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

Joseph P. Gone, assistant professor of psychology, and assistant professor of American culture, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts, is recommended for promotion to associate professor of psychology, with tenure, and associate professor of American culture, with tenure, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts.

Academic Degrees:
Ph.D. 2001 University of Illinois
M.A. 1996 University of Illinois
B.A. 1992 Harvard College

Professional Record:
2002 – present Assistant Professor, Department of Psychology and Program in American Culture, University of Michigan.
2000 – 2002 Assistant Professor, Committee on Human Development, University of Chicago

Summary of Evaluations:
Teaching – Professor Gone is an excellent instructor who has developed a strong teaching philosophy implemented in well-organized courses that challenge students to examine the materials critically. He demands a high level of effectiveness from himself and expects the same effort from his students. He is viewed by students at all levels as smart, dedicated, and passionate. Their comments reveal that his commitment to their learning is evident to the students themselves.

Research – Professor Gone’s intellectual work has a dual nature, falling at once comfortably into the discipline of community psychology, but having a strong historical and cultural context as well. The work focuses on how Native Americans in different locations contextualize distress, understand mental health, and conceptualize wellness. He ultimately demonstrates that mental health services must be delivered to people in a culturally relevant manner or they will neither be sought nor be effective. He has published his findings in traditional and highly regarded peer-reviewed journals in the field of clinical and community psychology, as well as other relevant outlets related to ethnic psychology. The work is unique, important, and is being noticed. For example, he has received more invitations to give talks than is typical at this stage of career. Professor Gone’s stature is also reflected in three recent awards honoring the significance of his research, and four research fellowships since joining our faculty.

Recent and Significant Publications:
“The red road to wellness: Cultural reclamation in a Native First Nation community treatment center,” American Journal of Community Psychology, in press.

“‘We never was happy living like a Whiteman’: Mental health disparities and the postcolonial predicament in American Indian communities,” *American Journal of Community Psychology*, 40(3-4), 2007, pp. 290-300.

Service – Professor Gone he has consistently engaged in service activities in both units. He initiated a coffee hour with other junior faculty that resulted in two symposia consisting of junior faculty from the clinical area of psychology that were presented at national conferences. In Native American Studies, he initiated and/or co-organized two national symposia which resulted in scholars coming together to review and critique each other’s work. His national service is extraordinary and includes serving on numerous governmental and private foundation advisory committees, journal editorial boards, and grant review committees.

External Reviews:

Reviewer (A)

“Prof. Gone is a remarkably talented researcher and scholar who has a keen eye for rich case material, a careful and thoughtful set of methodological tools, and a formidable intellect. ... This is an outstanding scholarly file. Based on both the quantity of publications and their quality...I would enthusiastically support Prof. Gone’s promotion to Associate Professor with tenure in my department... This case has my highest endorsement.”

Reviewer (B)

“You are fortunate to have Dr. Gone... The work with Bull Lodge.... will be an exemplar for ethnohistorians seeking Native perspectives from contemporary as well as historic sources. ... His cross-appointment in Native Studies and Psychology is precisely the juncture at which his contributions are being made. Very few institutions have someone with these skills and relationship to Native American communities and worldviews.”

Reviewer (C)

“He combines as perfectly as anyone I can think of both scientific and humanistic approaches. ...Dr. Gone’s work far exceeds in sophistication that of any other scholar in the field of Native American psychology and health care... All of Dr. Gone’s publications are distinguished by the fullness and subtlety of his analysis. ... Moreover, he is a precise and very clear writer whose style, even when dealing with technical material, is remarkably easy to read.”

Reviewer (D)

“...I was struck by the intellectual depth and rigor of his work. ... There is evidence of a sophisticated mind at work as well as of academic integrity. ...I was impressed by the quality and corpus of Professor Gone’s published work. ...it is likely that he will become an increasingly recognized scholar in the field of multicultural clinical practice.”

Reviewer (E)

“A strength of his work is that it offers conceptually informed, practical approaches to the challenges of working in Indian communities. ... Professor Gone’s articles...are among the most
significant to appear recently on American Indian mental health. … He is a rising star who is conducting innovative, influential work.”

Reviewer (F)
“I believe Professor Gone is a serious scholar who is making a significant contribution to your university. His productive scholarship, the range of his research interests, and his commitment to teaching and working with the underserved makes him a valuable colleague. I would support awarding him the promotion and tenure.”

Reviewer (G)
“…Professor Gone’s recent 2009 publication ‘Psychotherapy and Traditional Healing for American Indians’… is a major contribution to integrate mental health concepts with the diversity of tribal traditions. … Gone is in the midst of an exciting multicultural expedition. … He is a credible and creative exemplar of a paradigm shift especially for the mental health professions. I am impressed with this tenacious commitment to focus on the subtle, perhaps less apparent, connections between cultural functions and healing. … I personally admire his trenchant insights and his deep commitment to his research agenda.”

Reviewer (H)
“…Dr. Gone is breaking new ground in psychology. … Dr. Gone is very well respected among his colleagues within American Indian psychology and mental health. … I view him to be among the top three scholars in American Indian Psychology and I find his writing to be the most interesting and provocative of all.”

Summary of Recommendation:
Professor Gone is an emerging leader in his field who will continue to produce outstanding research over the course of a long career. His contributions to the teaching and service missions of the College have been substantial. The Executive Committee of the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts and I recommend that Assistant Professor Joseph P. Gone be promoted to the rank of associate professor of psychology, with tenure, and associate professor of American culture, with tenure, in the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts.

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

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