

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

Traianos Gagos, associate professor of papyrology and Greek, with tenure, Department of Classical Studies, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts, is recommended for promotion to professor of papyrology and Greek, with tenure, Department of Classical Studies, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts.

Academic Degrees:

Ph.D.	1987	University of Durham
B.A.	1983	University of Ioannina

Professional Record:

1999 – present	Associate Professor, Department of Classical Studies, University of Michigan
1997 – present	Archivist, Graduate Library, University of Michigan
1995 – present	Assistant Research Scientist, Kelsey Museum of Archaeology, University of Michigan
1995 – 1999	Assistant Professor, Department of Classical Studies, University of Michigan
1991 – 1997	Associate Archivist, Graduate Library, University of Michigan
1991 – 1995	Lecturer, Department of Classical Studies, University of Michigan
1990 – 1995	Acting Director, Duke Data Bank of Documentary Papyri (DDBDP) and the Michigan Subliterary Papyri Project, University of Michigan
1988 – 1991	Visiting Assistant Professor and Visiting Assistant Research Scientist, Department of Classical Studies, University of Michigan

Summary of Evaluation:

**Teaching** – Professor Gagos is an excellent teacher who is especially gifted at integrating papyrology into the rest of the curriculum. He is invaluable in bridging among History, Classical Studies, Near Eastern Studies, and archaeology, and in teaching *koinê* Greek. He has helped develop new courses that take advantage of the unique research opportunities in papyrology at Michigan. Student evaluations are very good and individual comments convey the sense that students appreciate his patient, intelligent advice at every stage of their academic careers.

**Research** – Professor Gagos is an excellent documentary papyrologist, whose work has earned him international recognition as one of the leading figures in his field. He has helped to extend papyrology beyond simply editing of texts into understanding them historically and culturally. He recently was the leader of a project that succeeded in recovering a “lost” region of the Roman Empire in the generations preceding the Arab conquest of the Near East. He has also succeeded in attaining very large grants to secure the future of the Advanced Papyrological Information System (APIS), a revolutionary project for which he has been the principle investigator for many years. APIS seeks to create a global “virtual” library of all the collections of papyri in the U. S.

#### Recent and Significant Publications:

- “The Advanced Papyrological Information System: Past, present, and future,” with R. S. Bagnall, *Proceedings of the 24<sup>th</sup> International Congress of Papyrology*, Helsinki 2007, pp. 59-74 (responsible for 65-70).
- “Beyond the rock. Petra in the sixth century CE in the light of the papyri,” with R. C. Caldwell in *Crossing Jordan. North American Contributions to the Archaeology of Jordan*, T. E. Levy, et al. (eds.), London, 2007.
- “Documents,” with D. S. Potter, in *A Companion to the Roman Empire. 44BC-A.D. 337*, D. S. Potter (ed.), London, 2006, pp. 45-74.
- “Two ‘recycled’ inscriptions from the Tafila-Busayra archaeological survey,” in *The Tafila-Busayra Archaeological Survey 1999-2001, West-Central Jordan*, B. MacDonald (ed.), Boston, 2004, pp. 421-422.

Service – Professor Gagos has served several terms as a member of the Chair’s Advisory Committee, as well as on numerous review and promotion committees in Classical Studies. He regularly serves as a member of the Executive Committee of the Interdepartmental Program in Classical Art and Archaeology and is director of the Michigan Section of the Advanced Papyrological Information System. He brought the 25<sup>th</sup> International Congress of Papyrology to Michigan in 2007 and served a two-year term as president of the American Society of Papyrologists. Professor Gagos was editor and chief of the *Bulletin of the American Society of Papyrologists* for five years.

#### External Reviewers:

##### Reviewer (A)

“Some of his aptitudes,—openness to modern techniques, sense of organization, sense of communication, collaborative work... They are decisive for a professor, who cannot be simply a scholar [savant], but one who organizes people and knows his way around institutional bureaucracy. I add that Gagos is a fine editor of papyrological documents, already distinguished in that function by the team of P.Oxy [Oxhrrhynchus Papyri].”

##### Reviewer (B)

“I should certainly place Dr. Gagos among the most achieving of his generation of papyrologists world-wide. This on the basis of his distinguished publications...but also from his leading role in two outstanding international projects.”

##### Reviewer (C)

“He is an impressive scholar, wide-ranging in his intellectual interests, full of energy and initiative. Furthermore, to the best of my knowledge, he is an excellent enabler and a proved [sic] administrator. He is someone who combines his scholarly activity with a concern for the public face of his subject, a concern to communicate with the students (and a broader public). He is an excellent representative of Classics at Michigan.”

##### Reviewer (D)

“...I could not name a papyrologist of his cohort in the USA who is superior to Traianos Gagos. ...he absolutely deserves promotion.”

Reviewer (E)

“Professor Gagos has an extremely high reputation in the world of classical scholarship. His scholarly work is of an impeccable standard. He is...respected as a papyrologist of the first rank, with his editions of the Petra papyri, and the Michigan papyri (the significance of which is well indicated by the articles and books where they are discussed). He combines a deep knowledge of the ancient Greek language and the papyri with an impressive and very productive ability to ask the wider literary, social and historical questions.”

Reviewer (F)

“The leadership of APIS, editorship of BASP [*Bulletin of the American Society of Papyrologists*], and organization of the papyrology congress this year are collectively quite overwhelming on the professional front. And he hasn't just done them, he done them well. (The congress, of recent memory, was superbly done).”

Reviewer (G)

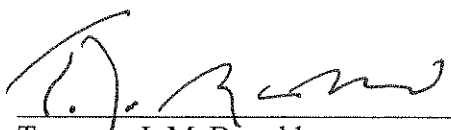
“...I enthusiastically support this promotion. In my opinion, Michigan is very fortunate to have such an outstanding scholar, who is, at the same time, a dynamic presence in the classroom and in the profession.”

Reviewer (H)

“Traianos is a very good scholar indeed. His principal strengths are papyrological. His knowledge of the whole field of documentary papyri is first-class (and this is a wide field).”

Summary of Recommendation:

Professor Gagos is an excellent papyrologist who has helped redefine the boundaries of the discipline. He is a strong teacher and generous citizen. The Executive Committee of the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts and I recommend that Associate Professor Traianos Gagos be promoted to the rank of professor of papyrology and Greek, with tenure, Department of Classical Studies, in the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts.



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

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