

PROMOTION RECOMMENDATION
The University of Michigan
School of Public Health
Department of Epidemiology

Approved by the Regents
May 20, 2010

Allison E. Aiello, assistant professor of epidemiology, School of Public Health, is recommended for promotion to associate professor of epidemiology, with tenure, Department of Epidemiology, School of Public Health.

Academic Degrees:

Ph.D.	2003	Columbia University, New York, Epidemiology
M.P.H.	1998	University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, Environmental Health/Infectious Disease Epidemiology
B.S.	1995	University of Massachusetts, Amherst, Environmental Sciences/African-American Studies

Professional Record:

2009 to present	John G. Searle Assistant Professor of Public Health, University of Michigan School of Public Health, Department of Epidemiology, Ann Arbor, Michigan
2005 to present	Assistant Professor, University of Michigan School of Public Health, Department of Epidemiology, Ann Arbor, Michigan
2003-2005	Robert Wood Johnson Health & Society Scholar, University of Michigan School of Public Health, Department of Epidemiology, Center for Social Epidemiology and Population Health, Ann Arbor, Michigan
2002-2003	Research Fellow, National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID) Fellow, Center for Infectious Disease and Epidemiological Research, Columbia University Mailman School of Public Health, New York, NY

Summary of Evaluation:

Teaching: Professor Aiello is an innovative teacher and a dedicated mentor to her students. Over the past four years, Professor Aiello has developed and taught two important courses for our department. The three credit, upper level course Epid 880 "The Epidemiological Links Between Infection and Chronic Disease" critically examines the research linking infection and chronic disease. The doctoral level course is one of the best attended and reflects both the innovative topic and teaching ability of Professor Aiello. She also developed and taught Epid 672 "Social Determinants of Infectious Diseases" for two years. This course has a very strong emphasis on developing critical thinking through interdisciplinary approaches to understanding infectious disease. It attracts students from the department of epidemiology as well as other departments within the School of Public Health, including Biostatistics, Health Behavior and Health Education, and Environmental Health Sciences. In addition she has guest lectured in ten different classes within our school over the last four years.

Professor Aiello has been very actively involved in the department's internship program (Epid 657), mentoring 12 students; capstone course (Epid 659), overseeing the master's project for 10 students; and acting as a research assistant mentor for 21 students. She is currently mentoring three Ph.D. students as well as serving on seven Ph.D. dissertation committees, including one in the School of Nursing. One of Professor Aiello's key strengths as a teacher is the involvement of students in cutting edge research projects. For example, 17 of her publications involve students as first or second author.

Research: Professor Aiello's research activities are highly interdisciplinary and focused on three interrelated goals: (1) to uncover the relationships and mechanisms by which individual and multiple persistent pathogens influence chronic health outcomes, including cognitive impairment/dementia, cardiovascular disease (CVD), and mortality; (2) to identify the underlying social determinants of these infections in the community setting that may explain disparities in chronic outcomes; and (3) to assess hygiene preventive measures for reducing infections in the community. Professor Aiello addresses these research objectives using the research methodologies from three very different disciplines which reflect her previous training - namely, infectious disease, social epidemiology, and infection control. She is currently expanding her research interests to include ecological stressors and mental health influences on disease outcomes. Professor Aiello's work is supported by five federally funded grants and she currently has three NIH R01 proposals under review

Professor Aiello lists 58 peer-reviewed publications. She is either the first, second, or last author on approximately 90% of these publications. Her research has been published in a number of leading journals including the *American Journal of Epidemiology*, the *Journal of Infectious Diseases*, the *American Journal of Preventive Medicine*, *Social Science and Medicine*, and the *Journal of Gerontology: Medical Sciences*. Over 40 of these papers were produced since she was appointed to the rank of assistant professor in 2005. Professor Aiello has also made 77 presentations at professional meetings as well as at a number of universities.

Recent and Significant Publications:

- Jennifer B. Dowd and Allison E. Aiello. (2009) "Socioeconomic Differentials in Immune Response," *Epidemiology*, Vol. 38, No. 5, pp. 1297-1309.
- Allison E. Aiello, Ana Diez-Roux, Anne-Michelle Noone, Nalini Ranjit, Mary Cushman, Michael Y. Tsai, and Moyses Szklo (2009) "Socioeconomic and psychosocial gradients in cardiovascular pathogen burden and immune response: The multi-ethnic study of atherosclerosis," *Brain, Behavior, and Immunity*, Vol. 23, No. 5, pp. 663-671.
- Amanda M. Simanek, Jennifer Beam Dowd, and Allison E. Aiello. (2009) "Persistent pathogens linking socioeconomic position and cardiovascular disease in the US," *International Journal of Epidemiology*, Vol. 38, No. 3, pp. 775-787.
- A. E. Aiello, R.M. Coulborn, V. Perez, and E.L. Larson. (2008) "Effect of hand hygiene on infectious disease risk in the community setting: a meta-analysis," *American Journal of Public Health*, Vol 98, No. 8, pp. 1372-1381.
- A.E. Aiello, M. Haan, L. Blythe, K. Moore, J.M. Gonzalez, and W. Jagust. (2006) "The influence of latent viral infection on rate of cognitive decline over 4 years," *Journal of the American Geriatrics Society*, Vol. 54, No. 7, pp. 1046-1054.

Service: Professor Aiello has provided an outstanding level of service to the Department of Epidemiology serving as an active member of both the Admissions and Curriculum Committees. She was also an active member of our most recent search for a junior faculty member. At the University level, she has done outreach to undergraduates interested in public health through dormitory programs and the Undergraduate Research Opportunity Program. She works tirelessly with the media, both local and national, to promote public health and its practices.

Nationally, she is an elected member of the American College of Epidemiology where she has served on the Minority Affairs Committee for the past three years. In addition, Professor Aiello has served as a judge for national awards promoting epidemiology and science at the graduate and high school levels, including the Society for Epidemiological Research Lillienfield Award for Best Student Papers

(graduate), Davidson Fellows Scholarship (high school), and Young Epidemiology Scholars (YES) (high school).

External Reviewers:

Reviewer A: "Allison is a highly productive scholar whose work on infectious disease is making significant contributions to our understandings of the social determinants of health, and I would not hesitate to promote her to associate professor with tenure."

Reviewer B: "I consider her current work on modifiers of infectious disease as her most significant. It is at the cutting edge, highly innovative, and pushes the current limits of epidemiology in analyzing the effects of infectious diseases, including chronic effects."

Reviewer C: "There is a need for leaders in her areas of research and I believe she has the breadth of intellectual vision/knowledge, energy and follow through to draw collaborators together from a range of areas, and make profound scientific contributions."

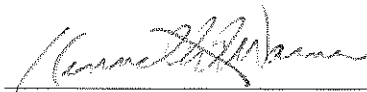
Reviewer D: "She exhibits a definite enthusiasm for teaching, research and graduate student training, a rare combination of attributes in a [junior] academic."

Reviewer E: "...strong ongoing support to her program, which has great potential benefits for both your school and public health."

Reviewer F: "She has secured a national reputation for her work, presenting widely at scientific meetings and also being called upon for her expertise (e.g., the Institute of Medicine)."

Summary of Recommendation:

Professor Aiello is an exceptionally creative and productive researcher and teacher. Her ground-breaking interdisciplinary research has been a magnet for students, media, and new synergisms between faculty. I enthusiastically recommend Professor Allison E. Aiello for promotion to associate professor of epidemiology, with tenure, Department of Epidemiology, School of Public Health.



Kenneth E. Warner, Ph.D.
Dean, School of Public Health

May 2010