Mehrdad Simkani, associate professor of mathematics, with tenure, Department of Mathematics, College of Arts and Sciences, is recommended for promotion to professor of mathematics, with tenure, Department of Mathematics, College of Arts and Sciences.

**Academic Degrees:**
- Ph.D. 1997 University of South Florida
- B.A. 1983 University of South Florida

**Professional Record:**
- 1994 to Present Associate Professor of Mathematics, with tenure, University of Michigan-Flint
- 2002 to 2006 Chair, Department of Mathematics, University of Michigan-Flint
- 1988 to 1994 Assistant Professor of Mathematics, University of Michigan-Flint
- 1987 to 1988 Visiting Assistant Professor, Oakland University

**Summary of Evaluation:**

**Teaching** – Professor Simkani is a versatile, dedicated teacher, with broad experience across a wide range of courses in the mathematics curriculum. Since 1988 he has taught more than twenty-five different courses, not including independent studies. He has engaged in course and program revision and is actively involved in academic assessment. Peer evaluations are positive. Professor Simkani’s passion for mathematics is evidenced also by positive student evaluations in courses taken by students at all levels of their undergraduate education.

**Research** – Professor Simkani has eight publications since 1986. Three additional works are in preparation or circulation. He has nineteen presentations, most at national or international conferences. External reviews attest to the quality and significance of Professor Simkani’s scholarship, which is actively cited by his peers.

**Recent and Significant Publications:**
**Refereed Publications:**


Refereed Publications in Process:

**Service** – Professor Simkani has an outstanding record of engaged, active and committed service. He chaired his department for nearly four years and currently chairs its assessment committee. He serves on the College of Arts and Sciences Curriculum Committee and is an elected representative to the Academic Affairs Advisory Committee for the University. He also has significant community engagement, particularly at local and regional schools.

**External Reviewers:**

Reviewer (A):
“The stature of journals and of conferences is no greater than the contributors, editors, and organizers. In these Prof. Simkani is in the best of company.”

Reviewer (B):
“Among the earlier papers of Dr. Simkani, I would say that his first paper and the paper he co-authored with Blatt and Saff have become classic in the study of zero distributions of the best (or near best) polynomial approximation ...”

Reviewer (C):
“[Dr. Simkani’s] ... published research is widely known and highly respected.”
Reviewer (D):
"[Dr. Simkani’s] ... work on overconvergence and propagation of convergence has a potential to find applications outside of mathematics in such areas as image inpainting."

Reviewer (E):
"I believe that [Dr. Simkani’s] work is of high quality and there is evidence of research that will continue."

Summary of Recommendation:
Professor Simkani is a loyal and committed colleague who has met or exceeded College requirements for promotion. Given exceptional records in teaching and service, and a significant record of refereed publication, we concur with the Executive Committee and unanimously recommend that Mehrdad Simkani be promoted to the rank of professor of mathematics, with tenure, Department of Mathematics, 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