

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

Xiomara A. Santamarina, assistant professor of English language and literature and assistant professor of Afroamerican and African studies, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts, is recommended for promotion to associate professor of English language and literature, with tenure, and associate professor of Afroamerican and African studies, with tenure, the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts.

Academic Degrees:

1998	Ph.D.	University of Chicago
1989	M.A.	Georgetown University
1986	B.A.	Georgetown University

Professional Record:

1999 – present	Assistant Professor, Department of English Language and Literature and the Center for Afroamerican and African Studies (CAAS), University of Michigan
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Summary of Evaluations:

Teaching – Professor Santamarina has established herself as an energetic and dedicated teacher offering courses in African American literature and culture. She takes great care in conceptualizing a pedagogy that enables students from different units to engage across disciplinary boundaries and methodologies. She challenges her students and yet her evaluation scores have been consistently strong at the undergraduate level and higher for her courses at the graduate level. Her dissertation committee service includes English and extends to the Program in American Culture, and she has repeatedly served as reader of honors' theses in English.

Research – Professor Santamarina has published the well-received study, *Belabored Professions: Narratives of African American Working Womanhood*. It focuses on the representations of class and gendered labor in the public sphere in personal narratives by nineteenth century black women, and is original, dense, and paradigm shifting. This book will have major impact in the field of African American literary, cultural, and historical studies of the nineteenth century. Professor Santamarina is at work on a second book entitled *Race, Class, and Respectability*, which addresses class and color among nineteenth-century African American men and women in a range of regional contexts. She also has two articles in premier interdisciplinary and specialist journals.

Recent and Significant Publications:

Belabored Professions: Narratives of African American Working Womanhood, Chapel Hill, University of North Carolina Press, 2005.

“Black hairdresser and social critic: Eliza Potter and the labors of femininity,” *American Literature*, 77(1), 2005, pp. 151-177.

“Behind the scenes of black labor: Elizabeth Keckley and the scandal of publicity,” *Feminist Studies*, 28(3), 2002, pp. 515-537.

Service – Since 1998 Professor Santamarina has served on the CAAS Curriculum Committee and on the Department of English's Undergraduate Curriculum Committee. She has also served on English's Graduate Admissions Committee, the Graduate Third-Term Review Committee, and the Executive Committee. She has been a reviewer for the Michigan Society of Fellows and is a consultant for *Feminist Studies* and *Gender and History*.

External Reviews:

Reviewer (A)

"I regard *Belabored Professions* as one of the most significant new books in nineteenth-century African American studies, so it would appear on my short list of the most significant books or articles to appear recently in this specialty."

Reviewer (B)

"She has recast discussions of black women's writings, reclaimed class as central to such discussions, retrieved marginalized texts, and reoriented our reading of more well-known narratives. In the process, she has reached audiences in a range of disciplines and interdisciplines...and gained recognition of her scholarship by senior faculty in diverse fields."

Reviewer (C)

"One of the most important contributions of this book is to show how political exigencies and critical conventions influence how a literary work is read. In *Belabored Professions*, Professor Santamarina shows how an unexpected account (even a critique) emerges when the reader focuses on heretofore overlooked aspects of these works."

Reviewer (D)

"...Professor Santamarina possesses a strong and consistent record of teaching range in both 19th and 20th centuries as well as service to the university through two academic units, past achievement, current success, future scholarly promise and burgeoning national stature as a most worthy scholar... I endorse her promotion in very affirmative terms."

Reviewer (E)

"*Belabored* is a signal literary addition to this important interdisciplinary field, and I am sure that it will rapidly become a benchmark. I would rank it among the foremost recent books in the fields of literary studies, African American Studies, and Women's, Gender and Sexuality Studies."

Reviewer (F)

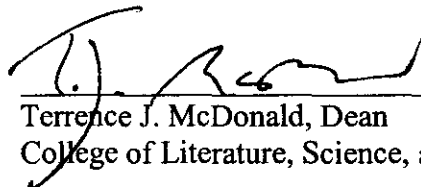
"Professor Santamarina is courageous and confident enough to take on the arguments of the most respected scholars in her subject areas...and to both challenge and persuasively revise their readings. She writes beautifully and argues with simultaneous concision and patience, producing a crystal clear and productive analysis of racialized labor relations as refracted through the lives of four very different women."

Reviewer (G)

“While there are others in her PhD cohort whose quantity of publication exceeds hers, I can think of no one whose quality of work, Professor Santamarina does not match or surpass. Moreover, her work...has both depth and interdisciplinarity. ... She thoughtfully expands and sagely challenges ideas and interpretations in light of her original and different questions or methods. ... Her book has definitely taught me some things I did not know, spurred my own ideas and theories of application and comparability within and among various genre and disciplinary works...”

Summary of Recommendation:

Professor Santamarina’s publication record shows an exceptionally focused scholar who has clearly established herself as a leading authority in her areas of expertise. She is an excellent teacher and a good citizen. The Executive Committee of the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts and I recommend that Assistant Professor Xiomara A. Santamarina be promoted to the rank of associate professor of English Language and Literature, with tenure, and associate professor of Afroamerican and African studies, with tenure.



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

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