PROMOTION RECOMMENDATION
The University of Michigan
School of Social Work

Rogério Meireles Pinto, associate professor of social work, with tenure, School of Social Work, is recommended for promotion to professor of social work, with tenure, School of Social Work.

Academic Degrees:
Ph.M. 2002 Philosophy, Columbia University, NY
M.S.W. 1997 Wurzweiler School of Social Work, Yeshiva University, NY
B.S. 1986 Universidade Federal de Minas Gerais, Brazil

Professional Record:
2015 - present Associate Professor, University of Michigan School of Social Work, MI
2010 - 2015 Associate Professor, Columbia University School of Social Work, NY
2006 - 2010 Assistant Professor, Columbia University School of Social Work, NY
2003 - 2006 Post-doctoral Fellow, Columbia College of Physicians and Surgeons, NY

Summary of Evaluation
Teaching: Professor Pinto has taught three courses since coming to the University of Michigan. These courses focus on social justice, LGBTQ issues, and implementation science. Professor Pinto is dedicated to social justice and grounds his teaching in Paulo Freire’s pedagogy of the oppressed. In emphasizing social justice throughout his courses, he encourages students to develop critical consciousness, and skills needed to address oppression. The courses make a valuable contribution to the SSW curriculum and have positive course and instructor evaluation ratings. Professor Pinto has distinguished himself as a mentor of master’s and doctoral students, with particular attention to helping to assure the success of underrepresented students.

Research: Professor Pinto identifies a major gap in translation of knowledge to practice that hinders progress in addressing the complex needs of the millions of people living with HIV. He addresses the translation of science into practice, a major need in the social work profession. He has published 50 peer reviewed publications and five book chapters.

Professor Pinto conducts community-based participatory research with community organization partners in the United States, Brazil and Spain. His program of implementation science is guided by diffusion-of-innovation theory with a focus on behavioral interventions and the HIV care continuum. This work has application to other health problems (e.g., diabetes management) characterized by complex treatment regimens and challenges in care coordination. The significance of his research and its scientific merit has been demonstrated in the consistency of funding support he has received for his research. His history of NIH support includes support for his dissertation, a post-doctoral fellowship, a five-year K01 Career Development Award (2007–12) and a five-year R01 (2012–17).
Professor Pinto has outlined a rich future trajectory for his research that includes proposed work in Brazil studying perspectives of community residents on the effectiveness of community health workers (CHWs), and testing interprofessional collaboration training efforts. Future work in the U.S. and Spain will test interprofessional collaboration to deliver care-continuum services.

Recent and Significant Publications:


Service: Professor Pinto has an extensive and uniquely creative record of international, national, university and school level service. Within the school, he has been a member of the Executive Committee, School of Social Work Ph.D. Program Committee, the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee (DE&I), as well as other committees. He founded the Faculty Allies for Diversity Committee (FADC), which was funded by Rackham and the school’s Learning Community initiative. FADC’s approach uses social-capital theory that builds capacity for students’ professional development.

Within the university, Professor Pinto served on the Search Committee for the Director of Social Work and Spiritual Care for Michigan Medicine; a School of Public Health Search Committee; the Michigan Mixed Methods Research and Scholarship Program; and a Department of Family Medicine Search Committee. Professor Pinto has organized several university-wide symposia. In February 2017, he organized a symposium, “Community Wise,” which was attended by 60 participants and demonstrated a community-based intervention that showed promising results in assisting people with histories of incarceration.

Since 2015, Professor Pinto has been a standing member of the Community Influences on Health Behavior (CIHB) study section of the National Institutes of Health (NIH). He also has served on NIH ad hoc review committees: Improving Health and Reducing Premature Mortality (2014); Research Mentoring Programs for HIV/AIDS (2015); and Research Partnerships for Scaling Up
Mental Health Interventions (2016). Professor Pinto also serves as reviewer for 22 scientific journals, and was inducted as a fellow of the Society for Social Work and Research (SSWR) in recognition of his service. Professor Pinto has provided substantial international service including, since his promotion to associate professor, serving as scientific reviewer for the Congreso Nacional, Asociación de Sociología, Spain (2011–present), and Templeton World Charity, Nassau, Bahamas.

External Reviewers:
Reviewer A: “Professor Pinto has a strong curriculum vitae, and the work submitted is of a strong academic standard. His credentials are commensurate with the promotion for which he has been put forward. I have no hesitation in supporting a promotion to Professor of Social Work.”

Reviewer B: “Although the paper record would need to include more information about teaching excellence for Professor Pinto to be considered for promotion to professor at my institution, the research and services accomplishments meet, if not exceed, expectations as Professor (with tenure). In conclusion, this is a formidable and exciting record that supports promotion.”

Reviewer C: “Professor Pinto’s accomplishments are firmly within the range expected of a full professor. As importantly, I am confident that he will continue this trajectory of scholarly output well into the future and become a leader in the field.”

Reviewer D: “The volume of his work represents consistent development expected of a candidate seeking promotion to Professor. I firmly believe his candidacy would be positively reviewed within my own institution. Comparatively, Professor Pinto is markedly well prepared to compete and lead, in any pool of senior scholars.”

Reviewer E: “Overall, I have no reservation in recommending Professor Meireles Pinto for an appointment as a Full Professor at the School of Social Work, University of Michigan. Professor Meireles Pinto has been critical to shaping the field of STI/HIV prevention research through his insight and understanding of health vulnerable populations and his careful interpretation of research findings, which have had far reaching policy implications. In my opinion, he is an exceptional candidate, a credit to his profession and a truly valuable asset to the School of Social Work, University of Michigan.”

Reviewer F: “In summary, I recommend that you promote Professor Pinto to the rank of full Professor for his research contributions, teaching skill and the important role he is taking to increase the diversity of the study body at the University of Michigan.”

Reviewer G: “In conclusion, if Professor Pinto were under consideration for a promotion at my institution, I would unequivocally support this. I believe Professor Pinto would be a great asset to any institution of higher education as a Full Professor.”

Reviewer H: “While Professor Pinto’s scholarly output is impressive, it is probably insufficient to qualify for promotion within my environment. The review would be looking for more awards from NIH and a stronger publication record.”
Summary of Recommendation:
Professor Pinto’s high level of research and scholarship is noted for its critical contribution to shaping the field of STI/HIV prevention research with far reaching policy implications. He has distinguished himself with a solid record as a teacher and mentor and has an extensive record of international, national, university and school level service. I recommend the promotion of Rogério Meireles Pinto to professor of social work, with tenure, School of Social Work.

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Lynn Videka
Dean, School of Social Work

May 2018