THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
REGENTS COMMUNICATION

PROMOTION RECOMMENDATION

University of Michigan-Flint
College of Arts and Sciences
Department of History

John Stephen Ellis, assistant professor of history, Department of History, College of Arts and Sciences, is recommended for promotion to associate professor of history, with tenure, Department of History, College of Arts and Sciences.

Academic Degrees:

Ph.D. 1997 Boston College
M.A. 1995 University of Wales, Aberystwyth
B.S. 1990 Eastern Michigan University

Professional Record:

2002 to present Assistant Professor of History, University of Michigan-Flint
1999 to 2002 Assistant Professor, Green Mountain College, Poultney, Vermont
1999 Adjunct Lecturer, Merrimack College, North Andover, Maryland
1997 to 1999 Assistant Professor, Boston College, Chestnut Hill, Maryland

Summary of Evaluation:

Teaching – Over the past six years Professor Ellis has revised the history department’s offerings in Western European history and has contributed significantly to the development and revision of department courses in world history. He regularly teaches courses at levels ranging from introductory undergraduate surveys to specialized graduate courses, and has developed a significant and exciting range of new courses. His peer and student evaluations are favorable. Professor Ellis has also taught online, taught a study abroad course, and supervised theses.

Research – Professor Ellis’ forthcoming book *Investiture: Royal Ceremony and National Identity in Wales, 1911-1969*, promises to be a significant work of scholarship once it appears in 2008. This monograph is supplemented by important articles published in high-quality refereed journals or edited collections with a prestigious roster of fellow contributors. Professor Ellis’ research is favorably evaluated by external scholars, who also see great promise in the future directions of his research.

Recent and Significant Publications:

Book Manuscript:
Refereed Publications:

Reference Works, Reviews, Exhibits and Other Publications:
Ellis, John S. “Gwrol Ryfelwyr, Hedychwyr Tra Mâd?”, Cylchgrawn Barn, Rhif 532 (Mai 2007); Commissioned abridgement of “A Pacific People – A Martial Race” translated into Welsh by Dyfrig Jones for a popular Welsh language magazine.
Ellis, John S. Contributor, Keeping Up with the Joneses: The Story of the Welsh in the USA, museum exhibition, Ellis Island Museum, 2006 (exhibit traveled to University of Rio Grande in 2006 and Marymount University in 2007).
Ellis, John S. 2003 Slate Valley Museum Calendar, Granville: Slate Valley Museum Foundation, 2002; Calendar with historical photos and commentary.

Service – Professor Ellis has made significant contributions to his department through program revision, web-site development, and alumni events. He has contributed on a regular basis to College and University governance, and is active nationally and internationally in social and cultural activities related to the advancement of Welsh studies within the United States.

External Reviewers:

Reviewer (A):
“The essay in the Wales at War collection makes a valuable contribution not only to Welsh studies, but also to British historiography as a whole, in its straight-forward treatment of Welsh traditions of militarism and pacifism.”

Reviewer (B):
“I can say without hesitation that his work is important and of high quality.”

Reviewer (C):
“… Prof. Ellis has made a clear and important contribution to his field.”
Reviewer (D):
“His inclusion in the exciting recent collection on Wales and warfare edited by Cragoe and Williams (he has the only contributor from outside the UK) is a mark of his standing and of his innovative scholarship.”

Reviewer (E):
“Overall, my judgement [sic] is that John Ellis has, through his publications, made an original and distinctive contribution to the history of modern Britain and of modern Wales.”

Summary of Recommendation:
Professor Ellis has clearly met and exceeded the promotion and tenure guidelines of both his Department and of the College of Arts and Sciences. We enthusiastically concur with the Executive Committee’s recommendation that John Stephen Ellis be promoted to associate professor of history, with tenure, Department of History, College of Arts and Sciences.

Recommended by:

D. J. Trela, Dean
College of Arts and Sciences

Recommendation endorsed by:

Vahid Lotfi, Interim Provost and
Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs

Jack Kay, Interim Chancellor
University of Michigan-Flint

May 2008