

PROMOTION RECOMMENDATION
UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN MEDICAL SCHOOL
DEPARTMENT OF PHYSICAL MEDICINE AND REHABILITATION

Michael E. Geisser, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Rehabilitation Psychology, with tenure, Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation, Medical School, is recommended for promotion to Professor of Rehabilitation Psychology, with tenure, Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation, Medical School.

Academic Degrees:

Ph.D.	1988	Finch University of the Health Sciences/The Chicago Medical School
B.S.	1981	Montana State University

Professional Record:

1999-Present	Associate Professor of Rehabilitation Psychology, University of Michigan
1994-1999	Assistant Professor of Rehabilitation Psychology, University of Michigan
1989-1993	Assistant Professor of Clinical and Health Psychology, University of Florida

Summary of Evaluation:

Teaching: Dr. Geisser has been very active and effective as a teacher at an undergraduate, graduate and post-doctoral level since joining the Department in 1994. Dr. Geisser has served as a mentor for the Undergraduate Research Opportunity Program and has supervised clinical practicum for graduate students and fellows. He has been a regular lecturer in the PM&R 510, Dentistry 710, and Dentistry 860/871 courses on topics related to chronic pain. He has also presented several lectures to residents and fellows in the Department and has served as both a clinical and research mentor to residents and fellows and provides clinical training to residents rotating through the Spine Program. Dr. Geisser has also mentored two faculty members in the K-30 research training program. Dr. Geisser is a co-investigator on a NIH-sponsored Rehabilitation Training Grant and has had the opportunity to serve as a primary clinical and research mentor to both a resident and post-doctoral fellow supported through this grant. He has lectured as a member of the Chronic Pain and Fatigue Research Center and as a member of the IRB at departmental and institutional levels. Dr. Geisser has also been invited to do several extramural lectures and presents regularly at national and regional meetings. His talks are consistently rated at a high level.

Research: Dr. Geisser has published 81 scientific articles in peer-reviewed journals and five book chapters. Dr. Geisser's primary research interest is examining the relationship between psychosocial factors and pain, particularly chronic pain. Dr. Geisser is recognized by his peers as

one of the top psychosocial pain researchers in the country and is Co-chair of the Psychosocial Pain Research Special Interest Group of the American Pain Society. Dr. Geisser's most significant contribution in this area has been in examining psychosocial factors that contribute to the experience of pain such as mood disturbance, pain catastrophizing, and pain-related fear. Dr. Geisser's poster presentations at the Annual Meeting of the American Pain Society in 1997 and 1999 received citation awards for significant scientific merit. He has been the Director of Research for the Spine Program since 1999.

Dr. Geisser is currently a co-investigator on two federally-funded research projects (NIH and DOD) totaling over \$4-million dollars annually, and he recently completed an industry-sponsored project as the principal investigator. He is a principal investigator on one NIH application that is currently under review and is a co-investigator on two other pending projects. He is also the Regulatory Unit Co-Director for the University of Michigan Clinical and Translational Science Award (CTSA) application which was funded in September, 2007.

Dr. Geisser has served as a grant reviewer for national and international agencies and is a member of the editorial board of the *Clinical Journal of Pain*. He has also served as a frequent reviewer for numerous national and international journals.

Recent and Significant Publications:

Geisser ME, Wiggert EA, Haig AJ, Colwell MO: A randomized, controlled trial of manual therapy and specific adjuvant exercise for chronic low back pain. *Clin J Pain* 21:463-470, 2005.

Geisser ME, Ranavaya M, Haig AJ, Roth RS, Zucker R, Ambroz C, Caruso M: A meta-analytic review of surface electromyography among persons with low back pain and normal, healthy controls. *J Pain* 6:711-726, 2005.

Geisser ME, Haig AJ, Wallbom AS, Wiggert EA: Pain-related fear, lumbar flexion, and dynamic EMG among persons with chronic musculoskeletal low back pain. *Clin J Pain* 20:61-69, 2004.

Gracely RH, Geisser ME, Giesicke T, Grant MAB, Petzke FW, Williams DA, Clauw DJ: Pain catastrophizing and neural responses to pain among persons with fibromyalgia. *Brain* 127:835-843, 2004.

Geisser ME, Casey KL, Brucksch CB, Ribbens CM, Appleton BB, Crofford LJ: Perception of noxious and innocuous heat stimulation among healthy women and women with fibromyalgia: association with mood, somatic focus, and catastrophizing. *Pain* 102:243-250, 2003.

Service: Since joining the Department of PM&R in January, 1994, Dr. Geisser has served on the Department's Research Advisory Committee and has served on numerous other committees in the Department. He is also currently the Interim Co-Chair of the IRBMED and serves on numerous Medical School and Institutional Committees related to research and research regulation such as the IRB Council, Human Research Coordinating Council, Advisory Committee for the Office of Human Research Compliance Review, and the Medical School IRBMED Leadership Council. Dr. Geisser has also served on national committees and is

currently the Co-Chair of the Psychosocial Pain Research Special Interest Group of the American Pain Society. He is currently President of the Midwest Pain Society, one of six regional sections of the American Pain Society. He has also served as chair and member of the Scientific Program Committee for the Midwest Pain Society for a number of years.

Patient Care: Dr. Geisser provides psychological services to patients with chronic illness, predominantly chronic pain. Dr. Geisser works as one of the primary psychologists for the University of Michigan Multidisciplinary Spine Treatment Program, and has been an integral player in the development of clinical services for patients in this program. In this clinical role, Dr. Geisser has worked collaboratively with the Disease Management Program at the University of Michigan and was instrumental in obtaining credentialing for the Spine Program as the first nationally accredited disease management program in Spine Care by the Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations (JCAHO) in 2004. Dr. Geisser also provides clinical services to patients in the Department of PM&R as well as pain management services to patients referred from rheumatology, neurology, and other departments.

External Review:

Reviewer A: “I would put Dr. Geisser in the top 3% of my peers in the area of pain psychology and management...His reputation in the pain psychology and management arena is secured, and his future accomplishments will no doubt surpass his already substantial achievements.”

Reviewer B: “...Dr. Geisser’s research is of the highest quality. He has made many important contributions to the field of chronic pain expanding our understanding of the important mediating variables. On the basis of his research, Dr. Geisser has earned wide respect in health psychology/behavioral medicine and in the field of pain and has achieved a national reputation.”

Reviewer C: “I would place him at the 98th percentile and above in terms of quality of research, eloquence of presentation, and importance of the work that he does...I have learned to actively seek his presentations...to learn what he has most recently discovered. There are only a handful (less than five) pain psychologists in the world whose work I seek out in this manner.”

Reviewer D: “Dr. Geisser is among the top tier of academic behavioral scientists conducting clinical pain research....Dr. Geisser’s contributions to this field have been substantial, innovative, and widely cited.”

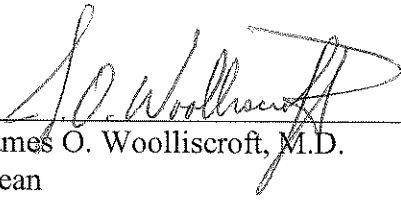
Reviewer E: “He is a very solid researcher whose work is well grounded in theory and marked by innovative techniques and approaches, but his clinical skills and sensitivity add a degree of relevance and application that is often absent in the field....You have the good fortune to have a brilliant colleague and a very fine person in your midst. I have no doubt that Dr. Geisser would receive promotion to full professor status at my university.”

Reviewer F: “...his publications—which have appeared in the major journals in pain and rehabilitation medicine—will have a lasting impact on the field. His studies are well-

designed, rigorously analyzed, and thoughtfully interpreted, and they provide an important foundation for anyone trying to understand or conduct research on chronic pain. Importantly, Dr. Geisser has established an impressive track record of consistent funding for his research, which demonstrates how favorably his studies are viewed.”

Summary of Recommendation:

Dr. Geisser has shown leadership in many areas as evidenced by his participation on various committees within the Department of PM&R and his national organizations. Many of his publications have shown evidence of his research efforts that have been on the “cutting edge” in his field. He has a national reputation among his peers as a leader in the area of chronic pain management. He is clearly in the top echelon of his field and we are very fortunate to have him on our faculty at the University of Michigan. I am pleased to recommend Michael E. Geisser, Ph.D., for promotion to Professor of Rehabilitation Psychology.


James O. Woolliscroft, M.D.
Dean
Lyle C. Roll Professor of Medicine

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