, University of Houston, Houston, TX 77204, Vol.1 no.4 1985.

"Successions," "Promises" and "Mouers Lumineuses," *The Louisville Review*, Dept. of English, University of Louisville, Louisville, KY 40292, Spring 1984.

"Sleeping Whole" and "Stone Dream," *The Colorado-North Review*, Dept. of English, University of Northern Colorado, Greeley, CO 80639, Fall 1983.

"The Engineer" and "Free Fall," *Descant*, Dept. of English, Texas Christian University, Ft. Worth, TX 76129, Fall/Winter 1982-83.

"Vendor," *Poetry Toronto*, Toronto, Ontario, CANADA, February 1980.

"Nemean Lion," "Skydiving" and "Voices," *First Encounter*, Dept. of English, Mount Allison University, Sackville, New Brunswick CANADA, Vol. 10 (1979-80).

"Astronomy," *The Antigonish Review*, Dept. of English, St. Francis Xavier University, Antigonish, Nova Scotia CANADA, Summer 1979.

"Once a Choirboy," *Waves*, Dept. of English, York University, Downsview, Ontario CANADA, Spring 1979.

"Deaf-Mute," *Phantasm*, Heidelberg Graphics, Chico, CA, April 1979.

"The Voice Behind the Sun," *Tickle Ace 4*, Dept. of English, Memorial University of Newfoundland, St. John's, Newfoundland CANADA, Winter 1978.

"Writing an Animal Poem," *Encore*, Albuquerque, New Mexico, Fall 1978.

"Windbreak," "Father Like Son" and "Water in the Dustbowl," *Poet Lore*, The Writer's Center, 7815 Old Georgetown Road, Bethesda, MD, Summer 1978.

"Advice," "Woodpecker" and "Roses," *Tickle Ace 3*, Dept. of English, Memorial University of Newfoundland, St. John's, Newfoundland CANADA, Summer 1978.

"Loss of a Satyr," *Poetry Northwest*, Dept. of English, University of Washington, Seattle, WA, Summer 1977.

AWARDS AND HONORS

–Named Outstanding Graduate, University of Houston Creative Writing Program. 2005.

–Recipient of the John Grisham Faculty Excellence Award, 1997. \$3,000 stipend.

–**Lifetime Possessions**, was selected as the 1997 winner of the Riverstone Press Poetry Award. The award carried publication of the manuscript and a \$100. cash prize. The same manuscript was also a finalist in the Perivale Press Poetry Prize, Van Nuys, California.

–My book, **The Selfsame Harp**, was a semi-finalist in The New Issues Press Poetry Prize, Western Michigan Univ. 1997.

–My poem "Blue Skies," published in *Pleiades*, vol. 17 no.2, spring 1997, was selected as the winner of the Editor's Award for the best work (in poetry) published in that issue. As a result, the editor nominated "Blue Skies" for the 1997-98 *Pushcart Prize*.

–My publishing record qualified me to be listed in *A Directory of American Poets and Fiction Writers, 1994-95*, which is published by **Poets and Writers**, New York, NY. I have been listed in each successive year since 1994.

–Selected as Faculty Representative for Ms. Ashley Oswalt for her induction into the Society of Scholars Induction Ceremony, April 13, 1994. Invited by Ms. Ashley Oswalt.

–Selected as Faculty Mentor for the Schillig Scholars, 1992-95. As a result, the department of English was awarded the equivalent of 7% of my salary which was used for sponsoring poetry and fiction readings.

–Poetry Judge for the 1993 Gainesville College Poetry Contest. Invited.

–Selected by Bradley C. Dye as his choice for Mortarboard Professor of Eminence, Mississippi State University. I attended the spring induction ceremony at the President's house on April 5, 1992.

–Poetry Judge for the annual Merit Competition in Poetry sponsored by Gannon University, April 16, 1991, Erie, PA. Coordinated by Prof. Berwyn Moore. Invited.

–Poetry Judge for the annual Poetry Writing Contest sponsored by the School for Mathematics and Science, Columbus, spring 1991. Invited.

–**World Effects**, was selected as the 1990 Winner of the Stanley Hanks Poetry Chapbook Award, St. Louis Poetry Center. The award carried publication of the manuscript and a \$500. cash prize.

–**Lily of Intense Dreaming**, was a finalist in:
The Galileo Press Book Competition, 1988.
The Sweeney/Cox Poetry Series, San Jose State Univ., 1987.

–Recipient of the Stella Erhardt/Cullen Graduate Scholarship (\$4,000), Univ. of Houston, 1985-86.

–1984 winner in poetry of the Orange Show Poetry/Fiction Competition (\$100.), University of Houston, Texas.

–Awarded a Graduate Teaching Fellowship (\$6,850), Univ. of Houston, 1979-84.
Awarded Honorable Mention in Poetry, Newfoundland Arts and Letters Competition, CANADA, 1978.

POETRY READINGS

--Poetry reading, Associated Writing Programs conference, Austin, TX, March 2006. Invited.

–Poetry reading, Outstanding Graduate Program, University of Houston, March, 2005. Invited.

–Poetry reading, Dept. Of English Symposium Series, Mississippi State, MS, Sept. 24, 1999. Invited.

–Poetry reading and Writer’s Workshop Writer in Residence, New Hebron Writer’s Retreat, New Hebron, MS, August 20-22, 1999. Invited.

–Poetry reading and workshop, The Mississippi School for Mathematics and Science, April 24, 1997, MUW, Columbus, MS. Invited.

–Workshop associate for the Meacham Conference, University of Tennessee/Chattanooga, May 28, 1996. Invited.

–Poetry reading and workshop, Eudora Welty Conference, April, 1996, Jackson, MS. Invited.

- Poetry reading, South Atlantic Modern Languages Association, Nov.11, 1995, Atlanta,GA. Refereed.
- Poetry reading and panel, Southern Literary Festival, Oxford, MS, March 31, 1995. Invited.
- Poetry reading, South Central Modern Languages Association, New Orleans, LA, Nov. 10, 1994. Refereed.
- Mississippi State University School of Architecture, Tau Sigma Delta's Friday Forum, Nov. 12, 1993. Invited.
- Gainesville College, Gainesville, GA, Poetry reading and workshop, Nov. 2, 1993. Invited.
- Mississippi State University Department of English Monthly Symposia, Oct. 15, 1993.
- University of Mississippi, Department of English, Oxford, MS, April 1, 1993. Invited.
- Poetry reading and discussion, Nancy Hargrove's 20th Century Poetry Class, Mississippi State University, March, 1993. Invited.
- South Central Modern Languages Association, Memphis, TN, Oct. 31, 1992. Refereed.
- Mississippi Philological Association, Miss. Univ. for Women, February 7-9, 1992. Refereed.
- The Casteel Gallery of the Todd Library at MSU, Meridian, October 23, 1991. Invited.
- The Library of Meridian Public High School, for the English faculty instructional improvement meeting, October 23, 1991. Invited.
- St. Louis Poetry Center, St. Louis, Missouri, January 20th 1991. Contest winner.
- Pennsylvania Governor's School Symposium, Mercyhurst College, Erie, Pennsylvania, August 2, 1990. Invited.
- Southern Literary Festival, Jackson, Mississippi, April 5, 1990. Refereed.
- Mississippi Council of the Teachers of English, Lake Tiak-O'Khata, Mississippi, March 30, 1990. Refereed.
- Mississippi State University Department of English Monthly Symposia, April 27, 1990.
- Mississippi State University Creative Writing Reading Series, February 22, 1990. Invited.
- Mississippi Philological Association Conference, MSU, January 26, 1990. Refereed.

–Mercyhurst College's 60th Anniversary Celebration, Erie, Pennsylvania, 1987.

–Sigma Tau Delta Reading Series, Mercyhurst College, Erie, Pennsylvania, 1987.
Invited.

–Mercyhurst College Writer's Workshop Reading Series: Joint reading with Leonard Trawick of Cleveland State University, Erie, Pennsylvania, June 18, 1987. Invited.

–Graduate English Society Poetry/Fiction Reading, Univ. of Houston, Texas, 1984.
Invited.

–The Orange Show Poetry/Fiction Competition Reading, Univ. of Houston, Texas, 1984.
Contest Winner.

ACADEMIC WORK AND PAPERS DELIVERED:

"No Tomorrow," for Mississippi State University Campus Activities Board, Last Lecture Series, Nov. 18, 1993.

"Issues of Form in Contemporary Poetry," for Friends of the Library, Starkville Public Library, Oct. 20, 1993. Invited.

"Power Poetry" for The Interdisciplinary Speakers Series, Mississippi State University, March 25, 1992. Invited.

"Ben Jonson's Commemorative Poem to Shakespeare: A Defense of Honor and Language" at the Central Renaissance Conference, Indiana State University, April 14, 1988. Refereed.

"The Green Man in Walt Whitman's 'When Lilacs Last in the Dooryard Bloom'd'" at Pennsylvania College English Association Conference, Pennsylvania State University, Behrend College, April 22, 1988. Refereed.

–Assisted Professor David Judkins, Dept. of English, Univ. of Houston, in the research, organization, typing and proofing of his book: **The Nondramatic Works of Ben Jonson: a Reference Guide**, G.K. Hall, 1982. My time spent on the project was a year and a half.

CONSULTING:

–Consulting editor for **The Writer's Workplace with Readings**, second edition, Harcourt Brace, August 1997. My editorial comments were solicited for an upcoming edition. Invited.

–Consultant for **U.S. News and World Report** in the compilation of their data on creative writing programs for "America's Best Graduate Schools," March, 1997. Invited.

–Consulting editor for the **Creative Writer's Handbook**, Prentice Hall. My editorial comments were being considered for the 2nd edition of the text which is due out this year, 1992. Invited.

–Consulting Editor for **The Beacon Handbook** by Robert Perrin, Houghton Mifflin and Company, Boston. I saw the manuscript in several versions and made suggestions regarding organization of the text and the formatting of the book for maximum ease of use, 1988. Invited.

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

Academy of American Poets, 1993-present
Modern Languages Association, 1985-present
Associated Writing Programs, 1979-present
Sigma Tau Delta English Honor Society, 1986-present
South Central Modern Languages Association, 1994-present
Medieval Association of the Midwest, 1987-present
Mississippi Philological Association 1989-92
Mississippi Council of the Teachers of English, 1990-94.

PROFESSIONAL AND UNIVERSITY SERVICE

–Interim Dean for the College of Arts & Sciences, 2007-.
–Chair of the University Press of Mississippi Advisory Board, 2007-.
–Director, The Institute for the Humanities, MSU, 2004-
–Associate Dean for the College of Arts & Sciences, 2001-2007.
–Director of Freshman English, Mississippi State Univ., 1997-2001.
–Elected representative of Arts & Sciences for the Holland Faculty Senate, 1993-2001.
–Member of the Department of English Search Committee, MSU, 1990-92, 1997.
–Evaluated the teaching of Dr. George Light's British Literature class, summer II, 1997.
–Evaluated the teaching of Dr. Richard Lyons' Creative Writing class, Fall, 1996.
–Evaluated the teaching of Dr. Melanie Eckford-Prosser's Honors Composition class, Fall 1996.
–Guest lecture for the Graduate Teaching Assistants in English, MSU: "Undergraduate Instruction in the Writing of Critical Papers on Poetry."
–Director of Creative Writing, MSU, 1994-95.
–Chair of the Graduate Teaching Assistant's grading workshop, MSU, falls 1994-1996.
–Faculty Advisor for Mississippi State University's Schillig Scholars, 1991-1995.
–Workshop Leader, Scholars Recognition Day, Sept. 4, 1994.
–Member of the Arts and Sciences Brochure Committee, MSU 1993-94.
–Member of the Univ. Instructional Improvement Committee, MSU 1990-1992.
–Member of the Department of English Composition Committee, MSU 1990-2001.
–Member of the Department of English Curriculum Committee, MSU, 1990-2001.
–Undergraduate faculty advisor, MSU 1990-1992.
–Member of the Master of Arts Examination Committee, MSU, 1990-1991.
–Faculty Advisor for the Jabberwock: a Creative Arts Journal, MSU, 1989-1996.
–Member of the Ph.D. in English proposal committee, MSU 1989-90.

- Member of the Mississippi Philological Association Organizational Committee, and Program Committee, 1989-1991.
- Chairman, Department of English, Mercyhurst College, 1988-89.
- Co-director of the Mercyhurst Writer's Workshop, Mercyhurst College, 1986-89.
- Faculty elected representative and Chairman of the College Senate, Mercyhurst College, 1988-89.
- Chairman of Academic Policies Committee, Mercyhurst, College, 1988-89.
- Member of Faculty Policies Committee, Mercyhurst College, 1988-89.
- Provost's Committee for Academic Honesty, Univ. of Houston, 1984-86.
- Planning Committee, Dept. of English, Univ. of Houston, 1982-84.
- Freshman Committee, Dept. of English, Univ. of Houston, 1980-82.
- Writing Committee, Dept. of English, Univ. of Houston, 1980-82.

COMMUNITY SERVICE

- Lectured on contemporary poetry to the Mississippi branch of the American Poetry Society, Lake Tiakata, MS, April 19th 2006.
- Directed a poetry-writing workshop for elementary students at Overstreet, Jan. 20. 1994.
- President of the Starkville/Mississippi State University Symphony Association 1996-98. Member of the board and of the Starkville Symphony Orchestra, 1990-1998. Member of the nominating committee, 1993-1998.
- Co-Chairman of the Parents/Teachers Association Newsletter, Henderson Elementary, 1990-91. Responsibilities included layout and production of 6 newsletters over the academic year.
- Founded the Poets in the Schools Program at St. Luke Elementary, Erie, PA, in which creative writing students from Mercyhurst College were employed part-time for purposes of instruction in the reading and writing of poetry at the 7th and 8th grade level, 1988.

REFERENCES:

- Edward Hirsch, President of the John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation, 90 Park Avenue, NY, NY 10016 (212) 687-4470 eh@gf.org
- Larry Grillot, Dean, College of Earth and Energy, 100 East Boyd St., Rm 510, Univ. of Oklahoma, Norman, OK 73019 (405) 325-3821 lgrillot@ou.edu
- Seetha Srinivasan, Director, University Press of Mississippi, 3825 Ridgewood Road, Jackson, MS 39211 (601) 432-6205 ssrinivasan@ihl.state.ms.us
- Hugh Latimer, Former member and Chair of the College of Arts & Sciences Dean's Advisory Board, 329 Millcreek Dr., Jackson, MS 39047 (601) 992-2204 hughlatimer@msn.com
- Peter Stitt, Professor and Editor of the *Gettysburg Review*, Gettysburg College, 300 N.

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Stanley Plumly, Distinguished Professor, Dept. of English, 3101 Susquehanna Hall,
Univ. of Maryland, College Park, MD 20742 (301) 405-3815 splumly@umd.edu

John MacNamara, Professor, Dept. of English, 235B Roy Cullen, Univ. of Houston,
Houston, TX 77004 (713) 743-2935 jmcnamara@uh.edu