

**Joseph Leo Blotner**  
**Doctor of Letters**

Joseph Blotner, Professor Emeritus of English in the University of Michigan, is among our nation's most eminent literary biographers. His 1974 two-volume biography of William Faulkner is recognized as the finest guide to the life and work of America's pre-eminent 20<sup>th</sup> century novelist. His 1997 biography of Robert Penn Warren is at this time the only biography of another of the most prominent American writers. Other works include *Faulkner in the University* (1959), the best guide we have to Faulkner's interpretation of his own novels, *Selected Letters of William Faulkner* (1977) and *Uncollected Stories of William Faulkner* (1979). Blotner has also written on J.D. Salinger and other American novelists as well as on the political novel. Because of his important work, Blotner has lectured throughout the South, the nation, and the world. During his career he taught at three major state universities: the University of Virginia, the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, and the University of Michigan. Residing in Charlottesville, Virginia, since his retirement, Professor Blotner continues to lecture throughout the South and has returned to Carolina on several occasions to great appreciation.

The University is pleased to honor this distinguished scholar and colleague with the degree of Doctor of Letters.