PROMOTION RECOMMENDATION
UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
MEDICAL SCHOOL
DEPARTMENT OF OBSTETRICS AND GYNECOLOGY
COLLEGE OF LITERATURE, SCIENCE, AND THE ARTS
DEPARTMENT OF WOMEN’S STUDIES

Lisa H. Harris, M.D., Ph.D., assistant professor of obstetrics and gynecology, Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, Medical School, and assistant professor of women’s studies, Department of Women’s Studies, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts, is recommended for promotion to associate professor of obstetrics and gynecology, with tenure, Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, Medical School, and associate professor of women’s studies, without tenure, Department of Women’s Studies, College of Literature, Science and the Arts.

Academic Degrees:

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<th>Degree</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Institution</th>
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<tr>
<td>Ph.D.</td>
<td>2006</td>
<td>University of Michigan</td>
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<td>M.D.</td>
<td>1994</td>
<td>Harvard University</td>
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<td>A.B.</td>
<td>1989</td>
<td>Harvard University</td>
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Professional Record:

- 2006-present: Assistant Professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology, University of Michigan
- 2006-present: Assistant Professor of Women’s Studies, University of Michigan
- 2000-2006: Lecturer, Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, University of Michigan

Summary of Evaluation:

Teaching: Dr. Lisa Harris actively participates in the educational activities of the medical students, house officers, and family planning fellows in the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology. She devotes approximately 30 percent of her effort to teaching and educational activities. In 2000 while completing a Robert Wood Johnson Clinical Scholars Program, Dr. Harris substantially enhanced the resident family planning training program developing an abortion training curriculum for University of Michigan residents at Planned Parenthood – the second training collaboration of this type in the country. In 2005, she developed our institution’s fellowship in family planning providing subspecialty training in family planning clinical care and research to post-residency ob-gyn physicians. Dr. Harris serves regularly as the family planning fellows’ clinical teacher at Planned Parenthood and in the hospital-based high risk family planning clinic. She serves as the primary research mentor for
fellows, guiding them through preparation of their first peer-reviewed grant applications, IRB submissions, research project data collection and analysis, and manuscript preparation. In addition, she serves as a primary career mentor for family planning fellows and coordinates the fellows’ journal club. Dr. Harris’ primary resident teaching occurs during the first, second and third-year resident week long rotations in abortion and family planning at Planned Parenthood, which she established and directed from 2000-2010. Dr. Harris regularly participates in the core curriculum didactic sessions for the house officers speaking on family planning topics and ethical issues. Dr. Harris regularly participates in medical student didactic sessions and in the clinical setting. She provides mentorship to the Medical Students for Choice special interest group. At the undergraduate level, Dr. Harris has co-directed Women’s Studies 400: Women’s Reproductive Health. She also is regularly invited to lecture across campus including courses in History, American Culture, School of Public Health, School of Social Work, as well as multiple courses within Women’s Studies. Dr. Harris has served as a mentor to a number of students during their undergraduate and graduate studies. In addition to her involvement within the institution, Dr. Harris is also involved in educational activities at the regional, national and international level. Regionally, she has served as a mentor for ob-gyn departments across the state and country that wish to move miscarriage management out of the operating room into the ambulatory setting. In 2007, in collaboration with University of Ghana and Kwame Nkrumah University of Science and Technology in Ghana, the University of Michigan launched the first post-residency family planning fellowship program outside of the United States. Dr. Harris is one of the core faculty for the Ghana Faculty Training Conference and serves as a mentor for the Ghanaian family planning fellows. She has presented innumerable lectures regionally, nationally and internationally on topics related to ethics, reproductive health, abortion training and family planning.

Research: Dr. Harris studies issues broadly across the continuum of women’s reproduction, including infertility, contraception, miscarriage, and birth, always highlighting the social and political contributors to health and healthcare. Her book entitled Challenging Conceptions: A Clinical and Cultural History of In Vitro Fertilization in the United States, published by Johns Hopkins University Press, will appear in 2013. Currently, her work is focusing on abortion, and she is perhaps best known today for her work on abortion stigma and marginalization of providers. An interdisciplinary team that she leads has shown that stigma is a human resource issue in abortion care, has developed a novel scale to measure stigma in abortion work, and has developed an intervention that reduces some of the burdens of stigma for workers. Her research team is now working with Planned Parenthood Federation of America to incorporate this intervention into their national abortion care protocols. Dr. Harris really introduced the idea of “conscientious provision” to medical and bioethical communities in a lead paper entitled “Doctors Who Perform Abortions Are Compelled by Conscience, Just Like Those Who Refuse” in the September 13, 2012 New England Journal of Medicine. Much of her recent work has been supported with major support
from the Greenwall Foundation. She serves as the director of research at Planned Parenthood of Mid and South Michigan and is the principal investigator for a number of industry sponsored clinical trials, including a current large multi-site randomized controlled trial comparing a new intrauterine device to the levonorgestrel intra-uterine device currently on the market. In addition, she facilitates tissue sample collection at Planned Parenthood for IRB approved basic science research at the University of Michigan. In 2009, she received Best Scientific Poster at the Annual Meeting of the National Abortion Federation and also received the Outstanding Researcher for Best Oral Abstract at the 2011 Annual Meeting of the North American Forum on Family Planning.

Recent and Significant Publications:


Harris LH, Cooper AC, Rasinski KA, Curlin FC, Lyerly AD: Obstetrician-gynecologists' objections to and willingness to assist patients seeking abortion. Obstet Gynecol 118:905-912, 2011.

Service: Dr. Harris is a fellow of the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists and a diplomate of the American Board of Obstetrics and Gynecology. Within the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, Dr. Harris served as the director of the “Ryan Residency Training Program in Family Planning” and co-directs the Program in Sexual Rights and Reproductive Justice. Institutionally, she is a core faculty member of the Program in Bioethics, a faculty member for the Program in Science, Technology, Medicine and Society; member of the Office of the Vice President for Research, Human Pluripotent Stem Cell Research Committee; member of the Ethics Committee, and the Medical School’s Ethics Education Committee. Dr. Harris serves as the director of research for Planned Parenthood of Mid and South Michigan. From 2007 to 2009, she served as a session moderator for the annual meeting of the Fellowship in Family Planning. She currently serves on the Medical
Directors’ Council of the Planned Parenthood Federation of America, Advisory Committee, Second Trimester Abortion Network (STAN), and the Advisory Board of Abortion as a Health Disparity Project for Advancing New Standards in Reproductive Health. Dr. Harris serves as an ad hoc reviewer for many scientific journals including *American Journal of Obstetrics and Gynecology, Obstetrics and Gynecology, International Journal of Gynecology and Obstetrics, Kennedy Institute of Ethics Journal, Journal of Health Politics, Policy and Law, Perspectives in Biology and Medicine, Social Science and Medicine,* and *Women’s Health Issues.*

**Professional Work:** Dr. Harris devotes approximately 30 percent of her effort to clinical activities. Her focus is in the area of reproductive health, especially family planning, contraception and abortion. She has built a robust clinical family planning patient care program at University of Michigan. As a result of her expertise, miscarriage care has changed at our institution from routine operating room dilation and curettage to office-based manual vacuum aspiration procedures. In addition to seeing patients at the University of Michigan, she also serves patients at Planned Parenthood of Mid and South Michigan. She is recognized as an expert in technically challenging abortion procedures in both the first and second trimester, and has earned an informal reputation as a “provider of last resort” in the region. In addition, she is co-medical director for Planned Parenthood of Mid and South Michigan.

**External Reviewers:**

**Reviewer A:** “Lisa is internationally renowned for her work in the area of abortion decision making and impact of abortion on both patients and providers. She is a strong supporter of women’s right to choose as well as the ability of providers to understand the care that they give. She has melded her ethics and women’s reproductive health backgrounds to create a career that I am certain will continue to advance without difficulty.”

**Reviewer B:** “Dr. Harris is one of the stars of the field of family planning. She is an outstanding researcher, educator and clinician, who dedicates herself to the health and well being of women. She is giving of her time and prodigious intellect in the service of others.”

**Reviewer C:** “…I consider Dr. Harris to be a brilliant scholar—a term I do not use lightly. I can think of no other contemporary physician researcher writing about abortion provision who matches her interdisciplinary knowledge, or the clarity, moral courage and intelligence with which she discusses highly complex matters.”

**Reviewer D:** “…I believe that Dr. Harris’ published research is highly innovative and has had very significant impact. She has addressed the most contentious ethical issues facing the field of obstetrics-gynecology, and has substantially moved the discussion
Beyond the usual polarization. Her work is rigorous research, not partisan advocacy, and should be recognized as outstanding by both pro-choice and pro-life advocates.”

**Reviewer E:** “She has the potential to be one of the most important thinkers and scholars and public intellectuals in reproductive medicine of her generation.... Already the reproductive health community turns to her for leadership and guidance.”

**Reviewer E:** “Dr. Harris is a national leader in the field of abortion and reproductive health. In particular, she is the unparalleled innovator and leader in the scholarly investigation of abortion stigma—with regard to both patients and health care providers—and has successfully obtained ongoing grant funding for this area of work with an excellent record of consequent publications.”

**Summary of Recommendation:**

Dr. Harris is an extraordinarily capable and productive scholar and clinician with a national and international reputation in reproductive health issues. We are pleased, therefore, to recommend Lisa H. Harris, M.D., Ph.D. for promotion to associate professor of obstetrics and gynecology, with tenure, Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, Medical School, and associate professor of women’s studies, without tenure, Department of Women’s Studies, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts.

James O. Woolliscroft, M.D.
Dean
*Lyle C. Roll Professor of Medicine*

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

May 2013