PROMOTION RECOMMENDATION
The University of Michigan
School of Public Health
Department of Health Behavior and Health Education

Cleopatra H. Caldwell, associate professor of health behavior and health education, with tenure, Department of Health Behavior and Health Education, School of Public Health, is recommended for promotion to professor of health behavior and health education, with tenure, Department of Health Behavior and Health Education, School of Public Health.

Academic Degrees:
PhD 1986 University of Michigan
AM 1983 University of Michigan
MA 1975 Wayne State University
BS 1973 North Carolina A&T State University

Professional Record:
2011-present Director, University of Michigan, Center for Research on Ethnicity, Culture and Health
2009-present Adjunct Associate Professor, University of Michigan, Department of Psychology
2004-present Associate Professor, University of Michigan, Health Behavior Health Education
1996-2004 Assistant Professor, University of Michigan, Health Behavior Health Education
1995-2010 Associate or Co-Associate Director, University of Michigan, Institute for Social Research
1991-1996 Research Investigator and Lecturer II, University of Michigan, Institute for Social Research
1989-1991 Study Director and Instructor, University of Maryland, Department of Family and Community Development
1988-1989 Study Director, Institute of Medicine, National Academy of Sciences
1986-1988 Health Policy Analyst, United States House of Representatives
1986-1987 Congressional Science Fellow, Society for Research in Child Development
1983 Congressional Fellow, United States House of Representatives
1982-1985 Pre-doctoral Fellow, University of Michigan
1981-1986 Research Associate II, University of Michigan
1977-1981 Research Associate, Howard University
1975-1977 Research Assistant, Howard University
1973-1974 Research Assistant, The Merrill-Palmer Institute

Summary of Evaluation:
Teaching: Professor Caldwell’s teaching record is strong and heterogeneous. Her departmental teaching includes fundamental courses. She teaches our main course on adolescent health (HBHE 660: Theory, Research and Practice in Adolescent Health) which has consistently high enrollment and addresses a popular interest among our students. Her evaluations for this course have been outstanding. She averaged 4.40 for Q1 (course) and 4.69 for Q2 (instructor) over six offerings of this course since fall 2004. Professor Caldwell also teaches our course on social support and health (HBHE 633: Social Networks and Social Support in Health Education). She also received impressive evaluations for this course, averaging 4.24 for Q1 (course) and 4.61 for Q2 (instructor) over six offerings of this course since winter 2005. Professor Caldwell has also taught doctoral seminars on Reducing Racial/Ethnic Health Disparities (HBHE 602) and Introductory Seminar for
new Ph.D. students (HBHE 800) for which she also received excellent evaluations.

In addition to her didactic teaching, Professor Caldwell is involved in several other teaching and training activities. As director of the training core for the CDC-funded Injury Research Center she has helped develop and fund internships for four to six students annually in the field of injury research and prevention. She also directs the Paul B. Comley post-doctoral program which is designed for early career scholars conducting research on racial and ethnic health disparities. Although most of Professor Caldwell’s teaching activity is with graduate students and post-doctoral fellows, she also provides undergraduate opportunities to work with her on her research. In 2011, Professor Caldwell received an honorable mention for outstanding research mentorship for the UM Undergraduate Research Opportunity Program (UROP). She serves on several doctoral committees in the department and across campus (including chairing them). Professor Caldwell has received funding for her doctoral students to work with them and help them improve their writing skills and publication records. She also involves students as co-authors on her papers and conference presentations, often giving them lead roles.

Research: Professor Caldwell’s research productivity and quality is exceptional. She stands out as one of the most well known researchers of adolescents of Caribbean and African decent. She has produced 59 peer reviewed publications since her promotion to associate professor in 2004. In addition, she co-edited a book and published 10 book chapters. These publications often involved students or post-doctoral fellows (28 as first authors). Notably, Professor Caldwell’s papers are published in the most prestigious journals in the field (e.g., *American Journal of Public Health, Pediatrics, Developmental Psychology, and Child Development*). Her funding history is also prodigious. Since 2004, she has been the PI, co-PI, or co-I of over $25 million. Some of the Center funding Professor Caldwell has been involved in, although listed as a co-PI or co-I due to the funding mechanism, actually involved significant leadership in both writing the proposal and carrying out the grant. The Prevention Research Center of Michigan, and Youth Violence Prevention Center required core research projects which Professor Caldwell led. The CDC funded Injury Research Center also involves Professor Caldwell as lead for the training core and part of the leadership team for the center. Her contributions on these centers and her other funded research include a wide range of topics and expertise, and demonstrate her diverse competencies in her scholarship. Yet, the consistent theme in all her work is the role ethnicity, discrimination, and identity play in healthy development. Professor Caldwell’s work is widely recognized and respected in the field, highly regarded for its quality, and influential in its scope. She is a productive researcher with a diverse portfolio of unique and significant nationally recognized work.

Recent and Significant Publications:


Service: Professor Caldwell’s service is as equally impressive as her teaching and research record. At the department level, she has served on and chaired faculty search committees, chaired our doctoral curriculum committee for four years, and directs the Center for Research on Ethnicity, Culture, and Health. At the school level, she chairs our diversity committee, chaired our academic conduct committee, and has served on a dean search committee and an accreditation self-study committee. For both the department and school, she has also served on committees for selecting post-doctoral scholars, public health practice, and other administrative committees. Professor Caldwell has also served the university in several key ways including serving on the Provost’s School of Social Work Strategic Assessment Advisory Committee, the search committees for the directors of the Institute for Research on Women and Gender and Center for Advancing Research and Solutions for Society, to name a few. Her most significant and time consuming service to the university may be her role on the Health Sciences/Behavioral Sciences Institutional Review Board; she has served on this committee since 2009.

Professor Caldwell’s service at the national level is equally outstanding. Her contributions are diverse and demonstrate a broad-based national reputation. She is on the editorial boards of two leading family studies and adolescent development journals. She has been a grant reviewer for NIH, the National Science Foundation, and other granting organizations. She has also been called upon to be an external reviewer for graduate programs throughout the U.S.

External Reviewers:

Reviewer (A): “Dr. Caldwell has an impressive record of extramural funding and has an active portfolio of currently funded and applications pending review, including an RO1. I fully endorse the promotion of Dr. Cleopatra Howard Caldwell to the rank of Full Professor.”

Reviewer (B): “Dr. Caldwell’s research and publications stand out among the best, top 5 percent, among her peers in family and adolescent research within her area of expertise.”
Reviewer (C): “This work [on Fathers and Sons Project] is a new, innovative, and significant contribution to our field of knowledge about parenting, mental health, racial socialization, and youth development. Based on a careful evaluation of her work and impact on the field, Dr. Caldwell exceeds the standards for promotion to full professor.”

Reviewer (D): “Her work is published in highly visible and very reputable refereed journals. [She] has made her mark as one of the leading researchers in addressing health disparities confronting African American males.”

Reviewer (E): “Based on this review of her portfolio, and without the benefit and insights afforded by direct, recent professional collaboration, it is clear you have a star in your midst.”

Reviewer (F): “I view Cleo as one of the top 5% of leaders in the field in terms of research, scholarship, mentoring, and training. This is all clear evidence for my enthusiastic recommendation that she promoted to Full Professor.”

Reviewer (G): “…in the emerging field of minority health and disparities research she is a pillar. When the history of minority health and health disparities research is written, Dr. Caldwell will be described as one of its founders. I am confident she would indeed be promoted to full professor [at my institution].”

Reviewer (H): “[She] has achieved a national and international prominence for high quality research on African American adolescent development and health, role of fathers in the family, and processes and roles of racial socialization in family life.”

Summary of Recommendation
Professor Caldwell is a productive and well funded scholar. Her multidisciplinary work focuses mostly on adolescents and includes research on effects of parenting (especially fatherhood), ethnic identity, discrimination, and intergenerational relationships on health, mental health, and problem behavior outcomes among minority youth. She is a nationally recognized scholar doing some of the most innovative work in the field on the African American father. Professor Caldwell is an outstanding teacher and mentor to our master’s and doctoral students. It is with the support of the School of Public Health Executive Committee that I recommend Cleopatra H. Caldwell for promotion to professor of health behavior and health education, with tenure, Department of Health Behavior and Health Education, School of Public Health.

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Martin A. Philbert, Ph.D.
Dean, School of Public Health

May 2014