

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

Emre Ozdenoren, assistant professor of economics, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts, is recommended for promotion to associate professor of economics, with tenure, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts.

Academic Degrees:

Ph.D.	2000	Northwestern University
M.A.	1996	State University of New York, Stony Brook
M.A.	1994	Bilkent University
B.S.	1991	Middle East Technical University

Professional Record:

2003	Visiting Assistant Professor, Northwestern University
2000 – present	Assistant Professor, Department of Economics, University of Michigan

Summary of Evaluation:

Teaching – Professor Ozdenoren has taught courses in microeconomic theory at both the undergraduate and graduate level. This is a core field for economics and these courses make a significant contribution to the basic teaching needs of the department. He also designed an undergraduate course entitled “Strategy and Equity” which is a non-technical introduction to game theory that is accessible to students outside of the economics concentration. At the graduate level, he has taught core first-year Ph.D. courses in mathematics for economics as well as an advanced topics course on decision theory. He has served on several dissertation committees and has chaired one committee.

Research – Professor Ozdenoren is becoming one of the leading scholars of axiomatic decision theory in his cohort. This work addresses the fundamental problem of how individuals make decisions when faced with uncertainty. His research is technically excellent and has had a substantial impact on the field. He has also begun a number of more applied research projects on a wide range of topics including the determination of asset prices, bidding in auctions, and the determination of variety in the provision of durable goods. He has published more articles than most economists coming up for tenure, particularly in economic theory. Five of his articles appear in the *Journal of Economic Theory*, the leading specialty journal for economic theory, and others appear in strong specialty journals in other research areas.

Recent and significant publications:

- “Optimal auctions with ambiguity,” with S. Bose and A. Pape, *Theoretical Economics*, forthcoming.
- “Auctions with uncertain numbers of bidders,” with D. Levin, *Journal of Economic Theory*, 118(2), 2004, pp. 229-251.
- “Probabilistic representation of complexity,” with N. Al-Najjar and R. Casadesus-Masanell, *Journal of Economic Theory*, 111(1), 2003, pp. 49-87.

“Completing the state space with subjective states,” *Journal of Economic Theory*, 105(2), 2002, pp. 531-539.

“Maxmin expected utility over savage acts with a set of priors,” with R. Casadesus-Masanell and P. Klibanoff, *Journal of Economic Theory*, 92(1), May 2000, p. 35-65.

Service – Professor Ozdenoren has provided important departmental service as an elected junior representative of the Executive Committee and as an appointed member of the Graduate Admissions Committee. He has also been very active in efforts to recruit new faculty in microeconomic theory.

External Reviews:

Reviewer (A)

“Without reservation, I recommend promotion of Emre Ozdenoren to the rank of Associate Professor with tenure at the University of Michigan. ... The majority of Emre’s published work is concerned with pure decision theory... ..this is all solid work and the best of it would be essential for a reading list in an advanced PhD course in this area.”

Reviewer (B)

“He is a unique researcher who can cover the entire gamut of methods, from deep mathematical tools to experiments, and who can contribute to pure theory as well as to applied theory and behavioral economics.”

Reviewer (C)

“Based on my evaluation of his work, I believe that Ozdenoren is an outstanding researcher and clearly deserves this promotion.”

Reviewer (D)

“[‘Durable Goods and Conformity’] is a very nice contribution... The model is simple and very elegant. The question is interesting and relevant. ...my impression from browsing his papers, is that Emre is quite broad. ... He seems like a great asset bridging abstract and applied theory.”

Reviewer (E)

“Overall, Emre is a first-rate economist who has impressive published research on foundations and applications of ambiguity-sensitive preferences, who has some current working papers that appear to be even better, and who has been branching out into some exciting new areas like behavioral economics. ... He is an easy choice for a tenured appointment.”

Reviewer (F)

“To get directly to the bottom line, I think highly of Emre and endorse such a promotion. ...I believe Emre’s research record shows exactly what you would naturally be looking for at this point... Based on this, I do believe he would be promoted here [at my institution].”

Reviewer (G)

“...[his] interests and research are broader than those of a typical decision-theorist. Ozdenoren’s research constitutes an extremely impressive body of work, and certainly much more that [sic] one would require for a positive tenure decision at any top ten Economics Department. I would

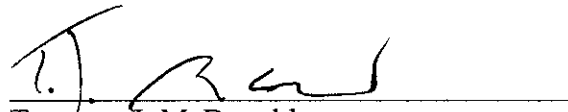
consider him one of the most important members of...[his] generation of researchers in my field..."

Reviewer (H)

"Thanks to his papers, Emre is now considered one of the best scholars [of his generation] studying decision making under ambiguity from both the theoretical and the applied sides. ... He is a very talented and very motivated scholar."

Summary of Recommendation:

Professor Ozdenoren has become a well-known scholar in decision theory. He makes very important contributions to maintaining the department's strength in research and teaching in this field. The Executive Committee of the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts and I recommend that Assistant Professor Emre Ozdenoren be promoted to the rank of associate professor of Economics, with tenure, in the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts.



Terrence J. McDonald
Arthur F. Thurnau Professor,
Professor of History, and Dean
College of Literature, Science, and the Arts

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