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

Tina Jane Lupton, assistant professor of English language and literature, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts, is recommended for promotion to associate professor of English language and literature, with tenure, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts.

Academic Degrees:
Ph.D. 2004 Rutgers University
M.A. 1997 University of Sussex

Professional Record:
2009 – present Assistant Professor, Department of English Language and Literature,
University of Michigan
2008 – 2009 Visiting Lecturer, Department of English, University of Lund
2004 – 2009 Assistant Professor, Department of English, University of British Columbia,

Summary of Evaluation:
Teaching – Professor Lupton is a dedicated and committed teacher. Her courses are notable for their extensive introduction to literary and cultural theory in ways that are useful and relevant to students' current and future studies. She is equally adept at teaching small, discussion-centered courses and large lectures. She is currently serving on two dissertation committees and on a doctoral examinations committee. Professor Lupton currently supervises three undergraduate honors theses.

Research – Professor Lupton is an accomplished student of eighteenth-century English literature and culture whose interests nonetheless range widely beyond just that national literature, just that historical period. Her first book, Knowing Books: The consciousness of Mediation in Eighteenth-Century Britain, is forthcoming from the University of Pennsylvania Press. She has also published twelve articles in refereed journals (one co-authored), four chapters in edited collections (three co-authored), and five book reviews. An additional article is in press. Professor Lupton has given 22 conference presentations and invited lectures in the United States and Canada, as well as England, Germany, Ireland, and Denmark. Her next book project continues and expands on her work in and at the intersections of literary, cultural, and media studies. She continues to work in other historical periods and on other topics in the articles currently in preparation.

Recent and Significant Publications:
“Giving power to the medium: Recovering the 1750s,” in The Rise of the Novel Redux, a special issue of The Eighteenth Century: Theory and Interpretation, forthcoming 2011.

Service – Professor Lupton has an impressive record of service in the Department of English, and for the University Library, the Eighteenth-Century Studies Group (which includes faculty and graduate students from other departments), and for other universities. She reviews manuscripts for refereed journals and for a scholarly publisher, and has been an organizer of a panel at the annual Modern Language Association conference.

External Reviews:
Reviewer (A)
“Lupton seems to me to be a rising star – or maybe someone whose star has already fully risen, and someone destined for a major and influential career. Her book is wonderful, and so are her articles on a range of related subjects.”

Reviewer (B)
“...[Professor Lupton’s] work is not only impressive and tremendously (audaciously, I should say) ambitious in its explanatory aspirations but also constitutes a remarkably extensive and coherent body of work across various periods and disciplines.”

Reviewer (C)
“Until my encounter with Professor Lupton’s original and compelling way of working through questions about mediation, I remained unconvinced that there could be anything instructive about such a conversation. But in engaging questions of media and literary history together, this work [Knowing Books] challenges, to splendidly surprising effect, our commonplace understandings of the history of the novel.”

Reviewer (D)
“...[Professor Lupton’s] voice is already a prominent and influential one in eighteenth-century literary studies, the history of the book, and media theory, and there’s no doubt that publication of her forthcoming monograph Knowing Books: The Consciousness of Mediation in Eighteenth-Century Britain, in the prestigious ‘Material Texts’ series at the University of Pennsylvania Press, will establish her as one of the very foremost authorities in these fields.”

Reviewer (E)
“If Professor Lupton thus betters book history with her theoretical sophistication and her winningly lucid style, she improves the humanities more broadly by enacting connections among literary history, book history, and media studies.”

Reviewer (F)
“...[Professor Lupton] is poised to become a leader in the field with the imminent publication not only of her book but also the four-volume collection of it-narratives appearing with Pickering and Chatto.”
Reviewer (G)
“...Lupton’s publications showcase her ability to move, sometimes with a single paragraph, from practical criticism to high theory, from the history of the book to the history of the Frankfurt school. In short, Professor Lupton’s scholarship is strikingly copious, ambitions, and diverse.”

Reviewer (H)
“Lupton’s own history of reading and thinking and publishing, her sheer energy and range, promise a future equally prolific, equally powerful. She is clearly one of the stars [of her generation] of eighteenth-century studies who is also making her name well beyond eighteenth-century borders as a theorist and literary critic.”

Summary of Recommendation:
Professor Lupton’s work is original and exacting interdisciplinary research. She has compiled a strong record of excellence as a teacher and has performed valuable service. The Executive Committee of the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts and I recommend that Assistant Professor Tina Jane Lupton be promoted to the rank of associate professor of English language and literature, with tenure, in the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts.

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

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