

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

Jeffrey S. Roberts, 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	1999	University of Michigan (Clinical Psychology)
MA	1996	University of Michigan (Clinical Psychology)
BA	1992	Duke University (English)

Professional Record:

2013-present	Director, Outreach, Recruitment and Education Core, University of Michigan Alzheimer's Disease Center
2013	Visiting Scholar, University of California-Berkeley
2011-present	Associate Professor, with tenure, Department of Health Behavior and Health Education, University of Michigan School of Public Health
2011-present	Director, Public Health Genetics Certificate Program, University of Michigan School of Public Health
2008-present	Co-Director, Dual Degree Program in Public Health and Genetic Counseling, University of Michigan Schools of Public Health and Medicine
2007-present	Core Faculty, University of Michigan Center for Bioethics and Social Sciences in Medicine (Director, Genomics, Health and Society Program)
2006-2011	Assistant Professor, Department of Health Behavior and Health Education, University of Michigan School of Public Health
2005-2006	Co-Director, Education Core, Boston University Alzheimer's Disease Center
2005	Lecturer, Department of Gerontology, University of Massachusetts-Boston
2003-2006	Assistant Professor, Department of Neurology, Boston University School of Medicine
2001-2003	Instructor, Department of Neurology, Boston University School of Medicine
2000-2001	Clinical Fellow in Geropsychology in the Department of Psychiatry, Harvard Medical School, Brockton (MA) VA Medical
1999-2000	Post-doctoral Psychology Fellow, Ann Arbor (MI) VA Medical Center
1999-2000	Research Fellow, Serious Mental Illness Treatment Research and Evaluation Center, Ann Arbor VA Health Services Research and Development Center of Excellence

Summary of Evaluation:

Teaching: Professor Roberts' teaching record is strong. His teaching philosophy emphasizes the development of critical thinking skills through the use of multiple teaching strategies requiring students to apply conceptual frameworks in the analysis of the course material. He is known to use multiple educational technologies to enhance student engagement and demonstrate the relevance of course content to real-world current events. Professor Roberts teaches our only course on genetics (HBHE 669: Genetics, Health Behavior and Health Education), which has consistently had high enrollments. It addresses a popular interest among our students. His evaluations for this course have

been outstanding, averaging 4.43 for Q1 and 4.85 for Q2 over five offerings since winter 2012. Professor Roberts also teaches our course on public health ethics (HBHE 610: Issues in Public Health Ethics). He obtains equally impressive evaluations for this course, averaging 4.58 for Q1 and 4.83 for Q2 over seven offerings since fall 2011. To meet high student demand, Professor Roberts has also developed and taught a course on Mental Health Interventions, focusing on current intervention approaches to expand access to mental health services, reduce stigma and address extant health disparities.

In addition to his didactic teaching, Professor Roberts is involved in several other teaching and training activities. His research program provides funded summer internships for MPH students and he has served on the MPH curriculum committee in the department (including as chair). Professor Roberts plays key roles in the dual degree (MPH/MS) program in public health and genetic counseling, with the Schools of Public Health and Medicine and the School of Public Health's certificate program in public health genetics. Professor Roberts' leadership in this area provides opportunities for students to gain knowledge and skills in public health genetics to launch into this cutting edge field.

Research: Professor Roberts' research program examines psychological and behavioral responses to genetic risk assessment in order to inform health education, genetic counseling, and decision support efforts, as well as to guide ethical and policy debates concerning predictive testing. He has used a variety of research methods, including randomized clinical trials, survey research, mixed methods and program evaluation, drawing upon multiple disciplines including health psychology, health communication and decisions sciences. Professor Roberts' research productivity, in terms of grant funding and publication record, is outstanding. His research activities have resulted in significant funding from varied sources, including the National Institutes of Health, the Veterans Administration, and the National Alzheimer's Association. Since 2011, Professor Roberts has been the PI, co-PI, or co-I of over \$9 million. He has published 66 peer-reviewed articles since 2011. The quality of his work is excellent, appearing in prestigious and high-impact journals (e.g., *Alzheimer's and Dementia*, *Annals of Internal Medicine*, *JAMA*, *PLoS Medicine*, *Nature*). Notably, he publishes with a wide range of colleagues from multiple disciplines and perspectives and he includes doctoral and MPH students and post-doctoral fellows in virtually all of his research. Professor Roberts' research has provided a strong foundation for the thoughtful consideration of ethical and policy dilemmas raised as genomic science is increasingly integrated into medicine and public health. This places him as a leader to inform best practices and policies in this innovative and rapidly emerging field.

#### Recent and Significant Publications:

Note: Underlined authors are students/trainees; \* indicates senior or co-senior authorship

Roberts JS, Gornick MC, Carere DA, Uhlmann WR, Ruffin MT, Green RC. (2017) Direct-to-consumer genetic testing: User motivations, decision making, and perceived utility of results. *Public Health Genomics*, 20(1), 36-45.

Guan Y, Roter DL, Erby LH, Wolff JL, Gitlin LN, Roberts JS, Christensen KD, Green RC. (2017). Disclosing genetic risk of Alzheimer's disease to cognitively impaired patients and visit companions: Findings from the REVEAL Study. *Patient Education and Counseling*, 100(5), 927-935.

Gornick MC, Scherer AM, Sutton EJ, Ryan KA, Exe NL, Li M, Uhlmann WR, Kim SYH, Roberts JS\*, De Vries RG. (2017). Effect of public deliberation on attitudes toward return of secondary results in genomic sequencing. *Journal of Genetic Counseling*, 26(1), 122-32.

Christensen KD, Roberts JS, Whitehouse PJ, Royal, CDM, Obisesan TO, Cupples, LA, Vernarelli JA, Bhatt, DL, Linnenbringer E, Butson, MB, Fasaye, GA, Uhlmann WR, Hiraki S, Wang N, Cook-Deegan R, Green RC. (2016) Disclosing pleiotropic effects during genetic risk assessment for Alzheimer disease. A randomized trial. *Annals of Internal Medicine*, 164(3): 155-63.

Roberts JS, Connell CM, McLaughlin SJ. (2014) Public knowledge and beliefs about risk and protective factors for Alzheimer's disease. *Alzheimer's and Dementia*, 10(5): S381-9.

Service: Professor Roberts' service to the department, school and university has been exceptional. At the departmental level, he served as a member of the MPH curriculum committee for nine years, five of which he was chair. He has also been an active member of the School of Public Health advisory committee for academic programs. Since 2011, he has chaired two successful faculty search committees, bringing in three new HBHE faculty. Committed to service in genomic science at the School of Public Health, Professor Roberts is the co-director of the dual degree (MPH/MS) program in public health and genetic counseling, with the Medical School, and the director of the SPH's certificate program in public health genetics. His service to the university includes: director of the Program in Genomics, Health and Society at the Center for Bioethics and Social Sciences in Medicine, a member of the Genetic Counseling Program Advisory Board, and a member of the Rackham Graduate School Integrity Board. Professor Roberts also provides valuable and extensive service at the national level. He currently serves on the editorial board of the *American Journal of Alzheimer's Disease & Other Dementias*, is an ad-hoc member of the NIH Social and Ethical Issues in Research Study Section, and is a member of five professional organizations.

External Reviewers:

Reviewer A: "Dr. Roberts is well-known and highly respected by colleagues at the national level. He has been highly productive with research of the psychological and behavioral responses to genetic risk information. This type of research is challenging but is particularly important as an evidence-based foundation for the clinical use of emerging genetic technologies."

Reviewer B: "First, I am impressed not only with the quantity but with the quality of his scholarly work. Importantly, the journals he publishes in have very high impact scores as well, an objective, peer reviewed measure of the importance of Dr. Roberts' contributions. He has certainly earned the rank of professor with tenure... his dossier would meet the requirements of the same rank at [my institution]."

Reviewer C: "He seems to take training the next generation seriously and to bring in junior investigators from many diverse backgrounds and trainign settings. This bodes well for his continued efforts at UM to lead the field and his institution in the area of producing high quality scholars in this field."

Reviewer D: "His many significant contributions have elevated him to, I believe, international recognition. Indeed, in the context of direct-to-consumer (DTC) genetic testing and the return of genetic/genomic information--especially in relation to public/patient perceptions--Professor Roberts has emerged as one of the world's leading scholars. His contributions helped to shift beliefs about how the public reacts to genetic risk information (such as receiving information about APOE status)."

Reviewer E: "Highlighting the issue of his vision, I feel his recent foray into 'Precision Oncology' will be particularly helpful to the field as the diagnosis and treatment of malignancy increasingly hinges upon genomic analysis."

Reviewer F: "Moreover a number of his publications have appeared in top medical, public health, genetics, gerontology and other journals. The impact of this work is very high indeed and is a sign of the high quality produced by Dr. Roberts and his colleagues. Dr. Roberts is ahead of his peers working in the same field, including genetics of Alzheimer's and gerontology in general."

Reviewer G: "Dr. Scott Roberts is nationally recognized for his scholarly work regarding the psychosocial implications of genetics research in AD. He remains productive and indeed has extended his studies to now encompass returning genetic results regarding risk genes for cancer to a large research population. He is highly likely to continue to contribute importantly to his field."

Reviewer H: "It should go without saying that if most of Dr. Roberts's [sic] papers appear in first-tier general or specialty journals germane to his research agenda, then the quality of that work is consistently recognized as being among the best in the field."

Summary of Recommendation:

Professor Roberts is a leading scholar with internationally recognized expertise in the translation of genetic research discoveries into personalized disease risk estimates. He has made unique and significant contributions with his research, secured substantial external funding to support his research, received excellent teaching evaluations, and provided leadership in service to the department, school and his profession. It is with the support of the School of Public Health Executive Committee that I recommend J. Scott Roberts 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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Cathleen M Connell  
Interim Dean, School of Public Health

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