PROMOTION RECOMMENDATION
The University of Michigan
College of Literature, Science, and the Arts

Enrique García Santo-Tomás, associate professor of Spanish, with tenure, Department of Romance Languages and Literatures, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts, is recommended for promotion to professor of Spanish, with tenure, Department of Romance Languages and Literatures, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts.

Academic Degrees:
Ph.D. 1997 Brown University
M.A. 1994 Brown University
Licenciatura 1992 Universidad Complutense de Madrid

Professional Record:
2003 – present Associate Professor, Department of Romance Languages and Literatures, University of Michigan
1999 – 2003 Assistant Professor, Department of Romance Languages and Literatures, University of Michigan
1997 – 1999 Assistant Professor, Department of Spanish and Italian, Queen’s University

Summary of Evaluation:
Teaching – Professor García Santo-Tomás is a conscientious and highly respected instructor, well rated by his students despite the difficulty of reading literature from the period that he teaches and the serious intellectual demands he places on those who take his courses. He has significantly expanded the course offerings in his field, in particular adding a course on women writers of the Spanish Golden Age. Students praise his vast knowledge, his enthusiasm and passion for teaching, and his ability to challenge students and to develop their critical thinking skills.

Research – Professor García Santo-Tomás’ scholarly work on the “Golden Age” literature and culture of early modern Spain combines quantity and quality to an exceptional degree. His second book, Espacio urbano y creación literaria en el Madrid de Felipe IV, won the 2005 prize awarded by the city of Madrid to the best book relating to that city. His third book, Modernidad bajo sospecha, is a critical reassessment of an important but neglected Golden Age writer and is now ready for publication this spring. With the support of a Guggenheim Fellowship this year he is well advanced toward completion of a fourth book. He has also published two critical editions, both since his last promotion, and has three more in press or in preparation, each of them a considerable scholarly work in its own right. He has some forty articles published or in press.

Recent and Significant Publications:
Espacio urbano y creación literaria en el Madrid de Felipe IV, Vervuert Iberoamericana, 2004.
La creación del 'Fénix': recepción crítica y formación canónica del teatro de Lope de Vega,

Service – Professor García Santo-Tomás has taken on a number of key academic service roles in
his Department, most notably as an elected member of the Executive Committee, as a member of
the Graduate Committee, and as coordinator of an introductory literature course in Spanish in
which each individual recitation section is taught by advanced doctoral students. He has also
been actively involved in study abroad matters, serving as the Department’s liaison person and
advisor for two study abroad programs in Spain, and as a member of the Executive Committee of
the Office of International Programs.

External Reviewers:
Reviewer (A)
“Over the past decade, your colleague has firmly established himself as a prominent voice in
scholarly and critical conversations about 17th-century Spanish literature. ...[Espacio urbano y
creación literaria en el Madrid de Felipe IV] is indispensable for scholars of every stripe, for
those working within traditional text-focused literary studies and for the growing cohort of
students of culture.”

Reviewer (B)
“...the work is of astonishingly and consistently high quality. ...García Santo-Tomás stands at
the very top of his field, and not only in his age group; he is the most learned and most original
scholar-critic [of his generation] of Spanish Golden Age literature that I know of, and his
engagement with literary and critical theory is sophisticated and has nothing to do with fashion.”

Reviewer (C)
“The word that repeatedly comes to mind in the context of Professor García Santo-Tomás is
‘prodigious.’ ... He is an extraordinary scholar with a rare and admirably versatile quality of
mind, and the ability to produce wonderful work. I support his promotion to the rank of
professor with the greatest enthusiasm.”

Reviewer (D)
“Professor García Santo-Tomás has quickly moved to a position of prominence in early modern
Spanish studies, outdistancing the majority of colleagues with a similar length of time in the
field. ...one of his overall contributions is that of bridging two quite different approaches to early
modern Spanish studies, the more descriptive and philological approach generally prevailing in
Spain, and a U.S. preference for theoretically-engaged critical analysis.”

Reviewer (E)
“...the fact that the University of Michigan has on its teaching staff a professor of these
characteristics, who is capable of uniting the traditional sense of philology with innovative
perspectives, strikes me as highly praiseworthy.”

Reviewer (F)
“I feel certain that the faculty and administration of the University of Michigan realize what a
treasure they have in Enrique García Santo-Tomás, as a scholar, teacher, and colleague. His
scholarship is impeccable and almost inconceivably prolific. His professional service is exemplary.”

Reviewer (G)
“. . . he is one of the leading voices today dealing with Golden Age Spanish literature and culture. I can think of no one at the Associate Professor rank that has done so much. If I compare him to other critics, it would have to be with [a] full professor at the highest tier in the profession.”

Summary of Recommendation:
Professor García Santo-Tomás has revitalized the teaching of early modern Spanish literature while producing prize-winning scholarship at an exceptional rate. The Executive Committee of the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts and I recommend that Associate Professor Enrique García Santo-Tomás be promoted to the rank of professor of Spanish, with tenure, Department of Romance Languages and Literatures, in the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts.

Terrence J. McDonald
Arthur F. Thurnau Professor,
Professor of History and Dean,
College of Literature, Science, and the Arts

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