

**THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
REGENTS COMMUNICATION**

PROMOTION RECOMMENDATION

University of Michigan-Flint
College of Arts and Sciences
Department of Psychology

Eric G. Freedman, associate professor of psychology, with tenure, Department of Psychology, College of Arts and Sciences, is recommended for promotion to professor of psychology, with tenure, Department of Psychology, College of Arts and Sciences.

Academic Degrees:

Ph.D.	1988	University of Maine
B.A.	1980	Brandeis University

Professional Record:

1999 to present	Associate Professor of Psychology, with tenure, University of Michigan-Flint
1993 to 1999	Assistant Professor of Psychology, University of Michigan-Flint
1993 to 1997	Adjunct Professor of Psychology, Michigan Technological University
1988 to 1993	Assistant Professor of Psychology, Michigan Technological University
1986 to 1988	Research Assistant Professor of Psychology, Memphis State University
1984 to 1986	Research Assistant, University of Maine
1983 to 1986	Teaching/Research Assistant, University of Maine
1980 to 1983	Research Assistant, University of Maine
1980 to 1981	Psychological Technician, Bedford Veterans Administration Hospital
1978 to 1980	Research Assistant, Brandeis University

Summary of Evaluation:

Teaching – Dr. Freedman’s efforts to improve his teaching have met with success. He has emerged as a fine teacher in a department known for its excellent teachers. He has revised and created courses, and engaged in curriculum development. He has taught courses basic to the majors including Introductory Psychology (PSY 100), Research Design (PSY 201), and Statistics (PSY 301). Upper level courses include Human Memory and Cognition (PSY 306), An Introduction to Cognitive Science (PSY 335), Psychology of Language (PSY 362), Cognitive Neuroscience (PSY 380), and Experimental Approaches to Cognition (PSY 384).

Research – Dr. Freedman has continued to produce a significant and increasingly important body of research in the area of understanding the so-called executive control system. Following his paper on executive control which appeared in *Philosophica*, Dr. Freedman’s collaborative publications have appeared as published refereed proceedings and journal articles. Of the latter, he has published works in *Cognitive Brain Research* (2002), and *Journal of Educational Computing*

Research (2003). Two articles are currently under review, and three more are in preparation. Dr. Freedman's recent research has been supported by a major grant from the Office of Naval Research, the largest such grant in our department's history.

Recent and Significant Publications:

Book:

Freedman, E. G. (forthcoming). *Cognitive Psychology: Current Issues and Debates*. Pacific Grove, CA: Brooks/Cole Publishers.

Book Chapters:

Shah, P., Freedman, E. G. and Vekiri, I. (2005). "The comprehension of quantitative information in graphical displays." In P. Shah and A. Miyake (Eds.), *Cambridge Handbook of Visuospatial Thinking* (pp. 426-476). New York, NY: Cambridge University Press.

Freedman, E. G. (1992). "Understanding scientific controversies from a computational perspective: The case of latent learning." In R. Giere (Ed.), *Cognitive Models of Science: Minnesota Studies in the Philosophy of Science* (Volume XV), (pp. 310-337). Minneapolis, MN: University of Minnesota Press.

Gholson, B., Freedman, E. G. and Houts, A. C. (1989). "Cognitive psychology of science: An introduction." In B. Gholson, W. R. Shadish, R. A. Neimeyer and A. C. Houts (Eds.), *Psychology of Science: Contributions to Metascience* (pp. 267-274). New York, NY: Cambridge University Press.

Neimeyer, R. A., Shadish, W. R., Freedman, E. G., Houts, A. and Gholson, B. (1989). "A preliminary research agenda for the psychology of science." In B. Gholson, W. R. Shadish, R. A. Neimeyer and A. C. Houts. (Eds.), *Psychology of Science: Contributions to Metascience* (pp. 429-448). New York, NY: Cambridge University Press.

Service – Dr. Freedman has performed extensive service on numerous college and university-wide committees. He has served on the Ad hoc General Education Committee, and the Rackham Board at the university level. His college service has involved chairing the CAS Curriculum Committee. He has also chaired the CAS Nominating Committee. He has served on or chaired numerous search committees, and remains active professionally.

External Reviewers:

Reviewer (A)

... "I have some questions about whether this line of research is actually generating a sufficient number of findings to continue writing about it. ... The quality of this research portfolio is clearly apparent in terms of mastery of theoretical concepts, writing style, and the synthesis of a number of disparate findings."

Reviewer (B)

[Dr. Freedman's] "publications are all of considerable quality. ... Thus I conclude that Eric has made a high-quality and recognizable contribution to the field. He has considerably exceeded the needed research contributions to justify promotion to Full Professor."

Reviewer (C)

"Having been head of our research unit on cognitive ergonomics I am confident that his [Dr. Freedman's] treatment is of good scientific caliber. In addition, I found these papers a pleasure to read."

Reviewer (D)

"... this is cutting-edge research, and [Dr. Freedman's] involvement in it serves as strong testimony to his continuing intellectual growth as a significant Cognitive Psychologist."

Reviewer (E)

"His [Dr. Freedman's] journal publications have been very well received as well. Eric has made significant, strong progress on several research fronts since the time he became an associate professor."

Reviewer (F)

"In sum, I think the quality of his work more than suffices for promotion. He has achieved recognition, even at the international level, in several fields, his work is methodologically rigorous, and his recent collaborations suggest even greater productivity in the future."

Reviewer (G)

"His work is serious. It is thoughtful and clearly produced with the attitude of someone enthusiastic about the focus of the scholarship."

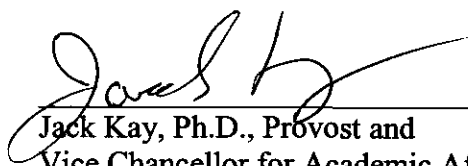
Summary of Recommendation:

Dr. Freedman has an impressive body of research to his credit and in progress, and has often successfully involved students in his projects. He is an increasingly effective teacher, active in curriculum development. The range of courses he teaches is impressive – from basic freshman courses to the advanced undergraduate level. He has willingly served on numerous significant committees in his department, in the College, Flint campus, and university system. We therefore enthusiastically recommend Eric G. Freedman to the title of professor of psychology, with tenure, Department of Psychology, College of Arts and Sciences.

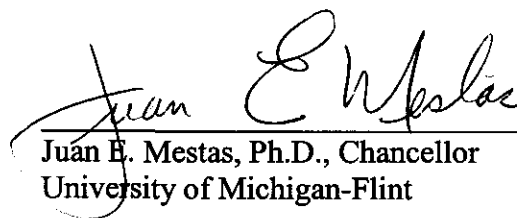


D. J. Trela, Ph.D., Dean
College of Arts and Sciences

Recommendation endorsed by:



Jack Kay, Ph.D., Provost and
Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs



Juan E. Mestas, Ph.D., Chancellor
University of Michigan-Flint

May 2006