

PROMOTION RECOMMENDATION

Approved by the Regents
May 15, 2008

The University of Michigan
School of Public Health
Department of Epidemiology

Sandro Galea, associate professor of epidemiology, with tenure, Department of Epidemiology, School of Public Health, is recommended for promotion to professor of epidemiology, with tenure, Department of Epidemiology, School of Public Health.

Academic Degrees:

Dr.P.H.	2003	Columbia University School of Public Health
M.P.H.	2000	Harvard University School of Public Health
M.D.	1994	University of Toronto Medical School
B.S.	1990	University of Toronto

Professional Record:

2007–present	Adjunct Associate Professor, Department of Epidemiology, Columbia University Mailman School of Public Health
2005–present	Associate Professor, Department of Epidemiology, University of Michigan
2003–2007	Assistant Professor of Clinical Epidemiology, Columbia University Mailman School of Public Health
2002–2005	Associate Director, Center for Urban Epidemiologic Studies, New York Academy of Medicine
2000–2005	Medical Epidemiologist, Center for Urban Epidemiologic Studies, New York Academy of Medicine
1999	Emergency Physician, Wallaceburg District Hospital, Wallaceburg, Canada
1998–1999	Project Physician, Doctors without Borders, Galcayo, Somalia
1997–1999	Emergency Physician, Geraldton, Canada
1996–1997	Emergency Medicine Resident, Toronto, Canada
1994–1996	Family Medicine Resident and Chief Resident, McMaster University Family Medicine North, Thunder Bay, Canada

Summary of Evaluation:

Teaching: Dr. Galea is noted for his excellent teaching and mentoring of students. After joining the UM faculty, he developed and taught three new courses: “Social and Economic Determinants of Population Health” (EPID 617) in the winters of 2006 and 2007; “Introduction to Epidemiology” (EPID 600) in the fall of 2006 and 2007; and “Epidemiology of Psychiatric Disorders” (EPID 819) in the fall 2007. His student evaluation scores for Q1 ranged from 4.6 to 4.9 and for Q2 he received a 4.9 each time.

In addition to his popularity as a classroom teacher, Dr. Galea has generated extensive admiration and praise from the students he mentors. He has mentored or co-mentored 12 predoctoral students, including seven current Ph.D. students at UM, two postdoctoral fellows, 14 master’s students in epidemiology, and six undergraduates in special programs at UM. Much of this mentoring is done through the students’ participation in his many research projects. Since 2003, students have been co-authors of more than 60 papers published by Dr. Galea in peer-reviewed journals, and many students have made conference presentations based on their work with him.

Dr. Galea’s teaching is inseparable from his research. Much of the material that he uses in his courses is based on his own presentations and publications; and, conversely, some of his presentations and publications are inspired and shaped by ideas discussed in his classes.

Research: Dr. Galea's research interests focus on three interrelated areas of population health: the social and economic determinants of population health, especially urban health; the epidemiology of common behavioral disorders, including substance abuse; and the mental-health consequences of disasters and mass trauma. He examines all of these areas of population health from a social epidemiologic perspective.

Dr. Galea has 206 peer-reviewed publications (more than half published since 2005 with many first-authored papers) in top-tier journals, more than 40 papers currently under review, and 29 chapters (most published or accepted since 2005). He has also published four books since 2005 (one as co-author, one as sole editor, and two as co-editor). This level of productivity is a rare and impressive accomplishment for someone at his career stage. Equally impressive is the breadth of his work. He has published on a wide range of topics including socioeconomic determinants of population health, substance use, and psychologic consequences of disasters and trauma. His recent study on post-Katrina trauma received considerable lay press.

His record of external funding is no less impressive. He has served as PI on at least six NIH RO1 grants and co-PI on numerous others. Undoubtedly he has demonstrated an ability to garner extramural support for his work, and has shown an ability to collaborate with others both within and outside our institution.

Dr. Galea has developed a strong national and international reputation for the quality and impact of his research. His work has helped establish that the impact of disasters extends well beyond the disaster's immediate victims to populations that may have been indirectly affected by mass traumatic events. This influential work has led to the federal funding of the first National Center for Disaster Mental Health Research. This Center has established the University of Michigan, along with its partners at Dartmouth, the Medical University of South Carolina, and Yale as the premiere post-disaster health research units in the country. In addition, Dr. Galea has conducted a series of studies to determine how social and economic factors are associated with the post-traumatic stress disorder and depression. His work on substance abuse shows how specific urban neighborhood characteristics shape substance use and at-risk drug-use behavior. His research team has been central in highlighting the potential of interventions that can mitigate the consequences of drug overdose.

Recent and Significant Publications:

Galea S, Ahern J. (2005) Distribution of education and population health: An ecologic analysis in New York City neighborhoods. *American Journal of Public Health*, 95: 2198-2205.

Ahern J, Galea S. (2006) Social context and depression after a disaster: The role of income inequality. *Journal of Epidemiology and Community Health*, 60: 766-770.

Miguel-Tobal JJ, Gonzalez-Ordi H, Cano Vindel A, Irurarrizaga I, Rudenstine S, Vlahov D, Galea S. (2006) Post-traumatic stress and depression after the March 11 terrorist attacks in Madrid. *Journal of Traumatic Stress*, 19(1): 69-80.

Galea S, Ahern J, Nandi A, Tracy M, Beard J, Vlahov D. (2007) Urban neighborhood socioeconomic status and incidence of depression: Evidence from a population-based cohort study. *Annals of Epidemiology*, 17(3): 171-179.

Galea S, Ahern J, Tracy M, Vlahov D. (2007) Neighborhood income and income distribution and the use of cigarettes, alcohol, and marijuana. *American Journal of Preventive Medicine*, 32(6S): S195-S202.

Service: Dr. Galea is an active member of the Epidemiology Doctoral Committee, the Global Health Interdepartmental Steering Committee, the planning committee for the UM School of Public Health Day, and the search committee for the director of the UM Global Health Center. He also serves in the Social Impact Discussion Group for the UM Office of the Vice President for Research. He has served on numerous organizing committees, advisory boards, and expert panels outside the University, including the

executive boards of the Society for Epidemiological Research and the International Society for Traumatic Stress Studies. He has served on the editorial boards or as associate editor for five journals since 2005 and is a charter member and reviewer for the NIH Behavioral Genetics and Epidemiology Study Section. Dr. Galea has conducted pre-conference training workshops on urban health and disasters for the International Society of Urban Health and the American Public Health Association.

External Reviewers:

Reviewer (A): "I continue to be impressed with Dr. Galea's talents and scholarship...his seemingly inexhaustible reservoir of energy...His discoveries are original, important, and reflect a superior ability to integrate, interpret, and understand."

Reviewer (B): "He is clearly recognized as a rising star in the field of epidemiology. His scholarly activities and academic leadership, both nationally as well as internationally, is outstanding and well-recognized."

Reviewer (C): "I believe Sandro Galea is one of the most original and influential researchers and thinkers in public health as it relates to individual and collective experience of stress and trauma."

Reviewer (D): "Extraordinary publication and grant funding record ...highly skilled in moving back and forth between theoretical development and empirical analyses. ... [His] work documenting the consequences of disasters and terrorism has been seminal...I believe that [his] work in this area will continue to be influential and exciting for decades to come."

Reviewer (E): "Dr. Galea is one of the top one percent of researchers in the epidemiology of disaster related mental health problems."

Reviewer (F): "Dr. Galea's scholarly contributions can only be described as remarkable...his publication record is nothing less than phenomenal. ... Dr. Galea's impressive grantsmanship rivals his list of scholarly publications."

Reviewer (G): "I am highly confident that Dr. Galea's promotion to Professor would sail through our committee due to his extraordinary productivity, scholarship, and leadership in the field of public health."

Summary of Recommendation:

Dr. Galea is recognized as a superb teacher and mentor for students, and has the unique ability to fully integrate his teaching interests with his research. His dedication and remarkable productivity make him a valued colleague. Given his outstanding record in research and service, and excellence in teaching combined with the universal respect he has garnered from his peers, I enthusiastically recommend Dr. Galea for promotion to professor of epidemiology, with tenure, Department of Epidemiology, School of Public Health.



Kenneth E. Warner, Ph.D.
Dean, School of Public Health

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