

William Vesterman

## EDUCATION

B.A. <u>cum laude</u> Amherst College	1964
Ph.D. Rutgers University	1971

## HONORS

Hooper Freshman Scholarship	1960-1961
Amherst Memorial Scholarship	1961-1964
Henry F. Field Memorial Fellow	1964-1965
Amherst Memorial Fellow	1964-1965
Rutgers University Fellow	1967-1968

## EMPLOYMENT

Teaching Assistant--Rutgers College	1964-1967
Sales Representative--Little, Brown & Co.	1968-1969
Instructor--Livingston College	1969-1970
Assistant Professor--Livingston College	1970-1975
Associate Member of the Graduate Faculty	1971-1977
Associate Professor--Livingston College	1975-1982
Member of the Graduate Faculty	1977-
Associate Professor--FAS Rutgers	1982-

## RESEARCH PUBLICATIONS

### A. LITERATURE

#### 1. Books

*The Stylistic Life of Samuel Johnson* (New Brunswick: Rutgers University Press, 1977).

#### 2. Articles

"Johnson and *The Life of Savage*" *English Literary History* (Winter) 1969, pp. 659-678.

51. "Going No Place With Arenas" *Review* 73 (Spring) 1973, pp. 49-211-220.
- "Pynchon's Poetry" *Twentieth Century Literature* (May) 1975, pp. 171-194.
- "Pynchon's Poetry" Reprinted in *Mindful Pleasures*, ed., George Levine and David Leverenz (Boston: Little, Brown & Co., 1976, pp. 101-112.
- "Why Humbert Shoots Quilty" *Essays in Literature* (Spring) 1978, pp. 85-93.
- "Poldy's Potence Preserved" *Essays in Literature* (Spring) 1983, pp. 111-117.
- "The Motives of Meter in 'Bells for John Whitesides' Daughter'" *The Southern Quarterly* (Fall) 1984, pp. 42-53.
- "The Sun Also Rises--Somewhat In Our Time" *St. Petersburg Times*, July 21, 1985, pp. 1D; 4D. With Robert Atwan.
- "Nabokov's Second Fiancee Identified" *American Notes and Queries* (September/October) 1985, pp. 20-22.
- "Saint-Gaudens' Statue of Sherman: Portrait of a Visionary Realist" *Sites* Nos. 16/17, 1986, pp. 20-23.
- "Higgins' Trade" *Language and Style* (Summer) 1987, pp. 223-229.
- "Mastering The Free Spirit: Status and Contract in Some Fictional Politics" *Eighteenth Century Life* (November) 1992 pp. 182-194.
- "The Death of the Scientific Author" *Common Knowledge* 8:3 (Fall, 2002), 439-448.
- "Waves and Particles in Borgesian Time" *Literary Imagination* 6:2 (Spring, 2004) 250-259.
- "Plum Time in Nevereverland: The Divine Comedy of P. G. Wodehouse" *Raritan* XV: 1 (Summer 2005)

“Particulas y ondas en el tiempo borgeano,” translated by Elena Marengo, *Proa* 4 (Buenos Aires) Enero, 2006, 21-33.

*Preface* to Joseph Pulichino (poems) and Julie Higgins (art), *Illuminated Heart: Love Songs of a Zen Romantic* (San Francisco: Raven Press, 2007) 2 pp (unnumbered)

“A Note on the Explosion of Geological Time,” *Great Interdisciplinary Ideas*, ed., William Vesterman (New York: Penguin Academics, 2008), 28-30. (Released October 2007)

"The Technique of Time in *Lolita*. *College Hill Review*, Issue 1 (Fall 2008). 34 pars. <http://www.collegehillreview.com/001/0010101.html>

Letter to London Review of Books: “All Those Henrys” 5 June 2008

### 3. Reviews

Dalton Trevisan, *The Vampire of Curitiba and Other Stories*, *Review* 72 (Fall) 1972, pp. 68-69.

D. Clayton James, *The Years of MacArthur: Volume III: Triumph and Disaster*, St. Petersburg Times May 26, 1985.

Roger Starr, *The Rise and Fall of New York City*, St. Petersburg *Times* June 2, 1985.

William Pritchard, *Frost: A Literary Life Reconsidered*, PD Review, January 15, 1987.

Tom Wolfe, *The Bonfire of The Vanities*, PD Review, January 28, 1989.

Vladimir Nabokov, *Selected Letters*, PD Review, November 11, 1989.

Jim Locke, *The Apple Corps Guide to the Well-Built House*, Sites 21/22 (Fall) 1989.

Thomas Pynchon, *Vineland*, *PD Review*, May 7, 1990.

Brian Boyd, *Vladimir Nabokov: The Russian Years: 1899-1940, The American Scholar* (Autumn) 1991.

### 4. Talks

“Popular Culture and Literature” CCCC, Anaheim, CA, 1973.

“Ends and Means in Marquez” The New School For Social Research, October 15, 1976.

“Style Comes to The Hebrides” The American Society For Eighteenth-Century Studies, Spring 1978.

“How Modernism Gives Us The Works” Amherst College, Spring 1978.

“Prosody and Laterality: A Potential Therapy for Stutterers” Symposium of the Graduate Program in Speech Pathology, Rutgers, October, 1981.

“Writer and Critic in the Twentieth Century” Seton Hall University, January 8, 1991.

“The Cracked Mirror of Twentieth Century Art” Phi Delta Kappa, NYU Chapter, January 29, 1991.

“Multiple Authorship in Scientific Papers: The Problem and a False Solution” ILS Conference on Science and Culture; Kentucky State University, April 3, 1998.

“*Fahrenheit 451*: One Book for New Jersey Program. Piscataway Library and Bernardsville Library, Spring 2002

## B. COMPUTER PROGRAMS

### 1. Programs

In 1979 I proposed and helped to develop the STYLE and DICTION programs at Bell Laboratories where they resulted in WRITER'S WORKBENCH. See the letter from the Head of Computer Research attached to the initial Technical Memorandum.

### 2. Articles

“Writing Tools: The STYLE and DICTION Programs” Bell Laboratories Technical Memorandum (October 31, 1979), 15pp. With Lorinda Cherry.

“Computerized Analysis of Prose Style Through Word Processing Systems” *Technical Communication--The Bridge of Understanding: Proceedings of the 27th International Technical Communications Conference 1981*, pp. C121-123.

### 3. Talks

“*Writer's Workbench: An Objective Means To Improve Writing and the Supervision of Writing Through Computerized Analysis*” Talk delivered to various departments, organizations, and writing courses at Bell Laboratories 1979-1980.

“Improving Business Writing Through Computer Analysis”  
Talk delivered at the Rotary Club of Florham Park, NJ, November 15, 1981.

“*Writer's Workbench: A Program for the Computerized Analysis of Prose Style*” Talk delivered at The Conference on College Composition and Communication, October 1982.

“Computers and Literature” Introductory remarks delivered as Chairman of the Literature Section of The International Conference on Data Bases in the Humanities, Rutgers, June 1983.

## TEACHING PUBLICATIONS

### A. LITERATURE

#### 1. Books

*Literature: An Introduction to Critical Reading* (Fort Worth, Texas: Harcourt Brace Jovanovitch College Publishers, 1993).

### B. COMPOSITION

#### 1. Books

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*One Hundred Major Modern Writers* (Indianapolis: Bobbes-Merrill, 1984). With Robert Atwan.

*Effective Writing for the College Curriculum* (New York: McGraw-Hill, 1987). With Robert Atwan.

*Writing Day By Day* (New York: Harper and Row, 1987). With Robert Atwan.

*Essays for the Eighties* (New York: Random House, 1987).

*The College Writer's Reader* (New York: McGraw-Hill, 1988).

Hill, 1989). *The College Writer's Reader--1989 Edition* (New York: McGraw-

*Essays 100* (New York: Macmillian, 1990).

*Readings for the Twenty-first Century* (Boston: Allyn and Bacon, 1991).

*Discovering Language* (Boston: Allyn and Bacon, 1992).

*Forming Content* (New York: Harper Collins, 1993). With James Barszcz.

*Reading and Writing Short Arguments* (Mountain View, CA: Mayfield, 1993).

*Readings for the Twenty-first Century*, 2d edition (Boston: Allyn and Bacon, 1994). With Joshua Ozersky.

*Reading and Writing Short Arguments*, 2d edition (Mountain View, CA: Mayfield, 1997).

*Readings for the Twenty-first Century*, 3d edition (Boston: Allyn and Bacon, 1997). With Joshua Ozersky.

*Reading and Writing Short Arguments*, 3d edition (Mountain View, CA: Mayfield, 2000).

*Readings for the Twenty-first Century*, 4th edition (Boston: Allyn and Bacon, 2000). With Joshua Ozersky.

*Readings for the Twenty-first Century*, 5<sup>th</sup> edition (Boston: Longman Publishers, 2003).

*Argument and a Movie* (New York: McGraw-Hill-Custom Publishing, 2003). With John Belton.

*Celebrity Writing in America: Mass Culture and Composition* (Boston: Longman Publishers, 2006)

*Reading and Writing Short Arguments*, 5<sup>th</sup> Edition (New York: McGraw-Hill, 2006)

*Great Interdisciplinary Ideas* (New York: Penguin, Academics, 2008) (released October 2007)

## C. MASS MEDIA

### 1. Books

American Mass Media: Industries and Issues (New York: Random House, 1978). With Robert Atwan and Barry Orton.

American Mass Media: Industries and Issues--Second Edition (New York: Random House, 1981). With Robert Atwan and Barry Orton.

American Mass Media: Industries and Issues--Third Edition (New York: Random House, 1984). With Robert Atwan and Barry Orton.

### 2. CD-ROMs

Great Literature Plus (Princeton, NJ: Bureau of Electronic Publishing, 1996)

Edited additions to 2d Edition and created Guides to Poetry, Fiction, Drama, and Literary Non-Fiction.

### 3. Internet Publications

Poetry Editor for PraxisPost.com--An Ezine 2000-2002

"Welcome to Williams' Corner" (PraxisPost.com, June 2000)

"A Note on Williams and 'Spring and All'" (PraxisPost.com, June 2000)

"A Note on Samuel Johnson and 'On the Death of Dr. Robert Levet'" (PraxisPost.com, July 2000)

"A Note on Walt Whitman and 'The Wound Dresser'" (PraxisPost.com, August 2000)

"A Note on Wallace Stevens and 'The Emperor of Ice-Cream'" (PraxisPost.com, September 2000)

"A Note on Robert Frost and 'Home Burial'" (PraxisPost.com, October 2000)

"Drugs, Sex and Death in Shakespeare's Pharmacy" (PraxisPost.com, November, 2000)

"Elizabeth Bishop learns suffering in the waiting room" (PraxisPost.com, December, 2000)

"A bruise is brought down as his spirit mends in a poem of Gerard Manley Hopkins" (PraxisPost.com, January 2001)

"Emily Dickinson can't locate what ails her: brain, mind or soul?" (PraxisPost.com, February, 2001)

"Poet David Watts on the seduction of a needle under the skin" (PraxisPost.com, March 2001)

"A poem by Dan Moran captures medical research smiling for the Camera" (PraxisPost.com, April, 2001)

"Robert Frost searches frantically for the meaning of a boy's fatal accident" (PraxisPost.com, May, 2001)

“Poet Rafael Campo, MD, wonders about the taboos we break when we analyze the body’s mechanics” (PraxisPost.com, June, 2001)

“Poet David Watts, MD, ponders the erotic amnesia with which he protects a patient’s intimacy” (PraxisPost.com, August, 2001).

#### D. NATIONAL STANDARDIZED TESTS

##### 1. Educational Testing Service

From 1969 to 1982 I served as a free-lance Writer, Consultant, Design Committee Member and Design Committee Chairman with The Educational Testing Service and produced test questions and test designs still used by students nationwide.

##### a. Question Writer

Scholastic Aptitude Test (SAT)  
Verbal Aptitude  
English Literature

Advanced Placement Test (AP)  
English Composition  
English and American Literature

Graduate Record Examination (GRE)  
Verbal Aptitude  
English and American Literature

Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL)

##### b. Consultant

Project EQuality

##### c. Design Committee Member

“The Analysis and Interpretation of Literature” (Second Test Edition)--The College Level Examination Program (CLEP) 1971-72.

##### d. Design Committee Chairman

“The Analysis and Interpretation of Literature” (Third Test Edition)--The College Level Examination Program (CLEP) 1980-81.



2. DANTES--A program to develop standardized tests for non-traditional students.

Consultant--1980.

3. National Assessment of Learning in the Humanities

Consultant--1983

#### E. TELEVISION PROGRAMS

1. The University of Mid-America's Television Poetry series, Anyone for Tennyson?

Consultant--1975

#### 2. LITERARY VISIONS

This PBS series of 26 half-hour episodes on approaches to the main literary genres first aired in the fall of 1992. I appear briefly with other critics and authors in episodes #1, #2, #25, and #26 which deal with general aspects of literature and as a featured critic in four episodes on particular works:

#4--On Frank O'Connor's short story, "First Confession." William Vesterman, Rutgers University; Greg Ulmer, University of Florida.

#12 On poems by Robert Browning and Langston Hughes. William Vesterman, Rutgers University; Alvin Aubert, Wayne State University; Benjamin DeMott, Amherst College.

#15 On Prosodic Technique in Poetry--illustrated in poems by Poe and Emily Dickinson. William Vesterman, Rutgers University; Benjamin DeMott Amherst College.

#19 On Hamlet. William Vesterman, Rutgers University; Carol Gelderman, University of New Orleans; Mary Poovey, Johns Hopkins University.

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