

PROMOTION RECOMMENDATION
UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
MEDICAL SCHOOL
DEPARTMENT OF MEDICAL EDUCATION

Approved by the Regents
May 14, 2009

James T. Fitzgerald, Ph.D., associate professor of medical education, with tenure, Department of Medical Education, Medical School, is recommended for promotion to professor of medical education, with tenure, Department of Medical Education, Medical School.

Academic Degrees:

Ph.D.	1985	University of Michigan
M.A.	1980	Wayne State University
B.A.	1977	Michigan State University

Professional Record:

2004-present	Associate Professor of Medical Education, University of Michigan
2003-2008	Research Assistant Professor of Medical Education, University of Michigan
2000-2004	Assistant Professor of Medical Education, University of Michigan
1996-2003	Assistant Research Scientist, Department of Medical Education, University of Michigan
1994-1996	Research Investigator, Department of Postgraduate Medicine and Health Professions Education (Note: the Department of Postgraduate Medicine and Health Professions Education was renamed the Department of Medical Education on July 1, 1997.)

Summary of Evaluation:

Teaching: Dr. Fitzgerald's teaching has focused primarily on the evaluation of new educational initiatives and interventions that span from the evaluation of medical students all the way through to primary care physicians. As evaluation core director for the Donald W. Reynolds Foundation Project, his focus was to expand geriatrics education activities for medical students, residents and physicians. These activities included the development and implementation of a geriatrics portfolio, a geriatric standardized patient instructor module, and new clinical experiences in the M3 Internal Medicine Clerkship. In his role as associate director for education, and as evaluation core director of the Comprehensive Programs to Strengthen Physicians' Training in Geriatrics, he directed the assessment of the geriatrics teaching programs that were developed for house officer programs in surgical specialties and medical subspecialties from 2001-2006. The assessment examined the program's impact on residents' knowledge level of geriatric medicine, their skills in caring for older adults, their understanding of ethical issues of providing health care to older adults, and their attitudes toward older adults. Since 2004, Dr. Fitzgerald has been directing a geriatric education intervention targeting primary care providers at the VA community-based outpatient clinics which was expanded to include VA medical

centers' outpatient primary care clinics and inpatient facilities. He also serves as a member of the planning committee for the annual continuing medical education conference on "Critical Clinical Issues in the Care of the Older Adults." As director of the Data Management and Analysis Group (DMAG) of the Department of Medical Education, Dr. Fitzgerald is collaborating in several educational projects related to medical students including the Geriatrics Center and Institute of Gerontology's Summer Research Training in Aging Program for Medical Students and the development of a survey to assess medical students' interest in physical medicine and rehabilitation as a career choice. He also directs DMAG's scoring and reports of the American Gastroenterological Association's annual "Gastroenterology Training Examination." This exam assists GI programs and GI fellows identify their strengths and weaknesses.

Research: Dr. Fitzgerald is a highly respected scholar, well known in the areas of geriatrics and diabetes. His areas of research are:

1. Influence of social and cultural factors on health behavior and health attitudes
2. Gender and ethnic differences in the self-care of type 2 diabetes mellitus
3. Health care of older adults
4. Survey study design and methodology
5. Mixed method designs

Dr. Fitzgerald is currently involved in two research grants: Lead VA Partner, Health Resources and Services Administration, Geriatrics Education Center of Michigan (\$1,292,996) and co-investigator, National Institutes of Health, Measurement Core, Michigan Diabetes Research and Training Center (\$1,168,064). He has also recently submitted a NIH proposal which is under review entitled "Modeling DM Perceptions: Using Mixed Methods in Diabetes Behavioral Research." This research will be a secondary analysis of the data from the NIH-funded "Diabetes Perception, Patient Satisfaction and Self-Care" study on which Dr. Fitzgerald was the principal investigator. It is his intent to test an innovative mixed method analysis as part of the research of this study.

Dr. Fitzgerald has been highly productive as evidenced by his 80 peer-reviewed publications (24 since his promotion to associate professor in 2004) and 62 national/international presentations (also 24 since his promotion).

As further evidence of his scholarship, he is currently a study section reviewer for four organizations including the National Institutes of Health Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) Program, of which he is alternate chair, and the National Board of Medical Examiners Stemmler Fund; reviewer for 14 professional and scientific journals including *Diabetes Care* and *The Gerontologist*; and reviewer for *MedEdPortal* (AAMC Educational Online Resource).

Recent and Significant Publications:

Tang TS, Stansfield RB, Oh MF, Anderson RM, Fitzgerald JT: Patient-provider perceptions of diabetes and its impact on self-management: A comparison of African-American and Caucasian patients. *Diabetic Medicine* 25(3):341-348, 2008.

Fitzgerald JT, Stansfield RB, Tang TS, Oh MF, Frohna AZ, Armbruster BA, Gruppen LD, Anderson RM: Patient and provider perceptions of diabetes: Measuring and evaluating differences. *Patient Education and Counseling* 70:118-125, 2008.

Supiano MA, Fitzgerald JT, Hall KE, Halter JB: A vertically-integrated geriatric curriculum improves medical student knowledge and clinical skills. *Journal of the American Geriatrics Society* 55:1650-1655, 2007.

Schigelone AS and Fitzgerald JT: Development and utilization of vignettes in assessing medical students' support of older and younger patients' medical decisions. *Evaluation & The Health Professions* 27(3):265-284, 2004.

Fitzgerald JT, Wray LA, Halter JB, Williams BC, Supiano MA: Relating medical students' knowledge, attitudes, and experience to an interest in geriatric medicine. *The Gerontologist* 43(6):849-855, 2003.

Service: Dr. Fitzgerald is currently a member of the Assessment Working Group for the Medical School's ENCORE curriculum initiative; on the Research Operating Committee of the University of Michigan Claude D. Pepper Older Americans Independence Center; a member of the University's Ethnogeriatric Advisory Panel, and a member of the Research Policies Committee of the Senate Assembly. Within the Department of Medical Education (DME), he is director of the Data Management and Analysis Group and director of the DME research seminar series.

External Review:

Reviewer A: "Over the past two decades, Dr. Fitzgerald has been highly regarded by his colleagues for his innovations and systems-orientation in behavioral research in geriatric diabetes as well as for his leadership in the current major professional organization for behavioral scientists working in diabetes--the Behavioral Research in Diabetes Group Exchange (BRIDGE)."

Reviewer B: "His work has made major contributions to our understanding of the complex behavioral nature of patient perceptions of illness and subsequent care, health seeking and self-management behaviors, as well as care providers knowledge, attitudes, and practice patterns. Within this work Dr. Fitzgerald has developed and tested much needed reliable and valid instruments and methods. His impact on the field is seen throughout the literature in this area as he is cited extensively."

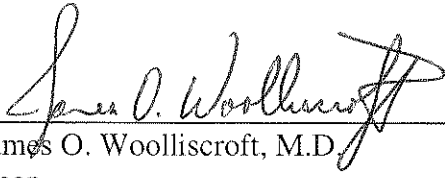
Reviewer C: "With regard to scholarship, I believe Dr. Fitzgerald's major contribution to the field of medical education is his outstanding work on curriculum development and evaluation for medical students. He is recognized for his established expertise in development of experiential learning curricula and methods of measuring outcomes."

Reviewer D: "Dr. Fitzgerald developed an original qualitative questionnaire, the Diabetes Semantic Differential Scale, to delineate differences in perception between patients and providers regarding diabetes. Along with his colleagues, he has shown that differences in perception may affect self-management of minority patients and has identified educational pathways to improve patient care for diabetes."

Reviewer E: “His work is well respected, especially articles on the development of questionnaires for assessing educational and sociocultural aspects of diabetes. Several of these instruments are used widely by researchers as well as practitioners.”

Summary of Recommendation:

Dr. Fitzgerald has distinguished himself as a leading scholar and researcher in the fields of diabetes, geriatrics and medical education. He has been highly productive in both publication and presentation of his work. I am pleased to recommend James T. Fitzgerald, Ph.D. for promotion to professor of medical education, with tenure, Department of Medical Education, Medical School.



James O. Woolliscroft, M.D.
Dean
Lyle C. Roll Professor of Medicine

May 2009