

PROMOTION RECOMMENDATION  
The University of Michigan  
College of Literature, Science, and the Arts

Pamela Brandwein, associate professor of political science, with tenure, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts, is recommended for promotion to professor of political science, with tenure, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts.

Academic Degrees:

Ph.D.	1994	Northwestern University
M.A.	1988	Northwestern University
B.A.	1986	University of Michigan

Professional Record:

2007 – present	Associate Professor, Department of Political Science, University of Michigan.
2002	Visiting Associate Professor, Department of Government, University of Texas at Austin.
2000 – 2007	Associate Professor, School of Economic, Political, and Policy Science, University of Texas at Dallas
1994 – 2000	Assistant Professor, School of Economic, Political, and Policy Science, University of Texas at Dallas.

Summary of Evaluation:

Teaching – Professor Brandwein is a talented and dedicated teacher. In 2000, she received the University of Texas’ top honor for teaching, the Chancellor’s Council for Outstanding Teaching Award. At Michigan she has introduced a number of courses in the area of public law, and has received very positive evaluations from students. In addition, graduate students in the fields of public law and political theory unanimously view her as a helpful and dedicated mentor.

Research – Professor Brandwein has published several book chapters and articles in peer-reviewed journals. More significantly, she has a book manuscript – *The Supreme Court, State Action, and Civil Rights: Rethinking the Judicial Settlement of Reconstruction* – that is forthcoming with Cambridge University Press. In this book, she revisits a common interpretation of the role that the Supreme Court played in the policy area of civil rights during the Reconstruction Era. Overall, the book speaks to central issues in, and enduring debates about, a strikingly wide range of topics: the Supreme Court, civil rights, judicial review, political institutions, and the politics of Reconstruction.

Recent and Significant Publications:

*The Supreme Court, State Action, and Civil Rights: Rethinking the Judicial Settlement of Reconstruction*, accepted for publication by Cambridge University Press.

“A judicial abandonment of Blacks? Reconsidering the ‘State Action’ cases of the Waite Court,” *Law & Society Review*, 41(2), 2007, pp. 343-386.

“Constitutional doctrine as paring tool: The struggle for relevant evidence in *University of Alabama v. Garrett*,” *Michigan Journal of Law Reform*, 35, 2002, pp. 37-80.

“The gender analogy in the disability discrimination literature,” with R. Scotch, *Ohio State Law Journal*, 61, 2001, pp. 465-479.

Service – Professor Brandwein has a strong track record of service. Besides serving on an ad hoc committee reviewing potential job candidates, she is a mentor for an assistant professor, and will sit on a third-year review committee and the admissions committee. To the discipline she has served on book award committees for the Law and Society Association and for the Law and Courts Section of the American Political Science Association. She also served as the chair for the History and Politics section of the Western Political Science Association.

External Reviews:

Reviewer (A)

“Brandwein is in the sector [of research] that combines interests in constitutional interpretation and American political development. ... Because of the significance of the issues that Brandwein takes up and the quality of her scholarship, I think that the book will be among the more important works in its sector of the law and courts field in recent years.”

Reviewer (B)

“I have incredible respect for Professor Brandwein’s scholarly accomplishments... The sophistication of her scholarship makes her without doubt the equal of (and I would add, superior to many) full professors at both your institution and mine. ... The story Brandwein tells is elegantly argued and supported. She makes great use of domestic economic and political history and carefully considers their ramifications, ultimately presenting – with her earlier book – an exceedingly subtle and sophisticated rereading of the legal history of Reconstruction.”

Reviewer (C)

“Over the past decade, Professor Brandwein has earned a reputation as one of the leading interdisciplinary public law scholars in the academy. ... Her second book, *The Supreme Court, State Action, Civil Rights...* is an exceptionally important contribution to the literature on American constitutional development. ... Perhaps the takeaway line is that this is a full professor book, one that does not simply solve a small problem at the corner of the academic universe, but discusses numerous problems of interest to a diverse group of scholars. But this is just shorthand for saying this is a book written by Pamela Brandwein.”

Reviewer (D)

“...[the book] is a huge accomplishment, and serious scholars of legal history, constitutional law, political development, and Supreme Court politics will need to take this work into account.”

Reviewer (E)

“Her scholarship is truly inter-disciplinary, as is her teaching. ... She is a mature, creative, and sensitive scholar, who is in complete command of her methods of inquiry, while providing the reader with new methods and interpretations. She is [a] brilliant writer. ... Her second book will be an important contribution to a wide range of scholars in the academy: political scientists, historians, sociologists, constitutional scholars. Moreover, her works are at the cutting edge of scholars in history and political science who seek to develop what has been called a new Historical Institutional Approach to American political institutions.”

Reviewer (F)

“I think that her new book is really a quite stunning achievement... It will, I am confident, be recognized as a seminal book, revisionist in the very best sense and forcing scholars to reconsider what have long been considered verities of American history.”

Reviewer (G)

“Her book manuscript, in particular, is a genuinely monumental achievement. It is far and away the best thing to be written in the last 50 years on the law and jurisprudence of the Reconstruction and the post-Reconstruction eras. It is certainly to be seen as among the most original and iconoclastic books in public law and judicial politics ever written.”

Summary of Recommendation:

Professor Brandwein is an accomplished and influential scholar in the area of public law. She is an excellent teacher, mentor, and provider of collective goods. The Executive Committee of the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts and I recommend that Associate Professor Pamela Brandwein be promoted to the rank of professor of political science, with tenure, in the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts.



Terrence J. McDonald  
Arthur F. Thurnau Professor,  
Professor of History and Dean  
College of Literature, Science, and the Arts

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