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## **Julie Pelletier To Deliver 2017 Wilbert H. Ahern Distinguished Lecture**

*Associate professor at the University of Winnipeg and acting executive director of the Global College Human Rights Program will discuss “Speaking Truth as Indigenization: Academia and Reconciliation” on February 6*

The University of Minnesota, Morris will welcome Julie Pelletier, associate professor at the University of Winnipeg and acting executive director of the Global College Human Rights Program, for the 2017 Wilbert H. Ahern Distinguished Lecture on Monday, February 6, at 7:30 p.m. in the Humanities Fine Arts Recital Hall. Pelletier’s talk, titled “Speaking Truth as Indigenization: Academia and Reconciliation,” is free and open to the public.

Pelletier is a cultural anthropologist specializing in indigenous studies with a particular interest in the indigenization of the academy, the politics of representation and identity, and economic development as self-determination. An associate professor at the University of Winnipeg, Pelletier has served as the chair of the Department of Indigenous Studies and is currently the acting executive director of the Global College Human Rights Program. She previously served as assistant professor of anthropology at Morris, where she was a founding faculty member of the American Indian Studies program.

The late Wilbert H. Ahern was a member of the Morris faculty from 1967 until he retired in 2010 as a Morse-Alumni Distinguished Professor of History. He began teaching American Indian history in 1975 and was a founding faculty member of the American Indian Studies program. His research and publications explored the shaping of United States policy toward American Indians in the assimilationist era, 1877 to 1933, and the strategies for survival that Native peoples developed. Especially notable was his analysis of American Indians in the Indian School Service and his history of the Morris Indian School, whose legacy helped shape the University of Minnesota, Morris.

The Wilbert H. Ahern Distinguished Lecture Series is made possible, in part, by gifts and contributions to the Bert and Janet Ahern American Indian Studies Enhancement Fund, established in recognition of their retirements from the University of Minnesota, Morris.