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

Jennifer S. Barber, associate professor of sociology, with tenure, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts, is recommended for promotion to professor of sociology, with tenure, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts [also being promoted to research professor, Survey Research Center, and research professor, Population Studies Center, Institute for Social Research].

Academic Degrees:

Ph.D.	1997	Pennsylvania State University
M.A.	1994	University of Chicago
B.S.	1992	University of Wisconsin at Madison

Professional Record:

2006 – present	Associate Professor, Department of Sociology, and Research Associate Professor, Institute for Social Research, University of Michigan
2003 – 2006	Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology, University of Michigan
2000 – 2006	Research Assistant Professor, Institute for Social Research, University of Michigan
2000 – 2003	Assistant Research Scientist, Institute for Social Research, University of Michigan
1997 – 2000	Mellon Postdoctoral Scholar, Institute for Social Research, University of Michigan

Summary of Evaluation:

Teaching – Professor Barber is a dedicated and successful classroom instructor. She has mastered the teaching of research methods, one of our most challenging undergraduate teaching assignments. At the graduate level, she has earned strong praise for her advanced seminars on demographic techniques, and fertility and reproduction. Her courses are carefully designed, emphasize critical thinking skills, and involve intensive contact with students. Such qualities, combined with her approachability and evident passion for teaching, have made her a very popular teacher and a highly desired mentor for undergraduates and graduate students alike.

Research – Professor Barber is among the most productive and influential scholars of her generation working in the area of family demography. She is the author or co-author of more than twenty scholarly articles, most of which have appeared in highly selective journals in sociology, demography, and family studies. Her research has made important contributions to our understanding of the role of parental attitudes in shaping fertility behavior and marital patterns across generations, the impact of modern institutions on family life in developing countries, and the consequences of unintended childbirth for the family unit. Having successfully introduced a social psychological perspective to more structural models of demography, Professor Barber's research has advanced the larger research agenda of social demography toward a more complex understanding of the mechanisms linking attitudes and behavior.

<u>Recent and Significant Publications</u>:
"Home and parenting resources available to siblings depending on their birth intention status,"
      with P. East, *Child Development*, forthcoming 2009.
"Community social context and individualistic attitudes toward marriage," *Social Psychology*
      Quarterly, 67(3), 2004, pp. 236-256.
"Adjusting for time-varying confounding in survival analysis," with S. Murphy and N. Verbitsky,
      Sociological Methodology, 34, 2004, pp. 163-192.
"Intergenerational influences on the entry into parenthood: Mothers' preferences for family and
      nonfamily behavior," *Social Forces*, 79(1), 2000, pp. 319-348.

<u>Service</u> – Professor Barber has been a responsible and highly valued colleague in Sociology. She has taken on a range of demanding service assignments, from the Personnel Committee to the Executive Committee, and in every case has carried out her duties in a collegial and professional manner. She is a selfless, community-oriented colleague whose presence enhances the quality of intellectual life for her colleagues.

<u>External Reviews</u>:
Reviewer (A)
"Jennifer Barber is one of the most well known, highly regarded and creative researchers [of her generation] in the field of family demography today. …her research has contributed to social psychology, demography and survey methodology. This is a unique blend of scholarship. … Jennifer Barber may be only about 10 years post-PhD, but her research is the best – and best known in the field – on the subjective aspects of fertility and family planning."

Reviewer (B)
"Attitudes and values matter, she shows, and people are influenced by the norms of the social world around them. Thus, behavior is not simply a result of rational calculations of costs and benefits conducted apart from the social context… Prof. Barber has done an impressive job of advancing this thesis in numerous publications."

Reviewer (C)
"…I am extremely impressed with her productivity, scientific rigor, creativity, and ability to collaborate constructively. … Methodologically, her work is also first rate. She has mastered the analysis of large, multi-level datasets, from the careful linking of theoretical with measurable concepts to the development of complex models. Altogether, she is a jewel…"

Reviewer (D)
"Jennifer Barber has amassed an impressive record of research publications and a substantial grant portfolio for a scholar [of her generation] who is just over 10 years beyond her PhD, and only five years in an academic position."

Reviewer (E)
"…she has consistently displayed a remarkable capacity to move beyond abstract statistical principles to apply her methodological application in interesting, innovative, and creative ways to study complex demographic outcomes."

Reviewer (F)
"...I have developed a high opinion of Barber and her work. ...her experiences, training and productivity all point to a highly successful research career."

Reviewer (G)
"She sets high standards for herself and then exceeds them. ... She is bright, well-trained, hard-working, creative and productive."

Summary of Recommendation:
Professor Barber is a productive and influential scholar. She is also a highly effective teacher and dedicated mentor, and a valued citizen. The Executive Committee of the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts and I recommends that Associate Professor Jennifer S. Barber be promoted to the rank of professor of sociology, 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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