

May 14, 2009

PROMOTION RECOMMENDATION

University of Michigan-Flint
 College of Arts and Sciences
 Department of Communication and Visual Arts

Heather L. Seipke, assistant professor of communication, Department of Communication and Visual Arts, College of Arts and Sciences, is recommended for promotion to associate professor of communication, with tenure, Department Communication and Visual Arts, College of Arts and Sciences.

Academic Degrees:

Ph.D.	2002	Wayne State University
M.A.	2000	Wayne State University
B.A.	1998	Wayne State University

Professional Record:

2003 to present	Assistant Professor of Communication, University of Michigan-Flint
2002 to 2003	Post-doctoral Fellow, Institute of Gerontology, Wayne State University
1999 to 2003	Graduate Teaching Assistant, Wayne State University
2001 to 2003	Adjunct Instructor, Macomb Community College
1998 to 2001	Adjunct Instructor, Oakland Community College

Summary of Evaluation:

Teaching – Professor Seipke has taught a wide variety of courses, advised extensively, created online versions of courses, been a department and College leader in academic assessment, and earned the high regard and loyalty of her students and faculty colleagues. Confirmation of teaching excellence is attested through Professor Seipke's receipt of the Lucinda Hinsdale Stone Junior Faculty Award in 2008, the Lois Matz Rosen Junior Faculty Excellence in Teaching Award in 2007, and her being awarded Distinguished Professor of the Year at the University of Michigan-Flint in 2007. She has also been awarded Thompson Center for Learning and Teaching online course development stipends.

Research – Professor Seipke has multiple cross-disciplinary refereed publications, a textbook on the verge of publication, and meaningful research in progress. Professor Seipke's research is well on track, well conceived, and socially significant. One of her article's was accepted "as a rare accomplishment especially in an international journal." External reviewers praise the quality of this work and attest to further promising avenues for future scholarship.

Recent and Significant Publications:Peer Reviewed Scholarly Journals:

Seipke, H. and Lysack, C. (2002), "Maintaining Continuity Through Occupation: Elderly Women's Sense of Self and Well-Being." *Scandinavian Journal of Occupational Therapy*, 9, 130-139.

Seipke, H. and Holladay, S. (2007), "Communication Between Grandparents and Grandchildren in Geographically Separated Relationships." *Communication Studies*, 58, 3.

Seipke, H. (2008), "Assisted Living, Elderly Women and Sense of Self: Communicating the Impact of Reduction of Long Standing Activities." *Journal of Women and Aging*, 19, 3/4.

Service – Professor Seipke has provided truly distinguished service to her home department by coordinating all aspects of the Communication Program since an early point in her career, including serving as program director since 2005. She has significant service on College committees such as the Academic Standards Committee and the LEO Major Review Committee, participates in a wide variety of forums focused on student and faculty success, and is active in her profession through service on editorial boards. Her university-wide activities include service on the American Democracy Project Committee, Academic Assessment Committee, First Year Writing Assessment Committee, and service as an honors faculty advisor.

External Reviewers:

Reviewer (A):

"Overall, I applaud Dr. Seipke's program of research. Her work has appeared in premier publications for scholarship dedicated to issues related to aging Based on the three published articles, I believe that Dr. Seipke has produced rich work which contributes theoretically, conceptually, and pragmatically to the communication discipline."

Reviewer (B):

"Dr. Seipke compares quite favorably with other scholars at a similar stage in their professional development. The sum and substance of her scholarly activities reveal an original, substantive, and generative research program that demonstrates productivity and potential for growth and further development."

Reviewer (C):

"The research is nicely written and addresses important issues. As someone specializing in communication and aging, I thought the idea behind the 2008 article was a nice one, and there was good use of gerontological theory in the paper."

Reviewer (D):

"A second area in which Dr. Seipke excels is that she shows a thorough grasp of both quantitative and qualitative methodology. In my opinion, Dr. Heather Seipke seems a promising, well-rounded scholar ..."

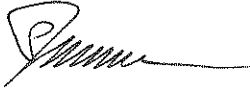
Reviewer (E):

"Based upon the scholarly work that was sent to me by your department, it is clear that Dr. Seipke's work has continued to uphold that standard of excellence that I observed during the days of her dissertation work. It was also refreshing to read qualitative research of such high caliber."

Summary of Recommendation:

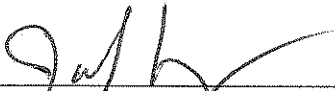
Professor Seipke presents strong accomplishments in all areas of teaching, research and service, and has the unanimous endorsement of the Executive Committee of the College of Arts and Sciences for her promotion to associate professor, with tenure. We therefore unanimously recommend Heather L. Seipke for promotion to associate professor of communication, with tenure, Department of Communication and Visual Arts, College of Arts and Sciences.

Recommended by:

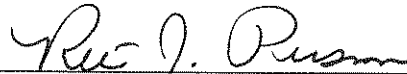


D. J. Trela, Ph.D., Dean
College of Arts and Sciences

Recommendation endorsed by:



Jack Kay, Ph.D., Provost and
Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs



Ruth J. Person, Ph.D., Chancellor
University of Michigan-Flint

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