PROMOTION RECOMMENDATION
THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
MEDICAL SCHOOL
DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHIATRY
COLLEGE OF LITERATURE, SCIENCE, AND THE ARTS
DEPARTMENT OF PHILOSOPHY

Sekhar C. Srirada, M.D., Ph.D., assistant professor of psychiatry, Department of Psychiatry, Medical School, and assistant professor of philosophy, Department of Philosophy, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts, is recommended for promotion to associate professor of psychiatry, with tenure, Department of Psychiatry, Medical School, and associate professor of philosophy, with tenure, Department of Philosophy, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts.

Academic Degrees:

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<tr>
<th>Degree</th>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Institution</th>
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<tr>
<td>Ph.D.</td>
<td>2006</td>
<td>Rutgers University</td>
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<tr>
<td>M.D.</td>
<td>1998</td>
<td>University of Texas</td>
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Professional Record:

- 2005-2006: Adjunct Assistant Professor of Philosophy, University of Michigan
- 2009-present: Assistant Professor of Psychiatry, University of Michigan
- 2009-present: Assistant Professor of Philosophy, University of Michigan

Summary of Evaluation:

Teaching: Dr. Srirada teaches undergraduates, medical students, residents, graduate students and post-doctoral fellows in the Departments of Psychiatry and Philosophy. Since 2012, he has taught a unit on psychiatric disorders for Neuroscience 602. This educational activity includes interdisciplinary teaching, bringing together leading edge ideas at the intersection of psychiatry, neuroscience, and philosophy. Together, with Rick Lewis (professor of psychology and linguistics, LSA), Dr. Srirada designed CogSci 200, the highly popular gateway course for the new cognitive science major that offers a cohesive, structured overview of the field. Dr. Srirada engages in educational outreach to the wider public. He has disseminated his work through the popular press, given lectures in the community (e.g., Ann Arbor Public Library speaker series), and presented public talks at national and international venues, including a talk at the Sydney Opera House in March 2014 as part of their “Ideas at the House” series with a follow-up at the Vienna Opera House scheduled for summer 2016.

Research: Dr. Srirada’s research investigates issues of motivation, regulation, and self-control that lie at the intersection of psychiatry, cognitive neuroscience, and philosophy. He has had substantial success in developing this distinctive scholarly niche. He is among a handful of scholars who have published at least two articles in the top five journals in three different fields: psychiatric neuroscience, psychology, and philosophy. This body of work exhibits deep integration. He has helped advance a new brain network-based approach to understanding cognitive architecture, contributed new quantitative methodologies for characterizing brain
networks, applied this network approach to investigating the neurodevelopmental roots of disorders of self-control (e.g., ADHD), and has drawn out the philosophical ramifications of these results for evolving understandings of moral agency and free will.

Dr. Sripada is the author of 40 peer-reviewed articles, in high-impact journals including *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, Journal of Neuroscience, Biological Psychiatry, Psychological Science, Nous, PPR*, and *Philosophical Studies*. He was sole, first, or senior author on 29 of these publications. He is also author of three non-peer-reviewed publications, 10 book chapters and other media websites. His impact in the field is reflected in 1827 citations (1484 since 2010) and recognition with the Don Klein Early Career Investigator Award from the Anxiety and Depression Association of America. His work has also garnered interest beyond academia, with three articles receiving wide press coverage in places such as *NPR, Washington Post, Boston Globe, and Daily Mail (London)*.

Since joining the faculty, Dr. Sripada’s research group has been continuously funded by grants, initially through a MICH-R KL2 grant followed by an NIAAA K23 Career Development Award. His work has impressed the John Templeton Foundation which has provided three major awards jointly totaling over $800,000. In July, 2015, he received an NIMH BRAINS R01 for outstanding junior investigators. His colleagues and collaborators have recently submitted an additional five R01’s and one center grant (this last was recently funded) on which he is a co-investigator. These grants all centrally utilize the connectomic methodology for analysis of brain networks that his lab developed, evidencing the generativity of his research program. Dr. Sripada has served as a grant reviewer for the John Templeton Foundation for their Prospective Neuroscience Initiative and their Philosophy and Science of Self-Control Initiative. He is an associate member of Behavioral and Brain Sciences and a member of the editorial review board for *Frontiers of Behavioral Neuroscience*.

**Recent and Significant Publications:**


Philosophy Publications


Service: Dr. Sripada has held leadership roles for multiple initiatives benefiting the University of Michigan academic community as well as patients served by the University of Michigan Health System. He co-founded and continues to co-direct Michigan’s Neuroimaging Methods Core. This group assembles technicians and faculty with diverse backgrounds for the purposes of designing and implementing advanced neuroimaging methods. Methods Core has made a major impact by delivering advanced analysis tools—for example connectomic methods and multi-modal methods—that would otherwise be unavailable to Michigan investigators. The Core serves over 25 University-wide investigators, and it will be maintained for the long-term via a new recharge mechanism.

Dr. Sripada founded and directed Michigan’s first and only Adult ADHD Clinic. The clinic structure united neuropsychology, psychometrics, and psychiatry in a single cohesive clinic visit. While the clinic is currently in hiatus due to major research grants, he expects to re-open once a clinician is identified to staff the clinic. Other leadership positions include: 1) serving as one of three early-career faculty on the Psychiatry Research Council, a group of departmental research leaders that meet monthly to provide high-level research-related planning; 2) serving as an associate director of the psychiatry residency research track (2009-2012), where he embarked on a number of training initiatives including the monthly Research Literacy Series; and 3) serving on the Steering Committee of the newly founded Weinberg Institute of Cognitive Science, where he helps shape the direction of the Institute and contributes to teaching initiatives such as development of the new undergraduate major and graduate certificate program.

External Reviewers:

Reviewer A: “I know of no one who is as genuinely interdisciplinary, or as smart and creative, as Dr. Sripada. He is well on the way to becoming a major figure in more than one field. There is no one—but no one—of similar seniority who can match Dr. Sripada’s interdisciplinary credentials or depth and breadth of knowledge of philosophy and cognitive science, or who has produced a body of work of such creativity and insight.”

Reviewer B: “I have noted Dr. Sripada’s work using the ADHD-200 Project, an open repository of imaging and phenotypic data which my colleagues and I established, with considerable admiration. Several dozen papers have been published based on these public datasets, but none has come close in terms of originality and scientific impact, in my opinion to the ones he has produced.”

Reviewer C: “The body of research Dr. Sripada has produced is solid and systematic and on the cutting-edge of the field. He is well poised to become an international leader in this important...”
niche of clinical neuroscience where insights from the philosophy of mind are tested with unprecedented paradigms to study ways in which the brain processes and modulates information and action....I am impressed by the scope and sophistication of his work and his ability to combine first-rate research with clinical work.”

Reviewer D: “Dr. Sripada is a standout in the clinical neuroimaging community....Dr. Sripada is one of the few researchers I have seen who possesses the interdisciplinary background needed to know the real questions that need to be asked, and to effectively seek out and employ analytic methodologies that can appropriately answer the question.”

Reviewer E: “Dr. Sripada’s account of control, willpower, and addiction is original and profoundly important. There is nothing else like it, and it has broad implications. Many people in these areas have begun rethinking their views in light of Dr. Sripada’s insights.”

Summary of Recommendation:

Dr. Sripada brings a distinctive and unique expertise in philosophy and evolutionary biology combined with neuroscience and clinical skills. His research has made important theoretical, substantive and methodological contributions and leveraged these results for the broader philosophical and humanistic aim of improved self-understanding. We are pleased to recommend Sekhar C. Sripada, M.D., Ph.D. for promotion to associate professor of psychiatry, with tenure, Department of Psychiatry, Medical School, and associate professor of philosophy, with tenure, Department of Philosophy, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts.

Marschall S. Runge, M.D., Ph.D.
Executive Vice President for Medical Affairs
Dean, Medical School

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

May 2016