

PROMOTION RECOMMENDATION
The University of Michigan
School of Music, Theatre & Dance
Department of Winds and Percussion

Nancy Ambrose King, associate professor of music, with tenure, School of Music, Theatre & Dance, is recommended for promotion to professor of music, with tenure, School of Music, Theatre & Dance.

Academic Degrees:

D.M.A.	1999	Eastman School of Music
M.M.	1986	Eastman School of Music
B.M.	1984	University of Michigan, School of Music, Theatre & Dance

Professional Record:

2001 – present	Associate Professor of Music (Winds and Percussion), University of Michigan, School of Music, Theatre & Dance
2000 – 2001	Visiting Associate Professor of Oboe, University of Michigan
1994 – 2001	Associate Professor, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign
1990 – 1994	Assistant Professor, University of Northern Colorado
1989 – 1990	Assistant Professor, Ithaca College, New York
1987 – 1989	Instructor, Duquesne University, Pittsburgh, PA

Summary of Evaluation:

Teaching: It is rare to find a faculty member who consistently receives positive feedback from students and faculty alike; Professor King is this rarity. Her department chair cannot recall a single negative comment about her teaching, and she continually receives overwhelmingly positive and high ratings from her students. Professor King recruits highly intelligent and talented students who evolve into professionals in different musical areas. She is interested in each student's learning idiosyncrasies, and is able to diagnose problems very quickly and suggest ways to improve performance. She has been described as a helpful, encouraging, and inspirational mentor. She is well balanced in every respect, an excellent role model for other educators.

Professional and Creative Activity: As a performer, Professor King represents the University throughout the world, through numerous performing engagements, recitals and master classes both here and abroad. Internationally, she has performed as a soloist in many countries, with contracts for several engagements in the coming year as well. Some of these include invitations from the Brazilian Double Reed Society, from the Association Française de Hautbois (to be their International Guest Artist at the Congress in Brussels), the Conservatoire de Paris, and the very prestigious Barbirolli Oboe Competition, Isle of Man, U.K. She remains extremely active with world-renowned artists at numerous summer music festivals. She continues to compose her own works and has recorded and produced a significant number of commercially released CDs on a variety of recognized labels.

Service: Professor King's service record at the University and in her community is extraordinary. She is the graduate advisor for the Winds and Percussion Department, and advises all DMA students in that department. She serves as the department's representative on the Faculty Council of Graduate Studies. Professor King has participated in a number of important faculty searches. She has been an

active participant with the University's Michigan Road Scholars Tours. On a national/international level, Professor King was elected as the first female president of the International Double Reed Society in 2005. This is a professional society of approximately 5,000 members, representing musicians from 80 countries.

External Reviewers:

Reviewer A

"Her international reputation is enormous, and I for one was delighted when I heard of her joining your very prestigious faculty. Her presidency of the International Double Reed Society has brought her additional importance in our world of the double reed."

Reviewer B

"But Nancy's playing is only the beginning of a profile of great range and energy. She is a teacher of considerable quality and to hear her students one can immediately discern that she imparts the highest standards of technique and musicianship along with a drive to succeed."

Reviewer C

"Professor King's students whom I have worked with at summer festivals ... attest to Professor King's skill and dedication as a teacher and mentor of promising musicians. They have invariably been highly trained in correct instrumental and performing skills, competent musicians, and confident and respectful colleagues. Many have prevailed in extremely competitive auditions and secured invitations to the top pre-professional summer festivals/performances internships in the United States and abroad."

Reviewer D

"She possesses a rare combination of performance skills at the highest level with administrative acumen and personal charm. Dr. King's work as a double reed artist and university professor is impressive in terms of both quantity and quality."

Reviewer E

"Beyond the files, CD recordings, and impressive evaluations, Nancy is held in the highest esteem in the double reed world. She is extremely down to earth and a great communicator. She demonstrates the art of tactful diplomacy in difficult personnel decisions. She seeks advice, but is most capable of making the hard decision and implementing it. She is an outstanding artist, gifted teacher, and warm/passionate human being."

Reviewer F

"It is obvious to me that Nancy King is one of the preeminent performer/scholars of her generation. Her record as a soloist of international caliber is remarkable. The quality of her performances and recordings is well documented and it was a great pleasure hearing the enclosed CD. She is, quite simply, a unique and wonderful musician."

Reviewer G

"Dr. King's international reputation as a player and recording artist precedes her everywhere she goes. I can think of few other artists on any instrument who play with such dazzling technique and dramatic flair. She is surely among the most illustrious oboists in the world, and the breadth of her experience as displayed in her file shows her to be a successful and energetic performer. I also know her to be an excellent teacher, as she has a number of successful students working professionally."

Reviewer H

“Nancy Ambrose King is a consummate professional. I admire everything that she has accomplished thus far in her career and I look forward to observing how she will continue to lead and propel the direction of the American oboist.”

Reviewer I

“As a soloist, Nancy’s recordings are quite good. I applaud her desire to promote double reed playing and to be actively involved with the International Double Reed Society, no small task.”

Reviewer J

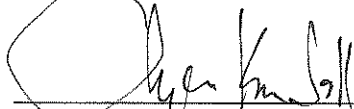
“... Professor King is an exceptional artist and educator. She has a well-established national and international presence as a leader in the double reed community in her present role as President of the International Double Reed Society, and her many recordings and master class presentations/appearances have established her among the top solo oboist in the country.”

Reviewer K

“Nancy displays the utmost in leadership abilities. She is charismatic, tactful, and wise. She is extremely well organized. As IDRS president, I have observed her in action at annual conferences, heard her live in several performances, and can attest to the fact that she is well-liked, admired, and respected throughout the double reed world.”

Internal Review: Professor King has earned the universal support of her colleagues at the School. She has been described as the dream colleague: organized, talented, cheerful, and deeply experienced. Her natural leadership abilities are well known and her sense of fairness and collegiality are expressed thoughtfully and with consideration. Since her arrival, Professor King has transformed the oboe studio into one of the best in the country. Her students are exceptionally well-trained, easy to work with, and eager to collaborate with other students. She is a great role model for students and faculty alike.

Summary of Recommendation: Professor Nancy King is one of the most respected and admired faculty members in the School. She is a natural leader with endless energy and commitment to the institution as well as to her field. She is a treasured colleague and gifted teacher. It is with great enthusiasm and support of the School of Music, Theatre & Dance Executive Committee that I recommend Nancy Ambrose King for promotion to professor of music, with tenure, in the School of Music, Theatre & Dance.



Christopher W. Kendall
Dean, School of Music, Theatre & Dance

May 2008