PROMOTION RECOMMENDATION
The University of Michigan
School of Music, Theatre & Dance

Michael Gould, associate professor of music, with tenure, Department of Jazz and Contemporary Improvisation, School of Music, Theatre & Dance, and associate professor in the Residential College, without tenure, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts, is recommended for promotion to professor of music, with tenure, Department of Jazz and Contemporary Improvisation, School of Music, Theatre & Dance and professor in the Residential College, without tenure, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts.

Academic Degrees:
D.M.A. 1999 University of Kentucky (percussion performance)
M.M. 1992 University of Nevada, Las Vegas (percussion performance)
B.M. 1990 University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (percussion performance)

Professional Record:
2005 – present Associate Professor, School of Music, Theatre & Dance, University of Michigan
2003 – present Assistant Professor, Residential College, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts, University of Michigan
2003 – 2005 Assistant Professor, Residential College, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts, University of Michigan
1998 – 2005 Assistant Professor, School of Music, Theatre & Dance, University of Michigan

Summary of Evaluation:
Teaching: Demonstrating an extremely organized and systematic approach to his teaching, Professor Gould holds his students to the highest standards. For the School of Music, Theatre & Dance, he teaches drumming and hand drumming. Within the Residential College, he teaches Afro-Cuban drumming, a course on creative thinking and practice, and a course that explores the re-creation, design, and use of “found” instruments. Professor Gould has made significant and sustained contributions to the interdisciplinary profile of the Residential College curriculum and has demonstrated a rigorous commitment to collaborating with colleagues in a variety of disciplines across campus. Indeed, with his interest in composition, improvisation, multiple percussion performance, and multi-disciplinary projects, he is a model of creativity and collaboration for his students. It therefore comes as little surprise that he has used his talent and resources to help students pursue their interests in fields as varied as musical theatre, dance accompaniment, instrument building and repair, music website and technology integration, and recording technology. His flexible and open-minded approach to teaching has resulted in the success of former students who are currently performing in celebrated rock bands (Meyer Hawthorn), providing musical direction for television (“The Voice” and “Glee”), composing music for video games, or otherwise performing in a professional musical capacity of one kind or another. As yet further evidence of his interdisciplinary approach, Professor Gould was invited to team teach the UARTS Creative Process course this year alongside faculty colleagues from the College of Engineering, School of Art and Design, School of Music, Theatre & Dance, and A. Alfred Taubman College of Architecture and Urban Planning. Growing out of Professor Gould’s strong commitment to pedagogy is a published instructional multimedia guide that he devised called the Drum Diaries, for which he was awarded a
Provost’s Teaching Prize. As one final indication of his success as a teacher, he was nominated in 2014 for the university’s coveted Golden Apple Award.

**Creative Activities:** Professor Gould has attained national and international recognition as a percussionist, composer, and lecturer. He has performed with leading artists from around the world, including pan virtuoso “Boogie” Sharp and the Sao Paulo All-Stars of Brazil, has served as director of Kawatana City’s Rsekai Ongaku Kenkyukai World Music Ensemble, and for several years was resident percussionist at the Huis Ten Bosch European resort in Nagasaki, Japan. In addition, Professor Gould has toured nationally as a percussionist and set drummer with the Dallas Brass and can be heard on the Seabreeze label with jazz artist Miles Osland. He has also performed with the Lexington Philharmonic, Top Brass, SaxonUs Civil War Band, Nevada Symphony Orchestra, and the Las Vegas Percussion Quartet, and has been a faculty member for the Illinois Summer Youth Music program at the University of Illinois and for the Bands of America–World Percussion Symposium. In 2012, he was involved in a multimedia installation in Ann Arbor with Nobel Laureate and university professor, Henry Pollack, along with SMTD colleague Stephen Rush. Also in 2012 and again in 2014, Professor Gould collaborated as a composer, visual artist, and performer with the Berlin-based Tangente Dance Company, of which he was appointed music director in 2014. In recent years, he has performed and recorded with the Alberto Rojo Trio, an ensemble that specializes in playing Argentinian folk music.

**Service:** Professor Gould has established a strong record of service to the School of Music, Theatre & Dance, to the Residential College, to the university, and to the profession at large. He has served on the SMTD Council of Departmental Representatives, Scholarship Committee, and on several faculty search committees. Professor Gould has also been a member of a faculty search committee at the Residential College and has also served a three-year term on the College’s Executive Committee. Service to the university has included membership on the Provost’s Teaching Innovation Prize Review Committee, the Faculty Advisory Committee for the Program in the Environment (LSA), and the Senate Assembly Tenure Committee. He has also served as representative for the School of Music, Theatre & Dance to the Senate Assembly’s dean review committee and a research grant reviewer for Office of Research, in addition to participating in the 2000 Road Scholars Tour. Professor Gould’s service to his profession has come in the form of, among other administrative roles, elected membership on the Board of Advisors to the Percussive Arts Society and membership on the College Pedagogy Committee, for which he served a four-year term as committee chair. Professor Gould also holds membership in several other professional organizations, including the Jazz Educators Network and the International Society of Improvised Music.

**External Reviewers:**

Reviewer A: “On a national and international level Professor Gould’s visibility and influence is great and lives on in the lives of the many students that he has influenced both as performers as well as educators. I often used Professor Gould as a benchmark for what a great instructor possesses. He continues to grow both musically and personally in a way that will continue to challenge the student for years to come. He is always relevant in the world of percussion education.”

Reviewer B: “Having seen his development as an educator, performer, and fixture in the percussion community, he is, without question, one of the outstanding figures in contemporary percussion education. His work as a part of the Percussive Arts Society assures that he maintains a high profile for himself and for the institution.”
Reviewer C: “He has earned his place among the top echelon of percussion artists, witnessed by the endorsed support he receives from percussion instrument manufacturers. In tribute to his teaching, his most important future accomplishment may be his former students who are achieving success on national and international stages. I would place Dr. Gould in the top 5% in the profession based on his creative and research activities, collaborative performance and recording demands, publications, and his varied talent as a drum set performer and world percussion artist.”

Reviewer D: “Professor Gould’s musical projects have shown a marked increase in national and international performances, including important concerts and lectures in Berlin, Germany. Many of his former students have gone on to various careers in music ranging from rock bands to symphony orchestras and at least five students have become percussion professors or instructors at other colleges and universities. His success in mentoring students and effectively preparing them for careers in music speaks volumes about his value as a member of your faculty.”

Reviewer E: “As a professional performing musician, Gould is nothing short of fabulous. Known in our profession as technical and wildly creative, Gould has built a reputation as an outstanding performer. Gould’s name and contributions are absolutely recognized across the nation and beyond with his international teaching, performances, and work in the Percussive Arts Society. His contributions are prolific, of the highest quality, imaginative, often cross-curricular, and well regarded by his colleagues.”

Reviewer F: “Overall, Professor Gould’s body of work is extensive and significant. He is a recognized musician in the percussion field as both a performer and educator. Professor Gould’s record of achievement is considerable and doesn’t appear to be waning. His dossier is one of the most compelling I’ve seen in some time.”

Summary of Recommendation:
Professor Gould is a versatile and talented performer and artist who has achieved national and international recognition. As both a teacher and creative artist, his commitment to interdisciplinary collaboration is of great value to the School of Music, Theatre & Dance as well as to the Residential College. His case for promotion has support from both of the units with which he is involved, and he is held in high esteem by faculty colleagues from both units as well. It is with great enthusiasm and with the support of the School of Music, Theatre & Dance Executive Committee and the Residential College Executive Committee that we recommend Michael Gould for promotion to professor of music, with tenure, Department of Jazz and Contemporary Improvisation, School of Music, Theatre & Dance and professor in the Residential College, without tenure, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts.

Christopher W. Kendall
Paul Boylan Collegiate Professor of Music
and Dean, School of Music, Theatre & Dance

Andrew D. Martin
Dean, and Professor of Political Science
College of Literature, Science, and the Arts

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