

PROMOTION RECOMMENDATION
 University of Michigan-Flint
 School of Education and Human Services
 Department of Early Childhood Education

Aviva Batya Dorfman, assistant professor of education, Department of Early Childhood Education, School of Education and Human Services, is recommended for promotion to associate professor of education, with tenure, Department of Early Childhood Education, School of Education and Human Services.

Academic Degrees

Ph.D.	1997	University of Michigan
Ed.M.	1990	Harvard Graduate School of Education, Cambridge, Massachusetts
B.A.	1986	Mills College, Oakland, California

Professional Record

2002-present	Assistant Professor, University of Michigan-Flint
2000-2003	Senior Research Associate, University of Michigan
2000-2001	Adjunct Assistant Professor, Madonna University
1993-2003	Professional Development Consultant, Work Sampling System
1998-1999	Project Coordinator, University of Michigan
1993-1999	Research Associate, University of Michigan

Summary of Evaluation:

Teaching – Since her arrival at the University of Michigan-Flint, Professor Dorfman has taught 36 sections of undergraduate and graduate courses, including courses for the Global Program in Educational Technology which are taught online and in Geneva, Switzerland. Professor Dorfman was crucial in the development and implementation of the recently formed Early Childhood Education Department. In her student evaluations, they have emphasized her obvious love of teaching. Student evaluators commented on her positive and supportive demeanor and her knowledge and background in early childhood education. Faculty colleagues who have observed her classes commented on her excellent teaching techniques, her ability to engage students, and her rapport with students. They note that she is deeply reflective about her teaching and responsive to students, well-organized, motivating to students, and provides interesting presentations.

Research – Professor Dorfman’s research interests lie in the field of early childhood education. She has four refereed journal publications and has contributed to three books. She has a chapter in an edited volume, a manuscript in review for a chapter in an edited volume, and four manuscripts in preparation. She has made sixteen presentations at state, national, and international conferences. She has also conducted numerous professional development workshops on assessment in early childhood settings around the State.

Summary of Recent and Significant Publications and Presentations:

Dorfman, A. B. (2008) “The Problem of Models and Modeling: One Teacher’s Solution.” *Networks: An On-Line Journal for Teacher Research*, 10(2). University of Wisconsin-Madison, <http://journals.library.wisc.edu/index.php/networks>.

- Dorfman, A. B. (2008) "The Problem of Models and Modeling: One Teacher's Solution." Reprinted in *The Scholarship of Teaching*, a publication of the Thompson Center for Learning and Teaching, University of Michigan-Flint.
- Dorfman, A. B. (under review) "Continuity and the Role of Teacher Identity In the Context of Reform." Chapter submission for L. A. Rex (Series Editor) *Discourse Processes*, Hampton Press.
- Dorfman, A. B., Galluzzo, G. R., and Meisels, S. J. (2006) "Learning To Teach: Developing Assessment Skills When Program and Placement Are Aligned." *Journal of Early Childhood Teacher Education*, 27:231-247.
- Dorfman, A. B. (2001-2005) "Tri-County Head Start Work Sampling Newsletter," distributed two to three times per school year (Samples: 3/03, 1/04).
- Dorfman, A. B. (2008) "Learning About Learning To Teach: Balancing Views of Student Teachers." Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Educational Researchers Association, New York, NY.
- Schumer, B. and Dorfman, A. B. (2008) "Building Departmental Community with Teaching Circles: Year Two." Presented at the Michigan Academy of Higher Education, Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo, MI.
- Dorfman, A. B. (2008) "Easier Done Than Said: Balancing Views of Student Teachers." Presented at the Michigan Academy of Higher Education, Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo, MI.
- Dorfman, A. B. and Jewkes, A. M. (2005) "Contexts For Successful Literacy Instruction In Low-Income Kindergartens." Paper presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Educational Researchers' Association, Montreal, Canada.

Service – Since 2002, Professor Dorfman has served on ten different committees within the University and School. In addition, she is engaged in community initiatives in which her expertise in early childhood education is valued. Professor Dorfman was a key component with the Early Childhood Development Center gaining national accreditation. She has worked with them in meetings and individual classroom visits on developing systems of assessment and documentation in their programs. Professor Dorfman has also applied for and received three different grants to assist with professional development.

External Reviewers:

Reviewer (A)

"The fact that her work has been published and presented in refereed journals and at refereed conferences documents the respect she has earned in the community of scholars in child development and early childhood education. Her publications and presentations with colleagues demonstrate her desire to share her research, ability to work with a team, and interest in learning from others."

Reviewer (B)

"Her work with the Early Childhood Development Center has not only improved the quality of the program but was also a topic shared with AERA at their national conference. Dr. Dorfman has demonstrated her ability in the area of research through publishing in peer-reviewed journals, public presentations of research findings, conducting research, providing technical assistance, and through promoting experiential learning and professional development."

Reviewer (C)

"Dr. Dorfman has made significant contributions to the pre K-12 educational community by conducting applied research and evaluation, providing technical assistance to schools including local public schools and Head Start, and investing her special expertise to promote experiential learning and professional development."

Reviewer (D)

"A review of her work makes it clear that she engages in substantive scholarly activities that contribute to higher education, particularly in the realm of teacher preparation. In each case, she sets out a specific goal that leads to a contribution to the field, while simultaneously opening up new questions for future research."

Reviewer (E)

"With regard to scholarship, Dr. Dorfman is making contributions to both scholarly and professional communities. She has consistently presented papers at the AERA conference and those papers are being published in refereed journals. These accomplishments are clear evidence of the high regard with which her work is held in the scholarly arena."

Reviewer (F)

"Aviva is an exceptional teacher. In short, I believe Aviva Dorfman is just the kind of role model needed in Faculties of Education to prepare thoughtful, knowledgeable, and caring practitioners for children and youth."

Summary Recommendation:

Professor Dorfman has established a strong record of achievement in the areas of leadership, teaching, scholarship, and service. It is with the unanimous support of the Department of Early Childhood Education and the Executive Committee of the School of Education and Human Services that we recommend Aviva Batya Dorfman for promotion to associate professor of education, with tenure, Department of Early Childhood Education, School of Education and Human Services.

Recommended by:



Susanne Chandler, Dean
School of Education and Human Services

Recommendation endorsed by:



Jack Kay, Provost and
Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs



Ruth J. Person, Chancellor
University of Michigan-Flint

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