

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
REGENTS COMMUNICATION

Approved by the Regents
May 15, 2008

PROMOTION RECOMMENDATION

University of Michigan-Flint
College of Arts and Sciences
Department of Sociology, Anthropology and Criminal Justice

Ananthakrishnan Aiyer, assistant professor of anthropology, Department of Sociology, Anthropology and Criminal Justice, College of Arts and Sciences, is recommended for promotion to associate professor of anthropology, with tenure, Department of Sociology, Anthropology and Criminal Justice, College of Arts and Sciences.

Academic Degrees:

Ph.D.	2004	Temple University
M.A.	1993	Temple University
B.A.	1989	St. Xavier's College, Bombay, India

Professional Record:

2004 to present	Assistant Professor of Anthropology, University of Michigan-Flint
2000 to 2004	Lecturer cum Assistant Professor, University of Michigan-Flint
1992 to 1994	Adjunct Instructor, Temple University

Summary of Evaluation:

Teaching – Professor Aiyer has expanded course offerings in the anthropology program so as to attract new majors and provide new opportunities for students from other disciplines. He has taught nine different courses, and created four new courses, which span undergraduate to graduate level courses. Student and peer evaluation of his teaching is favorable. He has also successfully involved undergraduate students in research projects.

Research – Professor Aiyer has edited, with undergraduate students, a book documenting the history of the Civil Rights movement in Flint, Michigan. *Telling Our Stories: Legacy of the Civil Rights Movement in Flint*, was published in March 2007. In addition to this he has published articles in scholarly journals that are ranked among the most prestigious in the field of anthropology. His scholarship on globalization is already having a profound impact on his profession, while he has numerous research projects in progress.

Recent and Significant Publications:

Articles in Refereed Journals:

Aiyer, Ananthakrishnan. "The Allure of the Transnational: Some Notes on the Political Economy of Water in India." *Cultural Anthropology*. Special Issue: The Coke Complex. 22(4): 640-658, 2007 (forthcoming).

- Aiyer, Ananthakrishnan. "In Search of the Midas Touch: Gold, Güiriseros and Globalization in Nicaragua." *Anthropologica*. Special Issue: Commodities, Capitalism and Globalization. 46(2): 139-151, 2004.
- Aiyer, Ananthakrishnan. "Lights Out." *Social Analysis*. Forum – The Enron Scandal: Global Corporatism Against Society. 47(3):141-146, 2003. Reprinted in Berghahn Critical Interventions Series (2004), *Corporate Scandal*, John Gledhill (ed.), pp. 20-28. New York and Oxford: Berghahn.
- Aiyer, Ananthakrishnan. "Hemispheric Solutions?" Neoliberal Crisis, Criminality and 'Democracy' in the Americas." *Urban Anthropology and Studies of Cultural Systems and World Economic Development*. Special Issue: Global Capitalism, Neoliberal Policy and Poverty. 30(2/3): 239-268, 2001.

Book:

- Aiyer, Ananthakrishnan *Telling Our Stories: Legacy of the Civil Rights Movement in Flint*. The Flint ColorLine Project. Flint: Michigan Humanities Council, 2007.

Book Review:

- Aiyer, Ananthakrishnan "Writing Against the Current. Review Essay on Epifanio San Juan, Jr." *Beyond Postcolonial Theory*. *Amerasia Journal* 25(2): 201-206, 1999. Reprinted in *Philippine Studies* (October 1999) and *LCC Journal* (January 2000). Also, Reprinted as "The Political Implications of Postcolonial Studies and Postcolonial Theory," in *Unitas*. 72(1): 127-134 (March 1999).

Service – Professor Aiyer has made important service contributions to the University of Michigan-Flint. He has served on seven committees at the department, college, and University levels, contributed to the ongoing process of General Education reform, been a co-advisor of a student club, given invited talks, and been an active participant in workshops and talks organized by visiting Winegarden scholars. He is also active in editorial capacities within his profession.

External Reviewers:

Reviewer (A):

"He is an insightful, productive scholar who has made important contributions to the field of anthropology, and he blends his scholarship with a concern for the people and the community in which he works."

Reviewer (B):

"Dr. Aiyer is one of the most promising scholars of his cohort, and I believe he will play a leading role in the field of anthropology in years to come."

Reviewer (C):

"[Dr. Aiyer's] ... articles [in *Anthropologica* and *Cultural Anthropology*] offer some of the best writing on globalization within the field of anthropology ..."

Reviewer (D):

"... Professor Aiyer's accomplishments since his arrival at your school have been exceptional. His publications are of the highest caliber."

Reviewer (E):

"He is a scholar with the real potential to make substantial contributions to his field and to the scholarly reputation of your institution, as he develops his work further."

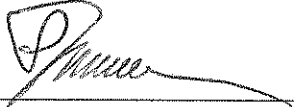
Reviewer (F):

"... I do not have the verbal skills to convey to you my profound respect for the immense integrity, not just of each of his published pieces, but of his broader intellectual/political project as a whole."

Summary of Recommendation:

Given the fine quality of teaching, good service, and outstanding scholarship, we enthusiastically support the recommendation of the Executive Committee for promotion of Ananthakrishnan Aiyer to associate professor of anthropology, with tenure, Department of Sociology, Anthropology and Criminal Justice, College of Arts and Sciences.

Recommended by:

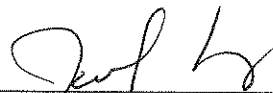


D. J. Trela, Dean
College of Arts and Sciences

Recommendation endorsed by:



Vahid Lotfi, Interim Provost and
Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs



Jack Kay, Interim Chancellor
University of Michigan-Flint

May 2008