

PROMOTION RECOMMENDATION  
The University of Michigan  
College of Literature, Science, and the Arts

Gottfried J. Hagen, assistant professor of Turkish studies, Department of Near Eastern Studies, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts, is recommended for promotion to associate professor of Turkish studies, with tenure, Department of Near Eastern Studies, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts.

Academic Degrees:

1996	Ph.D.	Freie Universität Berlin
1989	M.A.	Ruprecht-Karls-Universität Heidelberg

Professional Record:

2000 – present	Assistant Professor, Department of Near Eastern Studies, University of Michigan
1996 – 2000	Lecturer (Wissenschaftlicher Mitarbeiter), Institut für Sprachen und Kulturen des Vorderen Orients, Friedrich-Schiller-Universität

Summary of Evaluations:

Teaching – Professor Hagen has created and taught an extensive and innovative curriculum in Turkish studies at all levels, including introductory courses at the 200-level and a series of courses for graduates and advanced undergraduates. Students have consistently given him good evaluations and we have witnessed steadily increasing enrollments in Turkish language and culture courses. He has also instructed and advised students of German who are interested in the growing Turkish minority in Germany and their unique culture. He has served as a member of three dissertation or preliminary examination committees and directed two honors theses. Currently he chairs three dissertation committees and is a member of five dissertation committees.

Research – Professor Hagen’s research is impressive in its volume, variety, and choice of significant questions. Of high quality and displaying superior expertise, his work combines philological thoroughness with theoretical sophistication. His major work to date, *Ein osmanischer Geograph (An Ottoman Geographer)*, makes substantial contributions to the cultural and intellectual exchange between the Islamic world and Western Europe, the exact sciences in Ottoman education and thought, and the political uses of knowledge in the Ottoman empire.

Recent and Significant Publications:

“German heralds of holy war: Orientalists and applied Oriental studies,” *Comparative Studies of South Asia, Africa, and the Middle East*, 24(2), 2004, pp. 145-162.

“Afterword: Ottoman understandings of the world in the seventeenth century,” in *Evliya Çelebi—An Ottoman Mentality*, R. Dankoff, Leiden: Brill, 2004, pp. 207-248.

*Ein osmanischer Geograph bei der Arbeit. Entstehung und Gedankenwelt von Katib Celebis Gihannnüma*, *Studien zur Sprache, Geschichte und Kultur der Türkvölker*, G. Hazai (ed.), Berlin: Klaus Schwarz Verlag, 2003.

Service – Professor Hagen has performed a significant amount of service, having served for several years as Chair of the Near Eastern Studies Undergraduate Studies Committee and for the past two years as Associate Director and Outreach Coordinator of the Center for Middle Eastern and North African Studies. In addition, he has found time to lecture at the Turkish-American Cultural Association of Michigan, the Turkish Students Association, the Knights-Wallace Journalism Fellowship Program, and the Learning in Retirement Program, as well as working with local schools and libraries.

External Reviews:

Reviewer (A)

“It is safe to say that there is no one in this country with as wide or deep a grasp of Ottoman literature, in the widest sense, as he. Indeed there are few people in the world who match him, maybe one or two in Germany. ... What I admire about Mr. Hagen’s scholarship is his double focus... ..he has the ability to contextualize in the large historical and theoretical perspectives, but at the same time he does not lose sight of the details...”

Reviewer (B)

“Hagen was trained in German Orientalism, which...gives him a deep, and enviable grounding in all the languages of the Middle East. ... I do think this is superior work, and equal to the best dossiers I have seen over the years.”

Reviewer (C)

“I cannot compare him to other historians of Ottoman religion, science and historiography of his age group, because with that particular combination, he is unique. Among the scholars who work in Ottoman cultural and intellectual history, I consider him one of the ‘coming people.’”

Reviewer (D)

“Four prominent qualities make possible an unreserved agreement with H[agen]’s conclusions: 1. mastery of the philological craft and extremely careful method; 2. a complete overview of sources and secondary literature...; 3. knowledge of the great questions of the discipline...; 4. carefully balanced, mature argumentation that saves him from rash conclusions.”

Reviewer (E)

“...I would like to state unequivocally that upon close examination, I have found Professor Hagen’s scholarship to be solid, sophisticated, enterprising, and impressive. He is already a prominent scholar [of his generation] in his field, and I have no doubt that in another decade he will become a leading scholar of early modern Ottoman culture.”

Reviewer (F)

“Such breadth and engagement across disciplines is rare in Ottoman studies and Turcology and reflects his education and academic specialization in the European tradition. His proficiency in the four main languages of the Middle East and an equal number of Western languages is beyond the ordinary even in that tradition. ... Language is not merely a tool for Hagen but an intellectual realm in which he can broach insights into mentalities, perceptions, and world views. These abilities should be an asset to an interdisciplinary Near Eastern Studies program.”

Reviewer (G)

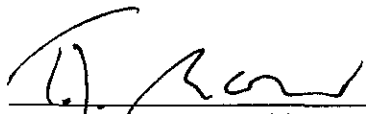
“His greatest, barely imitable, strengths are that he knows languages well, is extraordinarily methodical, and reads both closely and systematically.”

Reviewer (H)

“His articles are invariably original and thought provoking, and should serve to stimulate further research in the area. ...I have found Dr. Hagen’s work very impressive indeed.”

Summary of Recommendation:

Professor Hagen is not only an accomplished scholar, but he has shown remarkable dedication to the Turkish program in Near Eastern Studies and to the field and profession as a whole. He has performed many valuable services for the Department, the University, and the community, and has shown concern for the welfare and development of his students. The Executive Committee of the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts and I recommend that Assistant Professor Gottfried J. Hagen be promoted to the rank of associate professor of Turkish studies, with tenure, Department of Near Eastern Studies.



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Terrence J. McDonald, Dean  
College of Literature, Science, and the Arts

May 2006