

CURRICULUM VITA

WILBERT H. AHERN

Morse-Alumni Distinguished Teaching Professor of History
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EDUCATION

Ph.D., Northwestern University, Evanston, IL, 1968
Major field in U.S. history; secondary fields in Russian history and 20th-century world history.

M.A., Northwestern University, Evanston, IL, 1966
History

B.A., Oberlin College, Oberlin, OH, 1963.

EMPLOYMENT

Morse-Alumni Distinguished Teaching Professor of History, 1996--
Program Consultant, Tribal College Programs, The Bush Foundation, 1998- (on 1/5 time leave from the University)

Director, Faculty Center for Learning and Teaching, University of Minnesota, Morris, 2001-4
Chairperson, Division of the Social Sciences, University of Minnesota, Morris, 1987-95

Acting Director of Faculty Development, University of Minnesota, Morris, 1993-94
Acting Academic Dean, University of Minnesota, Morris, fall 1992, 1978-79
Professor of History, University of Minnesota, Morris, 1979--.
Associate Professor of History, 1970-79.
Assistant Professor of History, 1967-70.
Visiting Associate Professor of History, Northwestern University, Summer 1975.

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS AND HONORS

Memberships:

American Society for Ethnohistory
Organization of American Historians
Western History Association

Awards and Honors:

Academy of Distinguished Teachers, University of Minnesota, 1999-
Morse-Alumni Distinguished Teaching Professor of History, 1996--
Horace T. Morse-Amoco Award for Outstanding Contributions to
Undergraduate Education, University of Minnesota, 1984.
Solon J. Buck Award for the best article in Minnesota
History, 1984.
Danforth Associate, 1981-86.

TEACHING AND PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT

Teaching areas:

World History, 1500 to the present; African-American History; American Indians and the U.S.-a
History; Civil War and Reconstruction; Facing West, 1790-1999; Gilded Age and the
Progressive Era; Red, White and Black: Race and Culture in Early America; Strategies
for Survival: Native Americans in the Assimilationist Era.

Program Development and Review:

Project Director, Enhancing Student Learning through Innovative Teaching and Technology,
2001-4, funded by the Bush Foundation
Faculty Enrichment Program Coordinator, UMM, 1993-94
Bush Foundation Faculty Development Proposal Advisory Committee, U of MN, 1989-91, 1999-
2000.
Director of General Education, 1985-87.
High Ability Student Program Planning Committee, 1985-87,
led to the current UMM Honors Program.
Planning and Advisory Committee, Northwest Area Program for
Active Learning, U of MN, 1981-85.
Coordinator, UMM Freshman Seminar Program, 1980-86.
Director, West Central Minnesota Historical Center, 1973-87, 1996-99.

SCHOLARLY AND PROFESSIONAL ACTIVITY

Research in Progress:

"An Indian Heart and A White Man's Head?": Returned Indian Students in the Assimilationist
Era, 1880 - 1928" book ms.
"From Dream to Nightmare: American Indian Boarding Schools, 1880-1928,"
"The Road Not Taken: Catholic Non-Reservation Boarding Schools in Minnesota in the
Assimilationist Era" co-authored with Patrick Johnston

Publications:

Book Chapter:

"Indigenes And Colonizers In The United States And New Zealand" in Lynne Anderson, et al. eds., *Internationalizing the Curriculum: Integrating Study Abroad into the Curriculum*, Lynn C. Anderson, ed. (Mpls: University of Minnesota, 2005)

"Indian Education and Bureacracy: The Morris Indian School, 1887-1909," in Anne J. Aby, ed., *The North Star State: A Minnesota History Reader* (St. Paul: MHS Press, 2002), pp. 348-74 [repr of 1984 essay below]

"Assimilationist Racism: The Case of the 'Friends of the Indian'" in R.W. Nelson and D. A. Nock, eds., *Reading, Writing and Riches: Education and the Socio-Economic Order in North America* (1978).

Articles:

"An Experiment Aborted: Returned Indian Students and the Indian School Service, 1881-1908," Ethnohistory, 44 (Spring 1997).

William G. Tierney, Wilbert H. Ahern, Clara Sue Kidwell, "Enhancing Faculty Development at Tribal Colleges," Tribal College Journal (Feb. 1996)

"'To Kill the Indian and Save the Man': The Boarding School in American Indian Education," in Larry Remele, ed., Fort Totten: Military Post and Indian School, 1867-1959 (Bismark: State Historical Society of North Dakota, 1986).

"Indian Education and Bureaucracy: The School at Morris, 1887-1909," Minnesota History, 49 (Fall 1984) [recipient of the Solon J. Buck Award]; reprinted in Anne J. Aby, ed., *The North Star State: A Minnesota History Reader* (St. Paul: MHS Press, 2002), pp. 348-74

"The 'Returned Indians': Hampton Institute and Its Indian Alumni, 1878-1893," J. of Ethnic Studies, X (1983).

"Laissez Faire vs. Equal Rights: Liberal Republicans and Limits to Reconstruction," Phylon, 40 (1979).

"Assimilationist Racism: The Case of the 'Friends of the Indian'," J. of Ethnic Studies, IV (1976).

"The Cox Plan of Reconstruction: A Case Study in Ideology and Race Relations," Civil War History, XVI (1970).

Entries in American National Biography, John A. Garraty, ed (N.Y.: Oxford University Press & ACLS, 1998); Encyclopedia of the American West, Alan Axelrod & Charles Phillips, eds. (NY,

Macmillan, 2001); Dictionary of Afro-American Slavery, John David Smith and Randall M. Miller, eds. (Westport, CT, 1988); Biographical Dictionary of Social Welfare in America, Walter Trattner, ed. (Westport, CT, 1985); The Dictionary of American Negro Biography, Rayford W. Logan and Michael Winston, eds., (N.Y.: W.W. Norton, 1979); Encyclopedia of Southern History (1979).

Book reviews in American Historical Review, American Indian Quarterly, History Teacher, Journal of American History, Journal of Southern History, Minnesota History, North Dakota History, Political Science Quarterly, Western Historical Quarterly.

Recent Conference Papers and Presentations:

- “From Dream to Nightmare: American Indian Boarding Schools, 1880-1928,” American Society for Ethnohistory, November 2005. Versions also presented at the University of North Dakota (April 2005) and the University of Wyoming (March 2006)
- “The Road not Taken: Catholic Non-Reservation Indian Boarding Schools in Minnesota, 1885 to 1900,” Northern Great Plains History Conference, September 2003 (co-authored with Patrick Johnston).
- “Returned Indian Students and Christian Missions on the Northern Great Plains, 1880-1920,” American Society for Ethnohistory Annual Meeting, Nov. 1996.
- "Our 'Indian Heart' and Our 'White Man's Head': Native Americans' Quest for Employment in the Indian School Service," American Society for Ethnohistory Annual Meeting, Nov. 1993.
- "From CONNECTIONS to INQUIRY: A Freshman Seminar Program Ten Years Later," Tenth Annual Conference on the Freshman Year, Columbia, SC, Feb., 1991.

Professional Service:

Ms. reviewer, *American Indian Quarterly*, *Civil War History*, *Ethnohistory*, *Great Plains Quarterly*, *North Dakota History*

Program Consultant for Faculty Development, The Bush Foundation, 1993—

Board of Directors, Collaboration for the Advancement of College Teaching and Learning, 1989-95, 2000-3 (Chair, 1990-93)

Minnesota State Historic Records Advisory Board, 2000—4

Minnesota State Review Board for Historic Preservation, 1986-92

Chair, 1990-92