

## PROMOTION RECOMMENDATION

The University of Michigan  
School of Public Health  
Department of Epidemiology

Ana V. Diez Roux, M.D., Ph.D., associate professor of epidemiology, with tenure, Department of Epidemiology, School of Public Health, is recommended for promotion to professor of epidemiology, with tenure, Department of Epidemiology, School of Public Health.

### Academic Degrees:

M.D.	1985	University of Buenos Aires, Argentina
M.P.H.	1991	The Johns Hopkins University School of Hygiene and Public Health
Ph.D.	1995	The Johns Hopkins University School of Hygiene and Public Health, Department of Health Policy and Management

### Professional Record:

2003 to present	Associate Professor, with tenure, Department of Epidemiology, School of Public Health, University of Michigan
2003 to present	Faculty Associate, Institute for Social Research, University of Michigan
2002 to 2003	Faculty Fellow, Institute for Social and Economic Research and Policy, Columbia University
1996 to 2002	Assistant Professor of Epidemiology, Joseph L. Mailman School of Public Health, Columbia University
1996 to 2002	Assistant Professor of Medicine, Department of Medicine, Columbia College of Physicians and Surgeons
1995 to 1996	Postdoctoral Fellow, Department of Epidemiology, the Johns Hopkins University School of Hygiene and Public Health
1989 to 1990	Chief Resident in Pediatrics, Ricardo Gutierrez Children's Hospital, Buenos Aires, Argentina
1986 to 1989	Resident in Pediatrics, Ricardo Gutierrez Children's Hospital, Buenos Aires, Argentina

### Summary of Evaluation:

Teaching – Since joining the University of Michigan faculty, Dr. Diez Roux has taught the introductory course in epidemiology to non-majors and advanced methods to doctoral students, a new course that she recently developed and for which she received outstanding evaluations. Dr. Diez Roux has also lectured in several other courses throughout the University.

Dr. Diez Roux has served on 14 epidemiology dissertation committees, four as chair. All of her students are either partly or wholly funded through her research projects. She has also supervised numerous master's degree students in epidemiology. Students from Michigan and other institutions frequently approach her because of her well-known work in multilevel analysis and neighborhood effects.

Research – Dr. Diez Roux's research has focused broadly on the social determinants of health. Within this field, two themes have guided her work. One major theme pertains to the impact of factors defined at multiple levels of organization on individual-level health outcomes. She has articulated the rationale for multilevel approaches in public health and epidemiology and has discussed the conceptual and methodological challenges raised by the use of multilevel analysis. Several of her publications in this area have become key references in the field and have stimulated exponentially the growth of multilevel approaches to epidemiology. Dr. Diez Roux has given numerous invited lectures on multilevel analysis and is regularly invited to teach courses on multilevel analysis at major research institutions around the world.

A second theme of Dr. Diez Roux's work pertains to understanding the dynamic interrelationship between social and biological factors in health. She has been extensively involved in the examination of the

relationship between neighborhood characteristics and cardiovascular outcomes in several studies. This work represents a major innovation in cardiovascular disease epidemiology. In recent years, her interests in neighborhood effects on cardiovascular risk have expanded in a federally funded, interdisciplinary project that Dr. Diez Roux directs to examine whether long term exposure to particulate matter is related to the development of early atherosclerosis.

In recognition of Dr. Diez Roux's work on the social determinants of health and the study of neighborhood effects, she has been a member of the Working Group on Macrosocial Determinants of Morbidity and Mortality of the European Science Foundation and is currently a member of the MacArthur Network on Socioeconomic Factors and Health.

#### Recent and Significant Publications:

- Diez Roux AV. Multilevel analysis in public health research. *Annu. Rev. Public Health* 21:171-92, 2000.
- Diez Roux AV, Stein Merkin S, Arnett D, Chambless L, Massing M, Nieto FJ, Sorlie P, Szklo M, Tyroler HA, and Watson RL. Neighborhood of residence and incidence of coronary heart disease. *New England J. Med.* 345:99-106, 2001.
- Diez Roux AV. Investigating area and neighborhood effects on health. *Am. J. Public Health* 91(11):1783-9, 2001.
- Diez Roux AV, Schwartz S, and Susser E. Ecologic studies and ecologic variables in public health research. In: *The Oxford Textbook of Public Health*. Fourth Edition. R. Detels, J. McEwen, R. Beaglehole, and H. Tanaka (Eds.) London: Oxford University Press. Vol. 2, pg. 493-508, 2002.
- Diez Roux AV. Residential environments and cardiovascular risk. *J. Urban Health* 80:569-589, 2003.
- Diez Roux AV, Borrell N, Haan M, Jackson SA, and Schulz R. Neighborhood environments and mortality in an elderly cohort: Results from the Cardiovascular Health Study. *J. Epidemiol. Comm. Health* 58(11):917-23, 2004.
- Diez Roux AV. The study of group-level factors in epidemiology: Rethinking variables, study designs, and analytical approaches. *Epidemiol. Rev.* 26:104-11, 2004.
- Diez Roux AV. Estimating neighborhood health effects: The challenges of causal inference in a complex world. *Soc. Sci. Med.* 58(10):1953-60, 2004.
- Diez Roux AV and Aiello A. Multilevel analysis in infectious diseases. *J. Infect. Dis.* 191(S1):S25-33, 2005.
- Diez Roux AV, Detrano R, Jackson S, Jacobs DR, Schreiner PJ, Shea S, and Szklo M. Acculturation and socioeconomic position as predictors of coronary calcification in a multiethnic sample. *Circulation* 112:1557-65, 2005.
- Diez Roux AV, Auchincloss A, Astor B, Barr RG, Cushman M, Dvorchak T, Jacobs DR Jr., Kaufman J, Lin X, and Samson P. Recent exposure to particulate matter and C-reactive protein concentration in the Multiethnic Study of Atherosclerosis (MESA). *Am. J. Epidemiol.* (in press).

Service – Dr. Diez Roux has served on several departmental committees including the curriculum committee and the admissions and student affairs committees. Additionally, she has served on three Epidemiology faculty search committees, one of which she chaired. As core faculty member and currently co-director of the Robert Wood Johnson Health and Society Scholars at Michigan, Dr. Diez Roux participates in the coordination of the program and serves as a research and career mentor to scholars. At the national and international levels, Dr. Diez Roux has served on review panels for NHLBI Jackson Heart Study, NICHD, The Fogarty Program, and the Advisory Board to the Kellogg Minority Health Disparities Scholars Program. She has regularly reviewed applications for funding agencies abroad including the Medical Research Council in the United Kingdom and research institutes in Canada and Australia. She regularly participates in service activities with non-profit agencies including the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and Policy Link/The California Endowment. Furthermore, Dr. Diez Roux is Associate Editor of the *American Journal of Epidemiology*.

#### External Reviewers:

Reviewer (A): "Dr. Diez Roux is arguably the most highly regarded researcher on neighborhood effects on health in the U.S. Her work is characterized by its rigor, insight, and impact." "...her productivity [since promotion to Associate Professor] has shown a geometric increase over what was already a strong

upward trajectory. This is an extremely strong record and certainly compatible with promotion to the rank of Professor."

Reviewer (B): "Dr. Diez Roux is an internationally known and respected epidemiologist, with a particular interest in social epidemiology and the influence of local environmental context on health outcomes. Her publications have been highly influential in these fields... Her methodological work on how to investigate contextual effects on health has also been influential."

Reviewer (C): "By far her greatest impact and international recognition come from her work in multi-level modeling, and in the influence of space (and particularly neighborhoods) on a wide range of health outcomes. It is no exaggeration to say that she is probably the best internationally known scientist in this field, and that her writings are more used for graduate instruction in this area than any other person's." "Ana is an established 'star' in social epidemiology..."

Reviewer (D): "Ana is one of the top ten social epidemiologists in the country. If a straw poll was conducted among social epidemiologists internationally, I am also confident that Ana's name would come up very high on the list of the most influential scholars in the field." "Each one of her papers is a gem..." "She is one of those rare scholars who are equally conversant with medicine and biology, advanced statistical methods, and public health in general. She has clearly been successful in obtaining funding from the NIH, and served on several national committees."

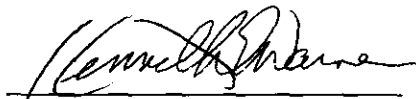
Reviewer (E): "...there is little doubt that Dr. Diez Roux has become astonishingly successful in both NIH funding and in peer-reviewed publications in a very short time.... The content of her work is equally impressive."

Reviewer (F): "She is truly outstanding. If I were to compare her to other people in the world at a similar career stage, I would rate her clearly at the very top. When people around the world talk about the person they would like most to recruit to their program, her name inevitably is first mentioned. She would be a treasure in any Epidemiology faculty."

Reviewer (G): "The journals in which Dr. Diez Roux has published include some of the premier journals in medicine and epidemiology and public health." "Her record of extramural funding for her research efforts is impressive." "I believe that the University of Michigan is very fortunate to have Dr. Diez Roux in its faculty ranks and that the promotion to the rank of professor is clearly warranted."

Summary of Recommendation:

Dr. Diez Roux is a highly regarded social epidemiologist who has made significant contributions to the areas of teaching, research, and service. She has developed a strong interdisciplinary and collaborative research program that has attracted national and international attention and has been responsible for helping to shape the field of social epidemiology and the social determinants of health. With the unanimous support of the Department of Epidemiology, the School of Public Health Advisory Committee on Academic Rank and the School of Public Health Executive Committee, I recommend Dr. Diez Roux for promotion to the rank of professor of epidemiology, with tenure.



Kenneth E. Warner, Ph.D.  
Dean, School of Public Health

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