

Noel Polk
VITA
 (Updated October 2003)

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EDUCATION

B.A., Mississippi College, 1965; M.A., Mississippi College, 1966; Ph.D., U of South Carolina, 1970

AREAS OF SPECIALIZATION

American Literature, especially American fiction; Mississippi writers, especially William Faulkner and Eudora Welty; Bibliography; Editing

BOOKS (Written and compiled)

Outside the Southern Myth. Jackson: UP of Mississippi, 1997.
Children of the Dark House: Text and Context in Faulkner. Jackson: UP of Mississippi, 1996.
Reading Faulkner: The Sound and the Fury (co-author with Steve Ross). Jackson: UP of Mississippi, 1996.
Eudora Welty: A Bibliography of Her Work. Jackson: UP of Mississippi, 1994.
An Editorial Handbook for Faulkner's The Sound and the Fury. New York: Garland, 1985.
Faulkner's Requiem for a Nun: A Critical Study. Bloomington and London: Indiana UP, 1981.
The Literary Manuscripts of Harold Frederic: A Catalogue. New York: Garland, 1979.

BOOKS (edited)

Faulkner and War. (co-ed with Ann J. Abadie) Proceedings of the 2001 Ole Miss Conference on Faulkner. Jackson: UP of Mississippi, 2004.
 Robert Penn Warren, *All the King's Men*. New York: Harcourt, Brace, due November 2001.
 William Faulkner's "A Rose for Emily". Fort Worth: Harcourt Brace, 2000.
New Essays on The Sound and the Fury. New York and London: Cambridge UP, 1993.
Natchez Before 1830. Jackson: UP of Mississippi, 1989.
Mississippi's Piney Woods People: A Human Perspective. Jackson: UP of Mississippi, 1986.
Intertextuality in Faulkner (co-ed., with Michel Gresset). Jackson: UP of Mississippi, 1985.
An Anthology of Mississippi Writers (co-ed., with James Scafidel). Jackson: UP of Mississippi, 1979.
 Series editor of *Reading Faulkner* for UPM. Hugh Ruppersburg on *Light in August* published 1994; Robert McCoy on *The Unvanquished*, published 1995; Dawn Trouard and Edwin Arnold on *Sanctuary*, 1996; Noel Polk and Stephen Ross on *The Sound and the Fury*, 1996.

WORKS BY WILLIAM FAULKNER EDITED

Faulkner: Novels 1957-1962. New York: Library of America, 1999. New texts of *The Town*, *The Mansion* and *The Reivers*. Joseph Blotner did the notes and Chronology.
Faulkner: Novels 1942-1954. NY: Library of America, 1994. New texts of *Go Down, Moses*, *Intruder in the Dust*, *A Fable* and *Requiem for a Nun*. Joseph Blotner did the notes and Chronology.
Faulkner: Novels 1936-1940. New York: Library of America, 1990. New texts of *Absalom, Absalom!*, *The Unvanquished*, *If I Forget Thee, Jerusalem [The Wild Palms]*, and *The Hamlet*. Joseph Blotner did the notes and Chronology
Faulkner's Absalom, Absalom!: New, Corrected Edition (ed.). New York: Random House, 1986. Reissued, Vintage, 1987, Vintage International, 1990, and in *Faulkner: Novels 1936-1940* (New York: Library of America, 1990). Joseph Blotner did the notes and Chronology
William Faulkner: Novels 1930-1935. New York: Library of America, 1985. New texts of *Sanctuary*, *As I Lay Dying*, *Light in August*, and *Pylon*. Joseph Blotner did the notes and the chronology. Each title reissued in Vintage

paperbacks, 1987, and Vintage International paperbacks, 1990. *As I Lay Dying* has been published in *The Norton Anthology of American Literature* editions since 1989.

Faulkner's *The Sound and the Fury*. New, Corrected Edition (ed.). New York: Random House, 1984. Reprint Vintage Books, 1987. Reprint Norton Critical editions, 1988, and Vintage International.

Sanctuary: The Original Text. New York: Random House, 1981; London: Chatto & Windus, 1981.

William Faulkner's "The Marionettes". Charlottesville: UP of Virginia, 1977. French translation of both text and my introduction by Michel Gresset. Paris: Gallimard, 1997.

WILLIAM FAULKNER MANUSCRIPTS (co-ed with Joseph Blotner, Michael Millgate, Thomas L. McHaney, and James B. Meriwether). New York: Garland, 1987. This is a 44-volume set reproducing facsimiles of the Faulkner manuscripts and typescripts at the U of Virginia and the New York Public Library. I was part of a four-man editorial team which planned and executed the entire set, and I wrote the general introduction to the series. I had specific responsibility for the materials and the general quality of 12 volumes: *The Sound and the Fury* (2 vols.); *Sanctuary* (2 vols.); *Absalom, Absalom!* (1 vol.); *Pylon* (1 vol.); *Intruder in the Dust* (1 vol.); *Requiem for a Nun* (4 vols.)

WILLIAM FAULKNER COMPUTER CONCORDANCES These are volumes for which I prepared the texts, working with a co-editor at the United States Military Academy who managed the computer operations. All were published by University Microfilms: *Requiem for a Nun* (1979); *The Sound and the Fury* (1980); *A Fable* (2 vols., 1981); *Intruder in the Dust* (1983); *The Town* (1985); *The Mansion* (2 vols., 1988); *Absalom, Absalom!* (2 vols., 1989); *Pylon* (1989); *The Unvanquished* (1990); *The Hamlet* (2 vols, 1990); *Collected Stories* (5 vols., 1990); *The Reivers* (1990); *The Unvanquished* (1990); *Uncollected Stories* (5 vols, 1991); *Sanctuary* (1991); *Sanctuary: The Original Text* (1991); *Collected Stories* (5 vols., 1990).

BOOKS UNDER CONTRACT

Reading Faulkner: Absalom, Absalom! (co-authored with Joseph R. Urgo). Jackson: UP of Mississippi, ms. due 2003.

Faulkner: Novels 1926-1929. With Joseph L. Blotner. New York: Library of America, ms. due Fall 2003.

PERIODICALS EDITED

Editor, *The Southern Quarterly*, January 2001-present.

The Faulkner Journal (Guest editor, two issues, 1994).

Mississippi Quarterly Annual Summer special issue devoted to Faulkner, 1989 and 1990.

Mississippi Journals and Journalists (co-ed, with Neil McMillen). Special number of the *Journal of Mississippi History*, May 1987.

Black Religion in the South (co-ed, with Hans Baer). Special number of the *Southern Quarterly*, Spring 1985.

Guide to Dissertations on American Literary Figures, 1870-1910. American Literary Realism. Part I: 8(Summer 1975), 177-280; Part II: 8(Autumn 1975), 291-348.

ESSAYS (since 1990; complete list available)

"Scar." *Faulkner and War*. Ed Noel Polk and Ann J. Abadie. Jackson: UP of Mississippi, 2004. 138-59.

"Faulkner and Crime Fiction." *Philological Review* 29.1 (2003):1-26.

"The Force that Through the Green Fuse Drives": Faulkner and the Greening of American History." Translated into Japanese by Ikuko Fujihiro. *Faulkner* 5 (2003): 77-96.

"Editing *All the King's Men*". *The Southern Review*. 38:4(2002):849-60.

"Eula and the Good Old Boys: Testing Masculinity in *The Hamlet* and *The Town*." In André Bleikasten, Michel Gresset, Nicole Moulinoux, and François Pitavy, ed. *Faulkner's Maturity*. études FaulknŪriennes III. Rennes: Universitaires Rennes, 2002. 33-42.

"Editing *All the King's Men*." *Southern Review*. 38.4 (2002): 849-60.

"The Text of the 'Restored' Edition of *All the King's Men*." *RPW: An Annual of Robert Penn Warren Studies*.

Bowling Green, KY: The Center for Robert Penn Warren Studies Western Kentucky University, 2002. 17-64.

"Reading the Ledgers" (co-authored, with Richard Godden). *Mississippi Quarterly*. 55.3(2002):301-359

- "Faulkner's Apocalyptic Vision." In *Apocalypse Now: Prophecy and Fulfillment: Proceedings of the 1999 PAAS Conference in Lodz*. Ed. Agnieszka Salska and Zbigniew Maszewski. Lodz: Wydawnictwo Uniwersytetu Lodzkiego, 2001. 117-132.
- "Engaging the Political." In *Did the Writer Crusade? Eudora Welty and Politics*. Ed. Suzanne Marrs and Harriet Pollack. Baton Rouge: Louisiana State UP, 2001.
- "Engaging the Political: In our Texts, In Our Classrooms." In *Challenges and Perspectives of Higher Education*. Ed. Wieslaw Oleksy. Lodz, Poland: ZAMM Press, University of Lodz, 2000 [i.e., July 2001]. 152-166.
- "Testing Masculinity in the Snopes Trilogy." *The Faulkner Journal* Addendum XVI.3 (Fall 2000/Spring 2001):3-22.
- "Was Not Was Not Who Since Philoprogenitive." In Donald M. Kartiganer and Ann J. Abadie, eds. *Faulkner at 100: Retrospect and Prospect*. Jackson: UP of Mississippi, 2000. Pp. 18-25.
- "Welty and Faulkner and the Southern Literary Tradition." In Joseph Candido, ed. *Value and Vision in American Literature*. Athens: Ohio UP, 2000. 132-150.
- "Faulkner and Anderson and Faulkner's Birth into Fiction." *Études Faulknériennes II: Naissances de Faulkner*. Ed. André Bleikasten, Michel Gresset, Nicole Moulinoux, and François Pitavy. Rennes: Presses Universitaires de Renne, 2000, pp. 35-40.
- "How the negros became McCaslins too...': A New Faulkner Letter." *Southern Cultures* Fall 1999. 103-08.
- "Texts" in Hamblin & Peek, eds, *A William Faulkner Encyclopedia*. Westport: Greenwood, 1999. 394-95.
- "Around, Behind, Above, Below Men: Ratliff's Buggies and the Homosocial in Yoknapatawpha." In Anne Goodwyn Jones and Susan V. Donaldson, ed. *Haunted Bodies: Gender and Southern Texts*. Charlottesville: UP of Virginia, 1998. 343-66.
- "Faulkner and World War II." In Neil McMillen, ed., *Remaking Dixie: The Impact of World War II on the American South*. Jackson: UP of Mississippi, 1997, 131-145.
- "Hey Barry!" Introduction to *Mississippi Review's* issue on Barry Hannah. 25.2 (1997): 7-18.
- "Faulkner at 100." *Humanities*. Sept/Oct 1997, 39-42.
- "The Stuff that Don't Matter." *The Round Table* (Baylor University Newsletter for SCMLA). Fall 1997, 1-3.
- "Faulkner in the Luxembourg Gardens." In Michel Gresset, ed. *Etudes Faulkneriennes, I: Sanctuary*. Rennes France: Presses Universitaire de Rennes, 1997. 27-34.
- "Welty, Hawthorne, and Poe: Men of the Crowd and the Landscape of Alienation." *Literature in Wissenschaft und Unterricht*, 29 (1996), 261-270.
- "The Landscape of Illusion in Eudora Welty's 'The Wanderers.'" In Tony Badger, Walter Edgar, and Jan Nordby Gretlund eds., *Southern Landscapes*. Sonderdruck: Stauffenburg Verlag, 1996. 236-242.
- "A Name for the City: An Anti-Southern History Southern History." *Journal of Mississippi History* Winter, 1996.
- "Faulkner on Lynching" (with Neil McMillen). *The Faulkner Journal* 8(Fall 1992; published Fall 1994), 3-14.
- "Upon Being Southernized: My Town, My Department, My Colleagues and Me in a Carpetbagger Novel." In Lothar Hönnighausen and Valeria Gennaro Lerda, eds. *Rewriting the South: History and Fiction*,. Tübingen and Basel: Francke Verlag, 1993, 425-434.

Poems

- "I Make Love to a Fat Woman," in Dorothy J. Abbott, ed., *Childhood Reflections: Poetry*. Jackson: UP of Mississippi, 1987, p. 282.
- "I Sonned a Father," *Southern Review* (1982).
- "Many Men Would Not Have Chosen Beauty" and "Girl on the Ocracoke Ferry," *Southern Review* (1982).
- "At Night, in a Dry Storm Driving," *Tar River Poetry* (1980).
- "Wreck," *Southern Review* (1980). Reprinted in *Anthology of Magazine Verse and Yearbook of American Poetry* (1981), and *American Classic: Car Poems for Collectors* (1985).

Stories in Circulation

"Second-Best Bed," "Small Rain Down," "War Zone," "Love in a Time of Safety," "St. Mick."

PAPERS DELIVERED BY INVITATION

(Since 1980 I have given over 100 lectures at professional venues in this country, in Japan, Europe, and the [then] Soviet Union. Listed here are those since 1990.)

"The Ponderable Heart." Delivered at the annual meeting of the Mississippi Philological Association, Delta State University, January 31, 2004.

- "The Ponderable Heart." Lecture at a conference on Eudora Welty at the Université de Haute Bretagne, Rennes II, Rennes France, October 2002.
- "Faulkner and Detective Fiction." Plenary speaker at the annual meeting of the Arkansas Philological Association, October 2002.
- "Outside History, Too." Invited speaker at the University of Arkansas, October 2002.
- "Contemporary Southern Writing." Plenary speaker at a conference on Southern Literature at the University of Lodz, Poland. September 2002.
- "On Eudora Welty." Jackson State University lecture to teachers. May 2002.
- "Margaret Walker Alexander." At Jackson State University conference on Alexander and Welty, June 2002.
- "Scar." University of Mississippi Faulkner & Yoknapatawpha conference, July 2002.
- "Narrating our History and Why It Matters" at Hamilton College, NY. February, 2000.
- USM Graduate Student Conference on Masculinity: "Eula and the Good Old Boys: Testing Masculinity in the Snopes Trilogy". February 2000.
- Bruce Fellow at the American Studies Institute at the University of Keele, England, I lectured at Keele University, the University of Nottingham, The University of Swansea, and Essex University. March 4-19, 2000.
- "Faulkner and Religion" Fletcher Lecture, Nicholls State University, Thibodaux, La. March 29, 2000
- Society for the Study of Southern Literature, "The New Edition of Warren's *All the King's Men*"; remarks on Donald Harington's *The Architecture of the Arkansas Ozarks*"; chaired panel on Ellen Douglas. April 8, 2000.
- Chaired panel on Landscape at the University of Bonn, Germany July 29, 2000.
- "Faulkner and History." at the Tallahatchie River Festival at New Albany, MS. September 22, 2000.
- "Testing Masculinity in The Snopes Trilogy." Rennes, France, Faulkner Foundation conference Sept 29.
- "Faulkner and Detective Fiction." Borowitz Lecture, Kent State University, December 7, 2000.
- Lectures in Poland, Dec 3-12, 1999; Plenary speaker at the Polish Association of American Studies, University of Lodz, and invited lectures at the Universities of Warsaw, Krakow, and Poznan.
- Lecture, November 1999. "Faulkner and History" at University of Tulsa
- Lecture April 9. "Faulkner and Welty" at U of Mississippi's annual Conference on the Book
- Lectures Italy, November 1997: Parma, Bologna, Milan, Genoa.
- "Editing Faulkner." International Faulkner Conference, Venice, Italy, November 13, 1997.
- "Who Was William Faulkner." SCMLA Dallas, October 30, 1997.
- "Faulkner and Mississippi." U of Texas-Dallas, October 29, 1997.
- "Faulkner and Mississippi" and "Faulkner and History.". Emmy Parrish Lectures, Baylor University, Oct 27 and 28, 1997.
- "Faulkner and Mississippi.". Southern Book Festival, Nashville, TN, Oct. 4, 1997.
- Panel leader, discussion of Faulkner in New Orleans". Faulkner House Books annual Faulkner birthday party, New Orleans, Sept. 27, 1997.
- "Faulkner's Birth into Fiction." International Faulkner Conference, University of Rennes 2, Sept 22, 1997..
- "Faulkner and Mississippi." Jackson Public Library, Sept. 19, 1997.
- "Faulkner and Mississippi." U of South Carolina conference on Faulkner's 100th birthday. Sept. 3., 1997.
- "Who Was William Faulkner?" 1997 Faulkner and Yoknapatawpha Conference, U of Mississippi, August 1997.
- "Willa Cather's Southernness," Willa Cather Conference, Winchester, Va, May 30, 1997.
- "Family in Eudora Welty." Natchez Literary Conference, May 29-31, 1997.
- "On Betsy Muhlenfeld." Talk at the inauguration ceremonies of Elisabeth Muhlenfeld as the new President of Sweet Briar College in Virginia. April 13, 1997.
- "Engaging the Political." Eudora Welty Conference, Jackson MS, April 1, 1997.
- "Faulkner and WWII." British Association of American Studies conference, Birmingham, England, April, 1997.
- "Editing Faulkner." University of Tulsa, Jan 27, 1997.
- Lectures on Faulkner and Southern Literature during the spring, 1996, semester at conferences and universities in France, Germany, Poland, Italy, and The Netherlands.
- "On Rowan Oak." Dedication of Faulkner's home as a national Literary Landmark, April 1994.
- "Faulkner: The Artist as Cuckold." Ole Miss Faulkner & Yoknapatawpha Conference, July 1994.
- "Faulkner: The French Connection." International Faulkner Conference at the University of Rennes, France, Oct. 1994.
- "Editing Faulkner." Carroll College, Helena, Montana, Nov. 1994.

- "Faulkner and Mississippi." Texas Women's University, Oct. 1994.
- "Faulkner and Mississippi." Savannah College of Art and Design, Jan. 21, 1993.
- "The Meaning of Meaning." Textual Society Meeting, MLA, Toronto, Dec. 1993.
- "Landscape in Welty." International Southern Studies Conference, University of South Carolina, Sep. 1993.
- "Welty's Southern Landscape." Welty Conference at the Université de Bourgogne, Dijon France, 26-28 March 1992.
- "Faulkner and Mississippi." Universidad de León, Spain, 1 April 1992
- "Faulkner and Mississippi." Universidad de Salamanca, Spain, 2 April 1992.
- "Upon Being Southernized." Mississippi College, 16 April 1992.
- "Ratliff's Buggies." Society for the Study of Southern Literature convention, Clemson University, 22 April 1992.
- "Editing Faulkner." University of Nebraska, Lincoln, March 1991.
- "Where the Comma Goes." Society for Textual Studies Meeting, New York; Chaired panel on Editing Facsimiles at same meeting. April 13, 1991.
- "Faulkner and Welty." USA-USSR Welty symposium, Jackson, MS, May 16, 1991.
- "Upon Being Southernized." Rewriting the South Conference at the University of Bonn, Germany. September 26, 1991.
- "Faulkner and Mississippi." USM Honors Forum lecture, October 8, 1991.
- Lectures on Southern Culture at Chiba University, Japan, September 1990.
- Lectures at the American Centers in Tokyo and Sapporo, Japan, September 1990.
- "Southern Literary Literature." Kent State University, October 1990.
- "Editing Faulkner." Appalachian State University, October 1990.
- "Faulkner: the Artist as Cuckold." The College of William & Mary, 28 March 1990.
- "Going to Naples and Other Places in Eudora Welty's Fiction." British American Studies Association Convention, Aberystwyth, Wales, 2 April 1990.
- "Welty and Faulkner." Gorki Institute of World Literature's Conference on Eudora Welty, May 1990.

CONFERENCES DIRECTED

- Conference Director, "Mississippi's Piney Woods." March 1984. First of Crosby Lectures.
- Conference Director, "Natchez Before 1830." January 1987. Second of Crosby Lectures.

OTHER PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITIES

- Editorial advisor for the Frederick Douglass Papers, Yale University.
- Manuscript reader for University Presses of Mississippi, Tennessee, Louisiana, South Carolina; for *Mississippi Quarterly*, *Southern Quarterly*, *Studies in the Novel*.
- Board of Directors, Mississippi Institute of Arts and Letters.
- Board of Directors, University Press of Mississippi.

HONORS AND AWARDS

- Professeur Associé, Université de Strasbourg, France, 1981-82.
- In 1981 I was nominated by Gov. William Winter as Mississippi's candidate for the National Governor's Conference award for Outstanding Service to the Arts, for my role in organizing the Mississippi Institute of Arts and Letters.
- Professeur Invité at the Faulkner Foundation at the Université de Haute Bretagne, Rennes, France, Spring 1996.

GRANTS

- American Council of Learned Societies, \$2,500, 1976-77, for research on Faulkner.
- National Endowment for the Humanities, \$63,000, 1979-1981, to foster editorial work on the Faulkner Concordance series.
- Professor Cleanth Brooks, Gray Professor of Rhetoric Emeritus, Yale U, a library evaluated at \$35,000, 1981. This library is the core of the university's Southern literature collection.
- L. O. Crosby, Jr., Memorial Foundation, \$15,000, 1983. This grant partially funded the first Crosby Lectures series at USM, in March of 1984, on the Mississippi Piney Woods. The proceedings of that conference were published in a volume by the UP of Mississippi in 1986.
- Mississippi Committee for the Humanities, \$10,000, 1983. This money was also used to help fund the first Crosby Lectures Conference on the Piney Woods.

American Council of Learned Societies, ca. \$500 travel grant to attend Faulkner conference in Tokyo. 1985.

Mississippi Committee for the Humanities (with Neil McMillen), about \$14,000, 1986. This money used to fund a conference on Mississippi Journals and Journalists, in cooperation with the Mississippi Department of Archives and History. Proceedings of this conference were published in the *Journal of Mississippi History*.

National Endowment for the Humanities, ca. \$90,000, 1986-88. This money was used to continue editorial work on the Faulkner concordances.

Crosby Memorial Foundation, \$8,000, 1986. This money, and the MCH money listed below, were used to fund a conference in Natchez, "Natchez Before 1830," January 1987.

Mississippi Committee for the Humanities, \$10,000, 1986, helped fund "Natchez Before 1830."

National Endowment for the Humanities, Seminars for School Teachers, on Faulkner, Summers of 1989, 1991, 1993, 1994, 1995, 1996, and 1997.

References:

Professor Richard King
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Professor Richard Gray
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University of Essex
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Professor Thomas L. McHaney
English Department
Georgia State University
33 Gilmer St.
Atlanta, GA 30303

Professor Donald Kartiganer
English Department
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Professor Joseph Uργο
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Professor Peggy Whitman Prenshaw
English Department
Louisiana State University
Baton Rouge, LA 70803