PROMOTION RECOMMENDATION

The University of Michigan-Dearborn
College of Arts, Sciences, and Letters
Department of Social Sciences

Ilir Miteza, assistant professor of economics, Department of Social Sciences, College of Arts, Sciences, and Letters, is recommended for promotion to associate professor of economics, with tenure, Department of Social Sciences, College of Arts, Sciences, and Letters.

Academic Degrees:
Ph.D. 2001 University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee
M.A. 1997 University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee
B.A. 1991 University of Tirana (Albania)

Professional Record:
2003 to present Assistant Professor of Economics, Department of Social Sciences, College of Arts, Sciences, and Letters
2001 to 2003 Visiting Assistant Professor, Department of Social Sciences, College of Arts, Sciences, and Letters
2000 to present Research Associate, Center for Research on International Economics, University of Milwaukee
1992 to 1995 Various positions, including Head, Monetary Policy Division, Central Bank of Albania

Summary of Evaluation:

Teaching: Ilir Miteza is rated an excellent teacher. His standard upper division offerings include intermediate macroeconomics, money and banking, and international finance, which are mainstays of our curriculum. In addition, at the University of Michigan-Dearborn he has taught intermediate microeconomics and prepared a graduate level course for the Master of Public Policy program; he has also taught statistics in Albania. His students typically evaluate him at around 4.3-4.4, on a scale of one to five. The open-ended responses in those evaluations often stress his interest in their learning and his availability outside of class, while praising the clarity of his lectures and his knowledge of the material. His teaching innovations include use of small groups in class, short simulation sessions in his lectures, and the use of web-based Aplia problem sets.

Research: Professor Miteza is rated an excellent researcher. He has been very prolific in the application of cutting-edge statistical techniques to issues of exchange rate devaluations, problems of transition economies, and the macroeconomics of the US economy. He has been active in presentations at professional meetings, both in this country and abroad, and we are confident in his continued success in this important area. He has been awarded research grants from the Rackham School in Ann Arbor and the Faculty Research Program at the University of Michigan-Dearborn. His external reviewers provided very strong supporting letters.
Recent and Significant Publications:


Service: Professor Miteza's service is rated significantly capable. With good judgment and quiet efficiency he ran the Department's Faculty Seminar, has served on faculty search committees, been the Economics webmaster, coordinated student awards and contributed to student advising. His work with our successful student team on "The Fed Challenge" was especially noteworthy. He has also provided above average professional service to the Midwest Economics Association as a session organizer and commentator, while serving as referee for two academic journals.

External Reviewers:

Reviewer (A)
"[Professor Miteza's] publications represent a coherent and rather impressive body of research... His work to this point has been somewhat narrow and his articles are brief and have the sharp focus of specialization, which is just what is expected and demanded of a scholar at his career stage."

Reviewer (B)
"[H]is work addresses interesting issues dealing with exchange rates and trade flows. He has been successful in publishing in several venues, which is impressive in light of the relatively heavy teaching load he has."

Reviewer (C)
"Professor Miteza has amassed a very large number of publications, and this is very impressive... since the teaching load described in your letter to me... is very heavy... I am confident that he will continue to produce and publish new papers in the years to come."
Reviewer (D)

"[Professor Miteza] is an active researcher who uses a statistical methodology [that] is quite sophisticated and well established in the literature... Overall the points made are straightforward and the analysis is of high quality and well done. [T]he overall level of econometric sophistication of the research is quite high and the quantity of publications in roughly a four year period is also quite high."

Reviewer (E)

"...Dr. Miteza's publications still stand significantly above - both in quality and quantity - in relation to others in his peer group... Besides his exceptional scholarly work, Dr. Miteza has been active in receiving research grants and attending several professional conferences. I believe that he will continue to be active in scholarly and other professional work."

Reviewer (F)

"My impression is that the quantity of Professor Miteza's publications is quite high considering the teaching load of 6 courses per year. [T]he work is also well focused, and represents a coherent contribution to an important area of research... I expect that Professor Miteza's standing in relation to others working in the area [of] empirical international finance who have recently received tenure at institutions with similar teaching loads must be quite strong."

Summary of Recommendation:

Professor Miteza is a fine example of the teacher-scholar model in which the University of Michigan-Dearborn takes pride. He has already accumulated an admirable research record that, with two submissions outstanding, gives every indication of future promise. His research informs his teaching, and students have responded positively to well-presented classes that are both informative and intellectually demanding. He is enthusiastic about both pillars of our teacher-scholar model, and the Department supports him unanimously. We are very pleased to recommend, with the strong support of the College of Arts, Sciences, and Letters Executive Committee, Ilir Miteza for promotion to associate professor of economics, with tenure, Department of Social Sciences, College of Arts, Sciences, and Letters.

Kathryn Anderson-Levitt
Dean
College of Arts, Sciences, and Letters

Daniel Little
Chancellor
University of Michigan-Dearborn

May 2007