

## **Erik Peterson Curriculum Vitae**

### **Education**

- 1995: PhD, American Studies, University of Minnesota, Twin Cities. Dissertation: *Psychological Frontiers: Politics, Culture, and the Redefinition of Democratic Freedom*
- 1983: B.A. in Biology, Gustavus Adolphus College, St. Peter, MN.

### **Teaching/Organizing Positions**

- 2000-present: Northern Minnesota Director of Programs, Labor Education Service, University of Minnesota; Assistant Professor, Sociology/Anthropology/Cultural Studies, University of Minnesota, Duluth.
- 2005-present Director of Labor Programs, Wellstone Action!
- 2003-2004 Senior Trainer, Wellstone Action!
- 1995-2000: Assistant Professor, Humanities and Classics/American Studies, University of Minnesota, Duluth.
- 1994 - 2000: Labor Organizer and Union Representative, AFSCME Council 96, Duluth.
- 1993 - 1994 Campaign Manager, Gubernatorial Campaign, Minnesota
- 1987-1993: Instructor in Composition, Literature, and American Studies, University of Minnesota, Twin Cities.

### **Journal Articles and Books**

- "Coming Together: Promises and Pitfalls of Minnesota's Corporate Accountability Campaigns," chapter in Partnering for Change: How Unions and Community Groups Build Coalitions for Economic Justice David Reynolds, ed. (ME Sharpe, Inc., 2004)
- "Coming Together: Promises and Pitfalls of Minnesota's Corporate Accountability Campaigns," Working USA (Winter 2001/2002): 46-80.
- "An American, An Indian: Ethnicity, Assimilation, and Balance in Charles Eastman's From the Deep Woods to Civilization" in Early Native American Writing: New Critical Essays, ed. Helen Jaskoski (New York: Cambridge University Press, 1996): 173-189.
- "Psychological Frontiers: Politics, Culture, and the Redefinition of Democratic Freedom," PhD Dissertation. University of Minnesota. 1996.
- Voices: A Collection of Writings and Stories for a Diverse Community, editor and preface, St. Paul, MN: St. Paul Planning and Economic Development Department, 1992.
- "An American, An Indian: Ethnicity, Assimilation, and Balance in Charles Eastman's From the Deep Woods to Civilization," Studies in American Indian Literature 4:2,3 (Summer/Fall 1992): 145-160.

### **Conference Presentations and Speeches**

- "Building labor's power inside out," Panel paper presentation, UALE Convention, Seattle, May 17-19, 2006.
- "Building power for progressive change," keynote presentation, Delaware State Education Association (DSEA) Summer Leadership Academy, Salisbury, MD, August 3, 2005.

**Erik Peterson**  
**Curriculum Vitae**

- “Its more than being right: The politics of building progressive power,” paper presented at UMD Sociology/Anthropology/Cultural Studies Speaker Series, Duluth, April 11, 2005.
- “Forging a common agenda: Living Wage and corporate accountability organizing in Minnesota,” paper presented at the UALE Convention, Chicago, April 15, 2004.
- “Legal Policy Partnerships Between Organized Labor and Tobacco Control,” panel discussant, National Tobacco Control Conference, Boston, December 10, 2003.
- “Tales from the Field: WorkSHIFTS Labor Outreach,” with Susan Mitchell, National Tobacco Control Conference, Boston, December 10, 2003.
- "Challenges and Strategies for Bargaining in an Economic Downturn," keynote presentation, MNA Power Bargaining II Conference, Arden Hills, September 16, 2003.
- "Under Threat: Democracy and Jobs Under the New Generation of Global Trade Agreements," Minneapolis, August 11, 2003.
- "America's New 'Dollar Diplomacy': Free Trade and the War on Terrorism," presented at War, Lies and Empire town forum, July 22, 2003.
- "Union Members and Smoking in the Workplace," presentation for STOMP Tobacco and Labor Conference, Albuquerque, June 25, 2003.
- "Changing the World: Activism, Academics and American Studies," paper presented at the American Studies Conference, Houston, November 14-17, 2002.
- "Fighting the Good Fight: Unions, Social Class, and Reducing Exposure to Tobacco Smoke at the Workplace," keynote address for the Minnesota Second-hand Smoke Conference, Duluth, August 14, 2002.
- "Unsafe at Any Level: Second-Hand Smoke and Workers' Safety," paper presented at CareNorth Conference, SMDC Medical Center, Duluth, June 27, 2001.
- "Without Illusion: Revisiting Saul Alinsky," presented at Working Class Studies Conference, Youngstown, OH (May 2001).
- "New Directions for Living Wage and Corporate Accountability Campaigns," keynote address, National Living Wage Conference, Baltimore, November 11, 2000.
- “Mark Myles vs. the Luddites: The Battle Over Public Education in Duluth,” paper presented at the First Reading Conference XIV, Conference on American Culture, University of Minnesota, Duluth, April 30, 1999.
- “Vision in Time: Apocalypse and Memory in Leslie Marmon Silko’s Ceremony and Almanac of the Dead,” paper presented at the First Reading XVI, Conference on American Culture, University of Minnesota, Duluth, April 9, 1996.
- “The Decline of Western Civilization ... Again? Culture, Nationalism and the Revitalization of the American Mind,” paper presented at First Reading XV, Conference on American Culture, University of Minnesota, Duluth, April 28, 1995.
- "Visions in Time: Apocalypse and Memory in Leslie Marmon Silko's Almanac of the Dead and Ceremony," paper presented at MELUS, University of California, Berkeley, April 30, 1993.
- "Freud Meets the New World Unconscious: American Exceptionalism Along the Psychological Frontier," paper presented at Mid-American American Studies Association, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, April 16, 1993.
- "Questioning Writing: Multicultural Concerns in the University, the Classroom, and the Writing Center," paper and presentation at Midwest Writing Centers Association Conference, St. Paul, MN, October 1-3, 1992.
- "Psychological Redefinitions of Democratic Freedom: Some Observations and Comments,"

## **Erik Peterson Curriculum Vitae**

- presentation at American Studies Orientation, Program in American Studies, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN September 21, 1992.
- "Teaching Multiculturally in a Neighborhood-Based Open Enrollment Writing Program," paper presented at the American Council of Teachers, Minneapolis, May 2, 1992.
- "The Personal Made Political: The Politicization of Domesticity and Democratic Childrearing in the 1940s and '50s," paper presented at the "First Reading XII" Conference on American Culture, University of Minnesota, Duluth, May 1, 1992.
- "Free Personalities: Liberalism, Social Science, and the Redefinition of Democratic Freedom," presented at the 34th Annual Western Social Sciences Association, Denver, April 23, 1992.
- "Psychological Frontiers: Psychoanalysis, Personality, and Politics in Mid-Century United States," presented at Mid-American American Studies Association Meeting, University of Iowa, Iowa City, March 28, 1992.
- "From Crossing the Bering Strait to Losing Your Bearings: Multicultural Approaches to Teaching American Studies Survey Courses," panel discussion along with Polly Fry and Tony Smith, Mid-American American Studies Association, University of Iowa, Iowa City, March 28, 1992.
- "An American, An Indian: Ethnicity, Assimilation, and Balance in From the Deep Woods to Civilization," presented at American Voices: Discourses of Race, Gender and Ethnicity, 5th Annual Conference of MELUS, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, April 12, 1991.

### **Other Publications**

- "If the State wants to improve, it has to pay for it," opinion-editorial, Duluth News Tribune (July 15, 2006)
- "CAFTA will just worsen Central America's plight," opinion-editorial, Duluth News Tribune (June 30, 2005).
- "*Can Labour Standards Improve Under Globalization?* and *Labour and Globalisation: Results and Prospects*" Book Review. Labor Studies Journal 30.2 (Summer 2005): 99-101.
- "A Hard Job: Lessons from SEIU Local 284's five campaigns to organize Twin City school bus drivers," case study for SEIU Local 284, March 2005, [www.d.umn.edu/~epeters5/MAPL5111/](http://www.d.umn.edu/~epeters5/MAPL5111/)
- "Justice in Asbestos: LIUNA's Development of a Market-Wide Organizing Model," case study for LIUNA, March 2005, [www.d.umn.edu/~epeters5/MAPL5111/](http://www.d.umn.edu/~epeters5/MAPL5111/)
- "CAFTA: Paving the way for the FTAA," [www.d.umn.edu/~epeters5/UnderThreat/](http://www.d.umn.edu/~epeters5/UnderThreat/), March 2005, trainer curriculum 12 pp and powerpoint presentation.
- "Kitchen Table Economics: Part 1: Think you get a good deal from tax cuts? Dream on," The St. Paul Union Advocate (May 13, 2004): 1; 5.
- "Kitchen Table Economics: Part 2: The political economy behind the curtain in Oz," The St. Paul Union Advocate (May 27, 2004): 14.
- "Kitchen Table Economics: Part 3: Corporate America gets its way in class war," The St. Paul Union Advocate (July 8, 2004): 1; 5.
- "Kitchen Table Economics: Part 4: Saying the economy is better doesn't make it true," The St. Paul Union Advocate (July 22, 2004): 1; 3.
- "Wellstone refined his anger into perfect fuel for his causes," opinion-editorial, Duluth News Tribune (October 26, 2004)
- "Right to join unions under threat in U.S.," opinion-editorial, Duluth News Tribune (December 4, 2003)

**Erik Peterson**  
**Curriculum Vitae**

- Under Threat: Democracy and Jobs Under the FTAA and WTO, with Larry Weiss, [www.citizenstrade.org](http://www.citizenstrade.org), May 2003, 32 pp.
- "Under Threat: Democracy and Jobs Under the FTAA and WTO," with Larry Weiss, trainer curriculum, [www.citizenstrade.org](http://www.citizenstrade.org), May 2003.
- "Under Threat: New Trade Deals and Construction Workers," Powerpoint presentation, with Larry Weiss, [www.citizenstrade.org](http://www.citizenstrade.org), May 2003.
- "Under Threat: Public Sector Workers and GATS," Powerpoint presentation, with Larry Weiss, [www.citizenstrade.org](http://www.citizenstrade.org), May 2003.
- "Under Threat: Democracy Under the New Trade Deals," Powerpoint presentation, with Larry Weiss, [www.citizenstrade.org](http://www.citizenstrade.org), May 2003.
- "Looking for Corporate Loopholes? Try starting with these....," The Union Advocate, March 27-April 9, 2003, p1.
- "Raising revenues by closing loopholes and preferential tax breaks," Labor World (March 18, 2003): 1.
- "Pawlenty budget fails fairness test," opinion-editorial in Duluth News Tribune (March 6, 2003)
- "Help Keep Our Elections Clean," opinion-editorial, Duluth News Tribune (July 28, 2002)
- "Open up the development process to all views," article in Business North, Duluth, MN (November, 2001)
- "Smoking ban would save lives," opinion-editorial, Duluth News Tribune (October 16, 2001)
- "Republican-Ventura Budget Hits Working Families Hard," opinion-editorial, Duluth News Tribune, (June 28, 2001).
- "Labor and Religious Leaders Seek to Ensure Freedom to Join Unions," opinion-editorial, Duluth News Tribune, (April 14, 2001).
- "Childcare Workers Deserve Living Wages," opinion-editorial, Duluth News Tribune, (December 18, 2000).
- "New Memoir, *Packing House Daughter*, Evokes Complicated Class Divisions," book review, Labor World (December 6, 2000).