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

Kristin A. Hass, assistant professor of American culture, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts, is recommended for promotion to associate professor of American culture, with tenure, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts.

Academic Degrees:
Ph.D. 1994 University of Michigan
M.A. 1992 University of Michigan
M.A. 1992 University of Michigan

Professional Record:
2004 – present Assistant Professor, Program in American Culture, University of Michigan
2004 Assistant to the Director, Program in American Culture, University of Michigan.
2002 Acting Director, Imagining America: Artists and Scholars in Public Life, University of Michigan.
1999 – 2004 Associate Director, Imagining America: Artists and Scholars in Public Life, University of Michigan.
1995 – 2004 Lecturer, Program in American Culture, University of Michigan.
1995 – 2002 Assistant to the Director, Program in American Culture, University of Michigan

Summary of Evaluations:
Teaching – Professor Hass successfully teaches hundreds of undergraduate students every year in large, highly organized classes, and is even more successful in intimate seminar and tutorial settings. She advises honors students in several departments. She pays close attention to undergraduates, and has helped reshape the overall curriculum in her growing unit. Deeply involved with graduate students, she serves as their GSI mentor, has served officially as the instructor of a GSI training program (2007), and is currently teaching the introductory course for graduate students in American Culture. She also has successfully developed and taught new graduate and undergraduate courses.

Research – Professor Hass is an internationally recognized scholar in the expanding field of memory studies, embracing historical, visual, and American studies. Her first book, Carried to the Wall (1998), has had a major impact in these areas, and her forthcoming book, Sacrificing Soldiers, promises to enhance her reputation. She melds the abiding interpretive, aesthetic, and cultural concerns of American studies with the more recent interventions of gender and ethnic studies, preserving much of what is best in both areas. She is in great demand at academic conferences and in the public media. Winner of a Smithsonian fellowship for her next project on military advertising, there is little doubt that Professor Hass will remain a highly productive and provocative scholar.
Recent and Significant Publications:


Service – Professor Hass has served with distinction on the Graduate Committee, the Undergraduate Committee, the Admissions Committee, two major lecturer reviews, and as a reader on two manuscript workshops. The junior faculty in American Culture elected Professor Hass to the Executive Committee (2009-2010). She has been recruited for service work by the Horace H. Rackham Graduate School and the Center for Research on Learning and Teaching.

External Reviews:

Reviewer (A)

“There cannot be many people going up for tenure with two books in hand and as much teaching experience as she has. …there can be no question that the kinds of things Prof. Hass writes so eloquently about…are all crucially important and would need to be represented in any program purporting to teach about American Cultures. …Carried to the Wall…is on everyone’s reading list for courses on memorials, the use of public space, and twentieth century popular culture. …Would Hass get tenure at [my institution]? I am confident in saying, yes.”

Reviewer (B)

“…Hass is a scholar who takes on big questions with methodological sophistication and a sense of moral urgency. …She is an ideal person to take the lead in the burgeoning civic engagement movement in higher education, which has had such a strong presence at Michigan. …I tend to place her closer to more advanced scholars…than to other members of her generational cohort. …She is deeply deserving of a tenured position at a major research university.”

Reviewer (C)

“…I’m pleased to report that I find this a wholly straightforward promotional case…Professor Hass has earned a distinguished national reputation through the power of *Carried to the Wall*…She has now deepened and broadened her focus through a commanding second book [*Sacrificing Soldiers*]…Hass offers an extremely strong profile of scholarship in every respect…In terms of accomplishment, trajectory, and quality, it’s a slam-dunk case.”

Reviewer (D)

“*Sacrificing Soldiers*…is a significant, important book. …her broader arguments are significant, and the research she has done on the specific memorials is deep and impressive. …Hass is an excellent scholar. Her forthcoming book is impressive; I am confident that her future work will continue that trajectory.”
Reviewer (E)
"Her continued publications on the Vietnam Veterans Memorial... as well as her reviews of publications from the field of memory studies and public history, testify to the wide reception and impact of her groundbreaking work... Given Professor Hass' scholarly contributions and publications... I consider her a worthy candidate for the promotion..."

Reviewer (F)
"Prof. Hass... has brought new insight by studying the use, not only the creation of memorials, which has significantly opened up the study of the subject... Carried to the Wall was the first book to do this in detail... With this second book, her articles, her generally good teaching evaluations, and her significant work toward extending scholarship to a broader public in her work with Imagining America and in other venues, I believe that she... should receive promotion and tenure at the University of Michigan."

Reviewer (G)
"Hass's [sic] completed second manuscript... is a remarkable addition to her already fine profile... I am very impressed with the ways in which it moves her analysis in new and compelling directions."

Reviewer (H)
"[This case] has many of the earmarks of [a] clearly successful and tenurable career—two solid books on issues of importance in the understanding of American culture; fluent confident, well-informed writing and research skills... Hass will continue to be a productive scholar, and... will continue to engage important cultural issues with professional zeal."

Reviewer (I)
"She has an exceptionally strong academic and intellectual record of excellence, and has emerged as one of the leading scholars of American Studies of her generation."

Summary of Recommendation:
Professor Hass is a leader in her field and an excellent teacher, who has made substantial service contributions. The Executive Committee of the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts and I recommend that Assistant Professor Kristin A. Hass be promoted to the rank of associate professor of American culture, with tenure, in the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts.

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

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