

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

Allen D. Hicken, assistant professor of political science, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts, is recommended for promotion to associate professor of political science, with tenure, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts.

Academic Degrees:

Ph.D.	2002	University of California, San Diego
A.M.	1995	Columbia University
B.A.	1993	Brigham Young University

Professional Record:

2004	Visiting Senior Research Fellow, Asian Research Institute, National University of Singapore
2004	Visiting Researcher, Thailand Development Research Institute, Thailand
2004	Visiting Researcher, Asian Institute of Management, Philippines
2003 – present	Faculty Associate, Center for Political Studies, Institute for Social Research
2002 – present	Assistant Professor, Department of Political Science, University of Michigan

Summary of Evaluation:

Teaching – The teaching evaluations for Professor Hicken’s undergraduate courses are excellent, and his evaluations at the graduate level average even higher. He is often described by students and colleagues as the most dedicated and professional teacher they have encountered at the University. Consequently, he was awarded the Undergraduate Excellence in Teaching Award from the University in 2007.

Research – Professor Hicken has established himself as a world expert on the politics of Southeast Asia and a preeminent authority on political parties in developing democracies. His research interests lie in the realm of political institutions, political economy, and policymaking in new and developing democracies. His primary purpose is to understand the nature, evolution, and consequences of political parties and party systems in these democracies. The centerpiece of his scholarly production is his book, *Building Party Systems in Developing Democracies*, forthcoming from Cambridge University Press.

Recent and Significant Publications:

Building Party Systems in Developing Democracies, Cambridge University Press, forthcoming.
“The personal vote and the efficacy of education spending” with J. Simmons, *American Journal of Political Science*, forthcoming.
“Omitted variables, intent, and counterfactuals: A response to Michael Nelson,” *Journal of East Asian Studies*, 7(1), 2007, pp. 149-158.

“Political institutions and economic performance: The effects of accountability and the dispersal of power,” with S. Satyanath and E. Sergenti, *American Journal of Political Science*, 49(4), 2005, pp. 497-907.

Service – Professor Hicken has established an impressive record of service to the Department, the University, and his profession. At the departmental level he has served on the Executive Committee, the Graduate Admissions Committee, and several search committees. He has also served on the Executive Committee of the Center for Southeast Asia Studies (CSEAS), as a member of their Master’s Admission Committee, and as a member of the Foreign Language Area Scholarship Award Committee. Lastly, he has organized panels at professional meetings, serves on the editorial board of a specialty journal in his field, has been a reviewer for top journals, and has devoted considerable effort into building a network of political scientists interested in Southeast Asia.

External Reviews:

Reviewer (A)

“Hicken deserves promotion and tenure at Michigan. He is...one of the few who can merge theory and evidence (dare I say case knowledge) quite well. Also, the trajectory of the research is favorable in that it is getting better and is more thoughtful. This is a sign of a maturing scholar who will remain productive for some time to come.”

Reviewer (B)

“To my knowledge, this is a research program whose [sic] theoretical and empirical scope, as well as analytical depth, go well beyond those of most...comparativists. ... Hicken stands out even more when it comes to political scientists working on Southeast Asia. There is simply no one doing this kind of theoretically and methodologically sophisticated work on the region’s political institutions.”

Reviewer (C)

“*Building Party Systems in Developing Democracies* is a first-rate piece of work – original, insightful, clear, and a major contribution to political science.”

Reviewer (D)

“...I wholeheartedly recommend that he be promoted to the rank of associate professor with tenure. He is an accomplished scholar who...has already achieved major stature in his areas of specialization. I am confident that he will continue to make extremely significant and influential contributions to the study of political institutions and Southeast Asian politics and play an important role in shaping the character of both fields in the decades to come.”

Reviewer (E)

“...I have found his work to be of very high quality... As I read the manuscript I was impressed with both the analytical rigor and empirical content... The number of people doing careful institutional and political economy analysis in Southeast Asia is small and the number of people doing work at the level of Professor Hicken is smaller.”

Reviewer (F)

"...*Building Party Systems in Developing Democracies* is a terrific book. Hicken's analysis of Thai and Philippine party development is far and away the best treatment of the subject, taking our understanding to a new level. In my opinion...it will become the standard analysis of these party systems in the political science literature."

Reviewer (G)

"Professor Hicken's book typifies the general nature of his work. It addresses problems of broad interest in the field of comparative politics, especially in the large area of elections and parties, and does so through a blend of general theory, sophisticated comparative analysis, and a rich explication of particular systems in the South East Asian region. In this way he really is the ideal comparative politics scholar..."

Reviewer (H)

"I consider Dr. Hicken to be amongst the very top emerging scholars working on Southeast Asian politics, political party development, and the political economy of electoral politics. He is one of the very few scholars I know of able to successfully manage this combination of rich country-level insight with genuinely innovative comparative analysis."

Reviewer (I)

"His book is the best study of Southeast Asian political institutions in a generation: it is startling in its clarity; a model in its combination of qualitative case studies – based on original research – large-N statistical analysis; and plausibly resolves critical puzzles in the region's two most democratic states. It should be very well received – and I hope, influential – among Southeast Asianists and comparativists more generally."

Summary of Recommendation:

Professor Hicken has established himself as a world expert in his research area. His service is exemplary and his teaching portfolio is one of the best. The Executive Committee of the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts and I recommend that Assistant Professor Allen D. Hicken be promoted to the rank of associate professor of political science, 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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