PROMOTION RECOMMENDATION  
The University of Michigan  
School of Nursing

Sonia A. Duffy, associate professor of nursing, with tenure, School of Nursing, is recommended for promotion to professor of nursing, with tenure, School of Nursing.

Academic Degrees:

PhD 1999  University of Illinois at Chicago, Public Health, Ann Arbor, MI  
MSN 1985  University of Michigan, Nursing, Ann Arbor, MI  
BSN 1978  Wayne State University, Nursing, Detroit, MI

Professional Record:

2009 – Present  Research Associate Professor, Department of Psychiatry, University of Michigan  
2009 – Present  Research Associate Professor, Department of Otolaryngology, University of Michigan  
2006 – 2009  Research Assistant Professor, Department of Psychiatry, University of Michigan  
2006 – 2009  Research Assistant Professor, Department of Otolaryngology, University of Michigan  
2006 – Present  Associate Professor, School of Nursing, University of Michigan  
2002 – 2006  Research Investigator, Department of Psychiatry, University of Michigan  
2001 – 2006  Research Investigator, Department of Otolaryngology, University of Michigan  
1998 – Present  Research Scientist, Health Services Research and Development Division, Veterans Affairs Medical Center  
1991 – 1993  Instructor, School of Nursing, Oakland University  
1985 – 1991  Instructor, School of Nursing, University of Michigan  
1998 – 2000  Post-Doc, Health Services Research and Development Division, Veterans Affairs Medical Center

Summary of Evaluation:

Teaching: Professor Duffy has demonstrated excellence in teaching. Students give Professor Duffy excellent marks for the quality of her teaching. She has been heavily involved in mentoring students at all levels and has published with many of her master’s students and a post-doctoral fellow, thereby suggesting a high quality of mentoring.

Professor Duffy has enhanced her teaching by integrating her research into the courses she has taught. She has been course coordinator and team faculty in graduate community care and nursing research courses; has presented guest lectures in undergraduate and graduate courses in the Schools of Nursing and Public Health; and mentored doctoral, masters, and undergraduate students in nursing, public health, and medicine, and worked with UROP students.
Professor Duffy’s involvement in mentoring – both its quantity and apparent quality – ranging from undergraduates (notably including her active involvement in UROP) to masters students, from doctoral students to post-doctoral fellows. She works well with students, with a significant number of her publications reflecting their collaborations with her. Co-authorship with her students is an excellent measure of the depth and quality of her mentorship.

Professor Duffy also has been appointed by the School of Nursing to lead the Public Health Nursing Program re-envisioning effort. This involves extensive work including regional and national needs assessment and market analysis, and establishment of an advisory board. The outcomes of this effort will include curricular revisions at the graduate and undergraduate levels.

In short, Professor Duffy is a teacher who is deeply committed to the educational mission of the School and has clearly sustained an unequivocal record of excellence in this key area of faculty responsibility.

**Research:** Professor Duffy has developed a national and international reputation with her program of research on health behaviors of head and neck cancer patients, smoking cessation programs, and the relationship of a biomarker to predict cancer recurrence and survival. As noted by one reviewer Professor Duffy “combine[s] conceptual models for successful treatment with practical clinical considerations” in the highly complex fields of smoking cession and systematic delivery of tobacco treatment services. She has maintained continuous funding of her research since 1999 through internal and external sources and is well funded. Professor Duffy has garnered substantial external funding including from NIH, with the most rigorous form of peer review, which attests to the high quality of her work. She has current NIH funding as the principal investigator (PI) of a highly competitive NIH U01 inpatient tobacco cessation dissemination grant that advances effectiveness science.

Professor Duffy is a highly productive scholar, having published 26 papers in the last six years, disseminating her research in interdisciplinary and nursing journals, many with high impact factors. Since 2006, Professor Duffy has exceeded expectations and published an average of six publications a year (a majority as first or senior author) in peer-reviewed journals. In addition to her current publications, Professor Duffy has 10 papers in various stages of review. The quality of her publications is illustrated by the fact that since 2006 she has had 18 peer-reviewed first authored publications with six publications that have been cited more than 20 times.

The respect with which her expertise is held at the national and international levels is evident in the many invitations she receives to speak and present her work. Since 2006, she has been invited to present her research at seven national and three international conferences. She has also given multiple peer reviewed presentations of her research at a wide array of scientific meetings. Most recently, she was invited to speak about the Effectiveness of the Tobacco Tactics Program in the Department of Veterans Affairs at the 2011 HSR&D National Meeting in Washington, D.C.

In summary, Professor Duffy has an active program of research in an important area and a very strong record of grantsmanship and dissemination. She has made unique contributions to the profession, to the students and peers with whom she works and mentors, and to the community at
large. Professor Duffy has clearly established a distinguished and excellent record of scholarly productivity and national and international preeminence in her field.

Recent and Significant Publications:


Service: Professor Duffy has been a good citizen of the University by serving on School and University level committees. She has and/or is serving on the Executive Committee and Faculty Search Committee for the School of Nursing. She also stepped in as chair of Elections Committee when the chair stepped down mid-year. She has served on the Executive Board of the U-M Substance Abuse Research Center and on the VA Nursing Research Advisory Group. At the university level, Professor Duffy plays a significant role as a member of the Grants Advisory Panel, Blue Cross/Blue Shield of Michigan Foundation.

Professor Duffy’s service to the profession was recently acknowledged by her induction as a fellow in the American Academy of Nursing, which is considered one of the highest external recognitions in nursing.

Her contributions to the profession include grant reviews and manuscript reviews. She is a member of many organizations and is encouraged to become actively involved in leadership at the national level.

External Reviewers:

Reviewer A: “[Professor] Duffy is an example of an individual in academics that has a passionate commitment to a huge public health problem, dissemination of tobacco treatment, combined with a rigorous scientific approach. She is nationally regarded as professional, generous and gracious with her time and expertise.”

Reviewer B: “[Professor] Duffy is a highly productive nursing scholar… Her publications appear in prestigious journals and are consistently cited by others, indicating that her work has made a significant contribution to the field.”
Reviewer C: “She is a nationally recognized nurse scientist and epidemiologist... she has widely disseminated her research through her numerous high-quality publications. She will continue to make great strides in providing evidence-based strategies for tobacco product cessation. Data from her many papers have helped identify individual demographic and lifestyle behaviors that are associated with adverse outcomes in cancer patients/survivors and veterans. In particular, she is nationally known for her research related to cigarette smoking and use of SMT in veterans.”

Reviewer D: “A strength of her publications is they follow the execution of her research projects in a timely and consistent manner and they tend to be multidisciplinary.”

Reviewer E: “[Professor] Duffy’s research has made tremendous impact on the field of cancer prevention and cancer control. The impact of her translational research will continue to be felt in the coming years. Her contributions serve as a stellar model for other scientists who study clinical phenomena.”

Reviewer F: “[Professor] Duffy is an excellent and experienced researcher whose scholarly work impacts the science on both a national and international level.”

Summary of Recommendation: In summary, Professor Duffy is a prominent and productive researcher who has made significant contributions to the field of health behaviors of head and neck cancer patients, smoking cessation programs, and the relationship of a biomarker to predict recurrence and survival. She is successful as an independent researcher and as a key collaborator. Her research is yielding a coherent body of work that is systematically informing science and interdisciplinary in the truest sense as her work is leading to interventions in nursing. Her work has achieved national and international notice. Professor Duffy has a strong record of academic, professional and community service. She is an excellent teacher and mentor. It is with the support of the School of Nursing Executive Committee that I recommend Sonia A. Duffy for promotion to professor of nursing, with tenure, School of Nursing.

Kathleen Potempa
Dean, School of Nursing

May 2012