
John P. Ernst, Ph.D.

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HIGHLIGHTS OF QUALIFICATIONS

- Experienced Academic Administrative Leader
- Effective Collaborator with Results in Campus Coalition and Consensus Building
- Student Focused Individual with an Emphasis on Student Personal Growth
- Promoter of Diverse and Inclusive Living and Learning Communities

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Dean, Caudill College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences, Morehead State University, 2017-2020. (Three-Year Appointment Based on Internal Search)

- Provide leadership to a college of 2,000 students, 48 major and minor programs, 131 faculty members and staff, a budget of \$11.6 million, with vision and oversight for recruitment, retention, and academic programs.
- Realigned the College into three schools to promote synergy and address financial realities.
- Integration into the College of standalone unit, Kentucky Center for Traditional Music (KCTM).

Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs and Student Success, Morehead State University, 2015 - 2017.

- Supervised a unit of nearly thirty individuals, providing oversight to the areas of Academic Advising and Retention, First Year Programs, Minority Academic Services and Retention, and College Readiness.
- Developed a multi-year phased plan to increase retention and graduation rates through student academic and co-curricular engagement. First-to Second-Year Retention rates increased markedly: 2014-65.7%, 2015-70.7%, and 2016-72.3%.
- Reorganized staffing to more effectively address specific at-risk populations and address state performance metrics.
- Solidified the College Readiness initiative by creation of a new position, Director of College Readiness, with a focus on addressing retention issues concerning developmental education.
- Initiated a pilot program to test cohort building and mentoring for students who are academically solid but significant retention risks due to socioeconomic or social reasons.
- Collaborated across academic Colleges to secure two grants with the Council of Postsecondary Education (CPE) to pilot co-requisite courses in math and English in 2016-2018.
- Created a Student Success Award Fund within the MSU Foundation to provide financial assistance to students who are retention risks.

Executive Assistant to the President, Morehead State University, 2012-2015.

- Served as a member of President's Cabinet and helped set university policy, including participating in four budgetary cycles.
- Led the Core Retention Advisory Team, a campus-wide group of faculty and staff that addressed larger issues impacting retention.
- Co-led the implementation of MapWorks Student Success project to achieve a better view of students in a holistic way.
- Co-led the development of the 2014-2018 University Strategic Plan, ASPIRE.
- Served as point person for the opening of the Craft Academy, a residential, dual credit STEM high school funded by the Kentucky State Legislature and private donor, Joe Craft.
- Served as the liaison with Housing to help resolve student issues.
- Served as the liaison with the offices of Financial Aid, Human Resources, University Advancement and Accounting and Financial Services to help resolve student, parent, faculty and staff issues.
- Helped establish the President's Performing Arts & Speakers Program, a campus wide intellectual program.

Chair, Department of History, Philosophy and Legal Studies, Morehead State University, 2008-2012.

- Managed a vibrant department of approximately 15 faculty, including personnel management, oversight of an annual budget and reconfiguration of the unit during a merging of departments.
- Advised students on program majors and career development.
- Collaborated with faculty in course scheduling to ensure effective enrollment management so students efficiently progressed through their programs to graduation.
- Collaborated with faculty to develop co-curricular opportunities for student engagement.

Director, Appalachian Studies Program, Morehead State University, 2003-2005.

- Administered the Appalachian Studies Program including complete scholarly presentation administration, oversight of an annual budget and interdepartmental collaboration.
- Advised students in the Appalachian Studies Minor and ensured students had the proper sequence of courses to graduate.
- Expanded curricular options by engaging cross-departmental faculty.
- Collaborated with the Kentucky Folk Art Center to develop the speaker series, *Appalachia: Yesterday and Today*, a student-centered program that brought in timely presenters to discuss issues concerning the region.

Professor of History, Morehead State University, 1994 - Present.

- Content areas include American Studies, Vietnam War and Watergate, Twentieth Century Asian Wars, American Foreign Policy, and American Military History.

Part-time Instructor, University of Kentucky, 1991-1994.

- Responsible for courses in United States History.

Intern, Kentucky Historical Society, Summer 1991.

- Served as an assistant editor on the publications staff.

Researcher and Staff Writer for **The Kentucky Encyclopedia**, published by the University Press of Kentucky in 1992, 1988-1991.

- Researched and wrote original entries for *The Kentucky Encyclopedia*.

PROFESSIONAL ACHIEVEMENTS, SERVICE AND RECOGNITION

Kentucky Humanities Council, Member of the Board of Directors, 2017-Present.

Hindman Settlement School, Member of the Board of Directors, 2013-Present.

University Press of Kentucky, Member of Editorial Board, 2012-Present.

Kentucky Historical Society, Member of Executive Committee, 2013-2015.

Faculty Member of the Year, Morehead State University Student Government Association Student Choice Awards, 2013.

Community Oral History Award, Kentucky Historical Society, 2011. Served as a consultant with Asia Institute-Crane House and the Louisville Vietnamese community, the recipients.

Kentucky Historical Society, Consultant for the one-man play, *Theatre of War: Unresolved Conflict of Vietnam*, opening date of November 2, 2009.

Morehead State University President's Leadership Academy, 2007-2008.

Flying High Award, Morehead State University Student Government Association, 2004.

The Vietnam Center, Consultant for Virtual Vietnam Archive, Texas Tech University, 2002.

Master Teacher Award, Caudill College of Humanities, Morehead State University, 2001.

Kentucky Historical Society, Member of the Advisory Committee for the Highway Marker Program, 1998-2007.

Kentucky Historical Society, Member of the Publications Advisory Committee, 1997-2003.

National Endowment for the Humanities Summer Fellow, "American Wars in Asia: A Cultural Approach," a six-week seminar at the Maureen and Mike Mansfield Center, University of Montana, June-August 1995.

EDUCATION

Ph.D. in History, University of Kentucky, 1995

M.A. in History, Eastern Kentucky University, 1988

B.A. in History, Eastern Kentucky University, 1985

PUBLICATIONS

Books:

Co-editor, with David L. Anderson, ***The War that Never Ends: New Perspectives on the Vietnam War***. Lexington: University Press of Kentucky, 2007.

Forging a Fateful Alliance: Michigan State University and the Vietnam War. East Lansing: Michigan State University Press, 1998.

Articles:

Co-author, with Yvonne Baldwin, "The Not So Silent Minority: Louisville's Antiwar Movement, 1966-1975," appearing in ***The Journal of Southern History*** 73 (2007): 105-142.

Co-author, with Yvonne Baldwin, "In the Valley: The Combat Infantryman and the Vietnam War." In David L. Anderson and John Ernst, eds., ***The War that Never Ends: New Perspectives on the Vietnam War***. Lexington: University Press of Kentucky, 2007.

"Tutoring Democracy: MSU and the Politics of Reform in South Vietnam." In Philip West, Steve Levine, and Jackie Hiltz eds., ***America's Wars in Asia: A Cultural Approach to History and Memory***. Armonk, New York: M.E. Sharpe, 1998.

"Forging a Fateful Alliance: The Role Of Michigan State University in the Development of America's Vietnam Policy," appearing in ***The Michigan Historical Review*** 19 (1993): 49-66.

"Vietnam War," 1200 word, signed entry in John E. Kleber, ed., ***The Encyclopedia of Louisville***. Lexington: The University Press of Kentucky, 2000.

Book Reviews:

Joseph A. Fry, *Debating Vietnam: Fulbright, Stennis, and Their Senate Hearings*, appearing in ***The Journal of Southern History*** 74 (2008): 236-38.

Seth Jacobs, *America's Miracle Man in Vietnam: Ngo Dinh Diem, Religion, Race, and U.S. Intervention in Southeast Asia, 1950-1957*, appearing in ***The Register of the Kentucky Historical Society*** 104 (2006): 198-99.

Philip E. Catton, *Diem's Final Failure: Prelude to America's War in Vietnam*, appearing in ***The Register of the Kentucky Historical Society*** 101 (2003): 549-51.

John Hagan, *Northern Passage: American War Resisters in Canada*, appearing in the ***Florida Historical Quarterly*** 81 (2003): 481-83.

Marc Jason Gilbert, ed., *The Vietnam War on Campus: Other Voices, More Distant Drums*, appearing in the ***Florida Historical Quarterly*** 81 (2002): 233-35.

David Anderson, ed., *Facing My Lai: Moving Beyond the Massacre*, appearing in ***The Register of the Kentucky Historical Society*** 97 (1999): 232-34.

Arnold R. Isaacs, *Vietnam Shadows: The War, Its Ghosts, and Its Legacy*, appearing in ***The Register of the Kentucky Historical Society*** 96 (1998): 215-16.

Joseph Morgan, *The Vietnam Lobby: The American Friends of Vietnam, 1955-1975*, appearing in ***The Register of the Kentucky Historical Society*** 95 (1997): 331-32.

Tom Holm, *Strong Hearts, Wounded Souls: Native American Veterans of the Vietnam War*, appearing in the ***Military History of the West*** 27 (1997): 108-9.

Anne Blair, *Lodge in Vietnam: A Patriot Abroad*, appearing in ***The Register of the Kentucky Historical Society*** 94 (1996): 341-42.

David Anderson, *Trapped by Success: The Eisenhower Administration and Vietnam, 1953-1961*, appearing in ***The Register of the Kentucky Historical Society*** 89 (1991): 426-28.

PAPERS READ

Co-presenter (with Yvonne Baldwin), "Kentuckians and the Vietnam War," Videoconference for the **American Legacies Project**, December 2006.

Moderator and Panelist (with Michael C.C. Adams, James Klotter, and Bob Topmiller), "Bringing War Into the Classroom," at the **Kentucky Association of Teachers of History Conference**. Northern Kentucky University, September 2006.

Commentator, "The Trials of Nation Building and Pacification: American Academics and Vietnam," at the **Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations**. University of Maryland and the National Archives and Records Administration, June 2005.

Co-presenter (with Yvonne Baldwin), "The Not So Silent Minority: Louisville's Anti-War Movement, 1966-1975," at the **Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations**. University of Texas, June 2004.

Co-presenter (with John Hennen), “The Vietnam War and the Civil Rights Movement,” at the **Kentucky History Education Conference—African American History**, Kentucky History Center, July 2002.

“ROK and the USA: The Vietnam War Experience of American and South Korean Soldiers,” at the **4th Triennial Vietnam Symposium**, The Vietnam Center, Texas Tech University, April 2002.

Co-presenter (with Yvonne Baldwin), “Louisville’s Vietnam War,” at the **Ohio Valley History Conference**, Murray State University, October 2000.

Panelist (with Walter La Feber, Robert McMahon, George Herring, and Yvonne Baldwin), “Viet Nam: Remembering America’s Longest War,” at the **Sayre History Symposium**, Lexington, Kentucky, February 1999.

Commentator, “Perspectives on Kentucky’s Role in the Spanish-American War,” at the **Ohio Valley History Conference**, Eastern Kentucky University, October 1998.

Co-presenter (with Yvonne Baldwin), “Kentucky and Vietnam: A CD-ROM,” at the **Kentucky Association of Teachers of History Conference**, University of Kentucky, September 1998.

“Bogart (Humphrey, That Is) Professors: Michigan State University and the Vietnam War,” at the **Popular Culture Association/American Culture Association Conference**, Orlando, Florida, April 1998.

“The Vietnam War and the Novel,” at **Transylvania University**, Lexington, Kentucky, April 1996.

Co-presenter (with Xiaobo Hu), “Will ‘Modernization’ Work in Post-Cold War Vietnam? The End of the Age of Models,” at **Southeast Conference of the Association for Asian Studies**, University of Tennessee in Knoxville, January 1996.

“Forging a Fateful Alliance: The Role of Michigan State University in the Development of America’s Vietnam Policy,” at the **Ohio Valley History Conference**, Eastern Kentucky University, October 1994.

GRANTS FUNDED

\$900.00 from the Kentucky Humanities Council for the 2001 Kentucky Association of Teachers of History Conference, ***Politics: Democracy is Messy Business***.

(\$2,994 with Yvonne Baldwin) from Morehead State University’s Institute for Regional Analysis and Public Policy for “Kentucky and the Vietnam War: Book and CD-ROM,” 1999.

(\$10,895 with Yvonne Baldwin) from the Kentucky Oral History Commission and Morehead State University for “Vietnam and Kentucky: An Oral History of the War,” 1997.

AFFILIATIONS

Southern Historical Association
Society for Historians of American Foreign Relations
Kentucky Association of Teachers of History
(Executive Board, 1995-1999; President-Elect, 1999-2000;
President, 2000-2001; Past-President 2001-2002)
Morehead State University, Herron Leadership Organization
(Faculty Adviser, 2016 – present)

REFERENCES

Dr. Wayne D. Andrews, President Emeritus, Morehead State University
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