

PROMOTION RECOMMENDATION  
The University of Michigan  
School of Music, Theatre & Dance  
Department of Musicology

Approved by the Regents  
May 14, 2009

Charles Hiroshi Garrett, assistant professor of music, School of Music, Theatre & Dance, is recommended for promotion to associate professor of music, with tenure, School of Music, Theatre & Dance.

**Academic Degrees:**

Ph.D.	2004	University of California, Los Angeles
M.A.	2000	University of California, Los Angeles
B.A.	1998	Music, (summa cum laude) Columbia University
B.A.	1988	American History/Computer Science, Columbia University

**Professional Record:**

2004 – present	Assistant Professor of Music (Musicology) University of Michigan, School of Music, Theatre & Dance
2004	Instructor (Musicology) University of Michigan, School of Music, Theatre & Dance

**Summary of Evaluation:**

**Teaching:**

Professor Garrett is an effective and highly valuable instructor. He is remarkably effective both in large undergraduate courses for LS&A students and in upper-level seminars for students in School of Music, Theatre & Dance. His course evaluations are ranked in the upper percentile and are extremely positive. He is a popular and demanding instructor who expects his students to excel. Teaching high-level, specialized courses has helped increase Professor Garrett's visibility and strength on central campus. He has critically contributed to our teaching of American and popular music. Professor Garrett avails himself of such resources as the CRLT and Arts at Michigan to improve and enliven his work in the classroom and lecture hall.

**Professional and Creative Activity:**

It is the opinion of the majority of reviewers in this case that Professor Garrett's scholarly work at this early stage of his career is well respected within the highest circles of the profession. His book, *Struggling to Define a Nation: American Music and the Twentieth Century*, has garnered highly favorable reviews and has already made an impact on recruitment to our musicology program. He has published papers and given scholarly presentations at professional meetings of national and international significance. Professor Garrett's writing is clear, precise, and unaffected; he skillfully combines methodologies and research techniques of both traditional and new musicologies. His broad training (jazz, popular music and classical music) and his fluency in several major subareas in American music enables him to engage his readers, thoughtfully and thoroughly. His appointment as editor-in-chief for the revised *Grove Dictionary of American Music*, the leading reference encyclopedia in the subfield, and his collaboration as a referee for leading journals and academic presses, speaks to the high level of confidence placed in Professor Garrett's scholarly achievement by his peers.

**Service:**

Professor Garrett's service in the Department of Musicology is deeply appreciated. His work as an advisor to undergraduates has helped increase enrollment (especially in the academic minor offered to LS&A students). Professor Garrett did much heavy lifting on a faculty search that lasted two years. He is also a member of the Lecture Committee in the Department of Musicology. On a national level, Professor Garrett serves on the Board of Trustees and on the Committee for Cultural Diversity for the Society for American Music. He is a member-at-large on the Council of the American Musicological Society.

**External Reviewers:****Reviewer A**

"...I thought it was worth emphasizing the weight of his appointment as editor of the *Grove Dictionary of American Music*. This is a prestigious appointment, and a huge task."

**Reviewer B**

"Through his publication of his book, refereed journal articles, book chapters, reviews, presentations, and professional service, Charles Hiroshi Garrett has made an indelible and positive mark on the discipline. He has contributed an enormous amount to the field of musicology, with an innovative research program and exhaustive service to the field and in my view is eminently tenurable."

**Reviewer C**

"Garrett strikes me as an ideal candidate for this major undertaking for many reasons: his capacious interest in American music and its historiography, his unflappability under pressure, his ability as a multi-tasker, his diplomatic and respectful dealings with other scholars, his facility with computers, and perhaps not least, his presence at Michigan..."

**Reviewer D**

"Professor Garrett's teaching record is exemplary. He has consistently scored in the top twenty-five percent in University of Michigan course evaluations and teaches a wide variety of courses: jazz history, introduction to art music, music since 1750, and popular music. This is a remarkably versatile collection of courses. He writes about teaching very thoughtfully and maturely and has an excellent approach to teaching cultural diversity."

**Reviewer E**

"It is indeed, rare to find a scholar whose caliber has radiated as early and as strong as Garrett's. I remember meeting him as a graduate student; he was mature, politically astute, brilliant, and enthusiastic. I have watched him develop through the years into one of the most respected, sought out, and productive scholars of his cohort. He has risen to be one of the stars of his generation, and I am certain that his reputation will continue among this trajectory."

**Reviewer F**

"I would be hard pressed to name another scholar who has risen to such a clear leadership position in the field of American music history in such a short time as has Prof. Garrett. Garrett will play a major role in shaping our field well into the future. Prof. Garrett is well-known for his sincere collegiality and his devotion to serving our scholarly community."

**Reviewer G**

"As one deeply involved in American music studies over the years, I know that Prof. Garrett has a national (if not international) profile as a scholar. I can think of few colleagues who are intimately familiar with his work, and think highly of it. I feel he is a tremendous asset to Michigan..."

**Reviewer H**

"I think the School is fortunate to have such a progressive scholar on its faculty, whose scholarship has already earned him substantive recognition and whose intellectual curiosity and integrity is exemplary. Charles Hiroshi Garrett is an exceptional scholar who has already established himself and will continue to develop his role as a leader in the field of American Music Studies."

**Reviewer I**

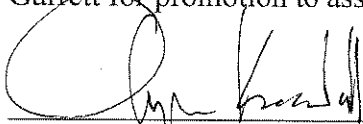
"Prof. Garrett is serious, directed, and productive. He is on the fast track in certain ways: I note that he has been an assistant professor at your institution for only four years. Prof. Garrett's book is about to come out and he is to be congratulated on publishing his first book so quickly, by a prestigious, top-ranked university press."

**Internal Review:**

Considerate, thoughtful, deeply intelligent and a wonderful colleague, Professor Garrett has earned the support and confidence of the Department of Musicology for this advancement. He has made important contributions to the Department and School, and his teaching success on central campus supports his work with undergraduate students.

**Summary of Recommendation:**

Professor Garrett is a consummate professional in all three areas of research, teaching and (unfailing collegial) service. He is a valuable member of our faculty who has made many contributions to the University. It is with great enthusiasm and the unanimous support of the School of Music, Theatre & Dance Executive Committee that I recommend Charles Hiroshi Garrett for promotion to associate professor of music, with tenure.



Christopher W. Kendall  
Dean, School of Music, Theatre & Dance

May 2009