PROMOTION RECOMMENDATION
The University of Michigan
School of Music, Theatre & Dance
Department of Musicology

Mark A. Clague, assistant professor of music, School of Music, Theatre & Dance, is recommended for promotion to associate professor of music, with tenure, School of Music, Theatre & Dance.

Academic Degrees:
Ph.D.    2002    University of Chicago
M.A.     1998    University of Chicago
B.M.     1990    University of Michigan

Professional Record:
2003 – present    Assistant Professor of Music (Musicology)
                   University of Michigan, School of Music, Theatre & Dance
1997 – 2003        Adjunct Assistant Professor (Musicology)
                   University of Michigan, School of Music, Theatre & Dance

Summary of Evaluation:
Teaching:
Professor Clague is described as a committed and creative instructor in the classroom. He is highly accessible to all of his students, and he devotes an extraordinary amount of time to discussion outside the classroom. Professor Clague is not only a brilliant scholar but also a very effective and popular instructor, especially with upper-level students. Nobody serves on more doctoral committees than Mark Clague. He has high expectations from his students at every level. His use of new technology is far in advance of the norm at the School.

Professional and Creative Activity:
Professor Clague’s scholarly contributions include multiple books, book chapters, journal articles, encyclopedia entries, orchestral program notes and other publications. His writing is exciting, compelling and intellectual. He has invested a substantial portion of his scholarly time to increasing our knowledge of the history of African-American music and musicians. It is the overwhelming opinion of his external reviewers and the majority of his department colleagues that he is a serious scholar who has contributed to the field of musicology in meaningful ways and will continue to do so.

Service:
During Professor Clague’s relatively brief time at the University of Michigan, he has established a remarkable reputation for the generosity of his service contributions and his connected-ness to faculty colleagues in other departments. He has a natural affinity for administrative matters and he is extremely conscientious, diligent and diplomatic in this arena. He has boundless enthusiasm and passion for service-oriented projects, and by all indications there will be no stopping him from taking on still more commitments in this area.
External Reviewers:
Reviewer A
“... over the course of my career I have reviewed many resumes for promotion and tenure, and I find his one of the most impressive. He has distinguished himself not just in one but in many areas.”

Reviewer B
“The dossier Mark prepared for his promotion application reveals his excellent service, research, and teaching contributions (excellent syllabi, superb students’ evaluations) and his plans for the future, and I have no doubt that he will continue to perform at that high level of excellence, even with the large amount of university and community service he provides.”

Reviewer C
“And Mark is restlessly pro-active, eager to expand the boundaries of academic discourse. He seems exceptionally unencumbered by the academic duties and responsibilities he doubtless shoulders; he always welcomes doing more. He is a fluent and forceful writer. He is ideally equipped to become the type of scholar who both enriches the academy and impacts meaningfully on the culture at large.”

Reviewer D
“In summary, then, I find Clague’s work imaginative, inclusive, and very well-written. He will be a major force in musicological circles in the years to come.”

Reviewer E
“In summary, the continuing high profile of the School of Music, Theatre & Dance of the University of Michigan in the world of American music studies is in no small part a reflection of the academic standing and scholarly achievements of Mark Clague.”

Reviewer F
“This is a scholar of passion and commitment, someone who thrills to his work and communicates that enthusiasm with infectious zeal.”

Reviewer G
“Clague, to say the least, is diversely talented. Perhaps it is this single factor that argues most strongly for his promotion and tenure at Michigan. He does many things and he does them all well – quite well in fact. He writes as an informed historian of culture, he edits music meticulously, he analyzes ideas, he teaches us all about learning technology, he communicates very effectively in the English language, both spoken and written.”

Reviewer H
“In sum, Mark Clague is producing research that will stand as a model for a new generation of music scholars, he has a strongly positive influence on the whole field of American music research, and he has planned out a research and service agenda that will continue to enrich our field for decades to come.”
Reviewer I

"In my opinion Mark Clague has tremendous promise as a musicologist. I expect him to continue his success as a teacher and, as years go by, to influence a widening circle of undergraduates and graduates students with his engaged and innovative attitude."

Reviewer J

"I can think of few junior musicology faculty in the country who have proven their case for promotion and tenure more thoroughly and persuasively than Mark Clague. There is no question in my mind that he will continue to be a productive, inspiring, original, and provocative scholar who contributes to the national conversation regarding music’s role in an increasingly fragmented culture."

Internal Review:

Professor Clague is a valued and admired member of the School. He is thought to be a bright and gifted scholar who will continue to make important scholarly contributions in the field of American music. He has an intense curiosity that seeps into the classroom with the use of new technology, and innovative and creative thinking. He is an inspiring and positive colleague who has departmental support for his promotion.

Summary of Recommendation:

Professor Mark Clague is an acute and energetic scholar who brings fresh insights into the classroom as well as into the field of musicology. In both the administrative and instructional arena, he is a natural leader. We expect great things from him in the years to come. It is with enthusiasm and the strong support of the School of Music, Theatre & Dance Executive Committee that I recommend Mark A. Clague for promotion to associate professor of music, with tenure.

Christopher W. Kendall
Dean, School of Music, Theatre & Dance

May 2009