

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

Approved by the Regents  
May 20, 2010

Daniel A. Washington, associate professor of music, with tenure, School of Music, Theatre & Dance, is recommended for promotion to professor of music, with tenure, School of Music, Theatre & Dance.

Academic Degrees:

M.M. 1979 University of Northwestern University (Vocal Performance)

B.M. 1976 Furman University (Vocal Performance)

Professional Record:

2009-present Associate Dean for Faculty and Multi-Cultural Affairs, School of Music, Theatre & Dance, University of Michigan

2006-2009 Associate Dean for Faculty Affairs and Director of Minority Services, School of Music, Theatre & Dance, University of Michigan

2005-2006 Associate Dean of Minority Services, School of Music, Theatre & Dance, University of Michigan

1999-2005 Assistant Dean of Director of Minority Services, School of Music, Theatre & Dance, University of Michigan

1999-present Associate Professor, Department of Voice, University of Michigan

1997 Adjunct Voice Teacher, Luzern, Switzerland

Summary of Evaluation:

Teaching: Professor Washington works extremely hard helping his students to fulfill their professional aspirations. His students describe him as demanding, patient, and passionate, all of which is reflected in his ability to recruit talented young singers to the School. Almost every semester, Professor Washington teaches an overload of students who have requested him as their instructor. When Professor Washington was hired in 1999, he had established himself as a professional singer, but had yet to establish a substantial teaching profile. A review of his course evaluations reveals that he has developed into an accomplished teacher; he consistently receives rankings in the top quartile. Additional student feedback is positive, and the list of his students' accomplishments is commendable—a critical reflection of his success as a teacher and mentor. The School recently admitted two students with physical disabilities. Professor Washington was instrumental in ensuring that they were able to successfully complete their studies, and that the School was prepared to accommodate their needs. He is truly an advocate and voice for all of our students.

Professional Activities: Prior to his arrival at the University of Michigan, Professor Washington enjoyed a prolific career as a bass-baritone. For nearly 20 years, he accrued an impressive performing record by singing at some of the most prestigious opera houses and concert stages in the United States and Europe, including the Piccolo Spoleto Festival, the Trondheim Symphoniker in Norway, the Opéra-Comique in Paris, the Festival Internacional de Musica de Granada, the Teatro Massimo in Palermo, the RAI Orchestra Sinfonica Nazionale, also in Italy,

as well as numerous venues locally and nationally. Professor Washington has won numerous awards including the first prize in the International Voice Competition of Toulouse and the first prize in the International Competition of Lyric Singing in Verviers. Additionally, he received the Bad Hersfeld Opera Prize in recognition of his excellent performance in performing the role of Jokanaan in Richard Strauss's *Salome*. Recently, Professor Washington has made important contributions to the recorded performance and preservation of the music of African American composers; he was awarded an OVPR grant to help accomplish this project. This past summer, Professor Washington was invited to participate in a ten-day residency at the University of Cape Town, South Africa where he observed performances, gave voice lessons, and taught master classes to students in the University's opera program. Professor Washington is a well-known and impressive vocal artist who has earned a stellar national and international reputation.

Service: Professor Washington has an outstanding service record. In 2006, after several years serving as associate dean for minority services, he was named associate dean for faculty and multi-cultural affairs, his current title. In addition to this appointment, he serves as an ex-officio member of the School's Executive Committee, the chair of the promotion and tenure task force, coordinator of the School's activities for annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Day celebrations, faculty advisor for the Black Arts Council, and coordinator of multi-cultural programs and master classes. His exemplary work with diversity and multi-cultural affairs at the School and beyond – notably in his major, ongoing contribution to arts education in Detroit - has been recognized with the 2009 Harold R. Johnson Diversity Service Award.

His service in the community has been notable for his annual participation as a soloist for the NAACP Freedom Fund Dinner, and as a coordinator of the annual spring concert at the Second Baptist Church in Ann Arbor. Professor Washington's service to his profession is also meritorious for his contributions as governor of the National Opera Association in 2008, as collegiate director of the National Association of Negro Musicians, Inc., since 2008, and as president of the Detroit Musicians Association since 2006.

External Reviewers:

Reviewer A: "I both admire and appreciate his outstanding talent, and the contribution he continues to make to the musical world. I hold that he is an asset as educator, community leader in the arts and as a performer. In my opinion, his work as Professor of Music at the University of Michigan would in all likelihood continue to be a beacon for young music students and a source of pride for the University."

Reviewer B: "Mr. Washington is a consummate artist. He has worked with and performed for internationally acclaimed conductors and opera theatres. The quality of his work is affirmed by the continuing demand for his services throughout the country and abroad. More importantly, it is obvious that he will continue to perform at a level which continues to place him and the University of Michigan in the forefront of music activities nationally and internationally."

Reviewer C: "What a big and wonderful background Professor Washington has had in his performing life to bring to his work now within the walls of the university. And, from the reviews he presents in his dossier, it is clear to me that he is not only a fine and experienced singer, but a completely charismatic one also."

Reviewer D: "He has indeed distinguished himself throughout the world as a fine singer, especially in the operatic world, but also as a solo performer in recitals, as well as in oratorio with many of the world's leading orchestras. In addition to being a performer, Professor Washington continues to be very involved in the educational process. In summary, Professor Washington appears to be a faculty member who is giving the very best of his musical and academic efforts to your university."

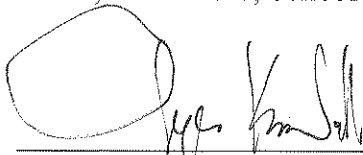
Reviewer E: "Clearly his performance career is a distinguished one and he can offer advice to young singers based on his considerable experience. His statement about teaching seems very strong in every way. I agree with his remarks about breathing, and I am particularly pleased to see that he emphasizes the development of independence in his students and a desire to make them life-long learners."

Reviewer F: "Professor Washington has risen through the ranks in a very timely and structured manner. He is truly an asset to the field of vocal music, and he has served the University of Michigan admirably. He continues to perform and share gifts with the public through his teaching, research and service. He possesses a beautiful bass-baritone voice and sings in a very expressive and engaging manner. He uses a healthy technique both for singing and for training the next generation of young singers."

Reviewer G: "Daniel's early career as a professional singer in Europe solidified not only his singing but also enriched his general musical understanding as displayed in his performance and critical acclaim. His gentle attitude and high expectations also provide a solid foundation for his success as a teacher of singing. I am certain he is a most valuable part of the voice faculty at the University of Michigan."

Summary of Recommendation:

Professor Washington is an extremely valuable resource to the School and the University. He continues to pursue his professional career as a vocal artist, regularly performing at opera houses nationally and internationally. His passion for singing has made him a sought-after voice teacher. Professor Washington plays an instrumental role in the School as associate dean for faculty and multi-cultural affairs and is a key member of my senior administrative staff. It is with great enthusiasm and the unanimous support of the School of Music, Theatre & Dance Executive Committee that I recommend Daniel A. Washington for promotion to professor of music, with tenure, School of Music, Theatre & Dance.



Christopher W. Kendall  
Dean and Paul Boylan Collegiate Professor of Music  
School of Music, Theatre & Dance

May 2010