PROMOTION RECOMMENDATION
University of Michigan-Flint
College of Arts and Sciences
Department of Computer Science, Engineering and Physics

Christopher A. Pearson, associate professor of physics, with tenure, Department of Computer Science, Engineering and Physics, College of Arts and Sciences, is recommended for promotion to professor of physics, with tenure, Department of Computer Science, Engineering and Physics, College of Arts and Sciences.

Academic Degrees:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Degree</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Institution, Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ph.D.</td>
<td>1995</td>
<td>University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, Minnesota</td>
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<tr>
<td>B.A.</td>
<td>1989</td>
<td>Hamline University, St. Paul, Minnesota</td>
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</tbody>
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Professional Record:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Position and Institution, Location</th>
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<tr>
<td>2009 – Present</td>
<td>Chair and Associate Professor of Physics, with tenure, Department of Computer Science, Engineering and Physics, University of Michigan-Flint</td>
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<tr>
<td>2004 – 2009</td>
<td>Associate Professor of Physics, with tenure, Department of Computer Science, Engineering Science and Physics, University of Michigan-Flint</td>
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<tr>
<td>1998 – 2004</td>
<td>Assistant Professor of Physics, Department of Computer Science, Engineering Science and Physics, University of Michigan-Flint</td>
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<tr>
<td>1996 – 1998</td>
<td>Postdoctoral Researcher, Department of Physics, University of California, Davis, California</td>
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<tr>
<td>1996 – 1997</td>
<td>Lecturer, Department of Physics, University of California, Davis, California</td>
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<tr>
<td>1995</td>
<td>Co-Instructor, Department of Physics, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, Minnesota</td>
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<tr>
<td>1991 – 1995</td>
<td>Research Assistant, Department of Physics, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, Minnesota</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1989 – 1991</td>
<td>Teaching Assistant, Department of Physics, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, Minnesota</td>
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Summary of Evaluation:

Teaching – Professor Pearson is an outstanding teacher at introductory and advanced levels in physics. He has clear learning outcomes, involves students routinely in research projects, is accessible and approachable. Professor Pearson also has spearheaded development of an active learning classroom for introductory physics.

Research – Professor Pearson is an experimental surface scientist. External evaluators praise the quality, extent and impact of Professor Pearson’s research, much of which has been conducted in collaboration with colleagues in Ann Arbor. He has published in top-tier journals in his field. Since his initial promotion in 2004, Professor Pearson has published nine additional articles.

Recent and Significant Publications:


Pearson, Christopher, Riposan, A., and Millunchick, J. Mirecki. “Critical Film Thickness Dependence on As Flux in In0.27Ga0.73As/GaAs(001) Films.” *Applied Physics Letters*, Volume 90, 091902 (2007).


Service – Professor Pearson is committed to the College’s expectation of being a visible, participating member of the Governing Faculty. He has served as chair of his department – among the largest and most complex in the College – since April 2008, and is now serving on the CAS Executive Committee. Professor Pearson sets a fine example, both for his junior and senior colleagues, of the University’s mission of “engaged citizenship.”

External Reviewers:

Reviewer (A):
“The invention of the STM about 25 years ago led to a transformative leap forward in this field. Dr. Pearson’s important contribution was to integrate the STM with ultra-high-vacuum deposition so that the microscopic process of electronic materials deposition could be studied for the first time in-situ. It is no surprise that several of Dr. Pearson’s publications in this area have appeared in the most prestigious and highest impact journals in our field, such as Physical Review Letters and Applied Physics Letters.”

Reviewer (B):
“He has been publishing one to two papers per year in highly respected journals and has several publications in the most prestigious and high impact journals in physics (Physical Review Letters and Applied Physics Letters). This is more than a respectable output considering the teaching load at this institute. His earlier work on step edge growth on surfaces has been highly cited, one [sic] his papers has received over seventy citations and another is close to sixty, which is excellent.”

Reviewer (C):
“... Professor Pearson is the driving force of 9 peer reviewed publications since 2004. Among his project, I highlight a very high impact finding in 2004, when Professor Pearson found the evolution of lateral composition modulation in strained alloy superlattice using scanning tunneling microscopy under ultra high vacuum conditions.”

Reviewer (D):
“In summary, I would say that Dr. Pearson’s scholarly work in the area of experimental physics is of the quality to be expected from a faculty member at any of the leading universities in the US or Canada, and only differs in volume from the track record of someone at a top tier research intensive university.”

Reviewer (E):
“I should indicate that I was impressed by the fact that every single publication that I received for Dr. Pearson has been published in a highly reputable journal. Generally speaking, Physical Review B, and Physical Review Letter are considered the best among all publications in the field of physics and closely related fields in US and around the world.”
Reviewer (F):
"Dr. Pearson has also published several articles in Physical Review Letters which illustrate his ability to look deeply into timely, difficult questions in physics. The articles published in Physical Review Letters are the most outstanding work. The criteria for publication in this journal are very difficult to meet and it is recognized as the leading journal for physics in the world."

Summary of Recommendation:

A superb teacher, an able administrator, fine scholar and engaged citizen of the University, Professor Pearson is unanimously recommended for promotion to the rank of professor of physics, with tenure, Department of Computer Science, Engineering and Physics, College of Arts and Sciences.

Recommended by:

D. J. Trela, Dean
College of Arts and Sciences

Recommendation endorsed by:

Gerard Woland, Provost and
Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs

Ruth J. Person, Chancellor
University of Michigan-Flint

May 2011