

PROMOTION RECOMMENDATION
The University of Michigan
A. Alfred Taubman College of Architecture and Urban Planning

Andrew H. Herscher, assistant professor of architecture, A. Alfred Taubman College of Architecture and Urban Planning, and assistant professor of Slavic languages and literatures, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts, is recommended for promotion to associate professor of architecture, with tenure, A. Alfred Taubman College of Architecture and Urban Planning, and associate professor of Slavic languages and literatures, without tenure, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts.

Academic Degrees:

Ph.D.	2002	Harvard University
Dipl.	1992	Central European University, Prague, Czech Republic (Diploma, Program in Art and Architectural History of Central Europe)
M.Arch	1989	Harvard Graduate School of Design
B.A.	1983	Yale College

Professional Record:

2005-Present	Assistant Professor of Architecture, A. Alfred Taubman College of Architecture and Urban Planning, University of Michigan
2005-Present	Assistant Professor of Slavic Languages and Literatures, College of Literature Science, and the Arts, University of Michigan
2003-2005	Visiting Assistant Professor, University of Illinois at Urban-Champaign
2003	Director of Summer Program, Central European University, Budapest, Hungary
2003	Visiting Lecturer, Dartmouth College, Hanover, NH
2001	Visiting Lecturer, University of Prishtina, Prishtina, Kosovo
1995-2000	Instructor, Harvard Graduate School of Design
1995	Visiting Lecturer, Anglo-American College, Prague, Czech Republic
1994-1995	Visiting Lecturer, University of Ljubljana, Ljubljana, Slovenia

Summary of Evaluation:

Teaching – During his years at the University of Michigan, Professor Herscher has taught lecture classes, graduate seminars, and one thesis studio. Professor Herscher emerges as a passionate, thoughtful, and provocative teacher with three prominent characteristics: (1) he actively engages students with the subject material and his material selections extend beyond readings to include media such as film, internet resources, and artists' work thereby engaging students across the disciplines; (2) he stresses critical thinking in his classes by highlighting the importance of time, power, position and context so his teachings animate the ideas that underline architecture, history, and architectural history and thus connect them to contemporary social and political happenings; and (3) he has demonstrated on-going efforts to enhance curriculum development at the graduate and undergraduate levels in different units on campus and to nourish students' curiosity in learning.

His evaluations reflect that his students find him easy to talk with, willing and enthusiastic. He displays a generosity of time and interest in students' work and a number of students have noted his honesty in presenting conflicts and uncertainties. One of his strongest traits is his ability to initiate productive discussions within the classroom setting and his well-attended lectures are interspersed with debates, readings, class discussions and non-traditional learning tools.

Research – Professor Herscher is an accomplished scholar and critic whose published material, *Violence Taking Place: The Architecture of the Kosovo Conflict*; *Heritage after War: The Reconstruction of the Hadum Mosque*; and a wide range of peer-reviewed articles are widely-recognized as pointed, politically astute and cutting-edge in his field. Overall, he has built a substantial record of publications, with approximately twenty journal papers; a dozen invited articles or book chapters; two edited volumes; a well-received book; a follow-up book manuscript in progress; and nearly forty related academic lectures, panels, and presentations, many of these international. A public intellectual, Professor Herscher gathers evidence from a diverse array of media for his human rights advocacy. By carefully analyzing documentary evidence of vandalism, destruction and violence, he de-essentializes these categories and embeds them in various discursive contexts.

In his research, he is able to make historical and theoretical work relevant to architecture students by incorporating a broad range of social and political frameworks that challenge the very conception of what architecture is. He calls into question the political and ideological dimensions of what it may mean to be a practicing architect. His work on violence against architecture, which explores the deliberate destruction by the Serbs of architectural moments in Kosovo, reveals aspects of architecture's significance that more conventional approaches to architectural history and reconstruction cannot. Professor Herscher is now applying this method to other mediated narratives of destruction, such as the physical erosion of Detroit. His approach to architecture is not static, but as a changing reality which produces meanings in interaction with political, ideological and cultural forces.

Recent and Significant Works:

- 2010 *Violence Taking Place: The Architecture of the Kosovo Conflict* (Stanford University Press)
- 2008 "Humanity, Humanitarianism and the Humanities," book chapter in *Globalization and the New Humanities in China*, ed. Haiping Yang, (Shanghai: Classics Publishing House) (in Mandarin)
- 2008 "Warchitectural Theory," *Journal of Architectural Education* (62:1, 35-43)
- 2007 *Heritage After War: The Reconstruction of the Hadam Mosque* (Prishtina, Kosovo: Cultural Heritage Without Borders)
- 2007 "Urbicide, Urbanism and Urban Destruction in Kosovo," *Theory and Event*, (10:2, on line)
- 2006 "Cultural Heritage and Political Violence," book chapter in *The Case for Kosovo*, ed. Anna DiLellio (London: Anthem, 37-42)
- 2006 "Counter-Heritage and Violence," *Future Anterior* (3:2, 24-33)
- 2005 "Urban Formations of Difference: Borders and Cities in Post-1989 Europe," *European Review*, (13:2, 215-260)

Service – At the Taubman College, Professor Herscher has served on committees for doctoral admissions and curriculum, architecture fellowship searches, and the Detroit Program. He is a member of the Detroit Initiatives Taskforce. At the University level, he has served the Center for International and Comparative Studies in a variety of capacities, and for several years coordinated the Rackham Faculty/Graduate Seminar on Human Rights. At the community and international level, as the co-founder of the Kosovo Cultural Heritage Project, he is an officer and consultant for the United Nations Mission in Kosovo and a member of the Kosovo delegation on the UN negotiations team for self-government.

External Reviewers:

Reviewer A: "Clearly Herscher deserves tenure for enlightening our perspective on what can become a committed architecture of concern – to war, to the environment, to the economy, to humanity, to the community."

Reviewer B: "Through his research in the emergent field of 'forensic architecture,' Dr. Herscher has established himself as a cutting-edge innovator in an area of enormous importance to global peace and reconciliation efforts – a distinction that few architectural theorists can claim."

Reviewer C: "The book [*Violence Taking Place*] is meticulously researched and elegantly argued and hugely relevant today."

Reviewer D: "It is precisely as a novel thinker and imaginative practitioner of inter-disciplinarity-or, better put, perhaps, 'interstitial-disciplinarity'—that Herscher comes fully into his own."

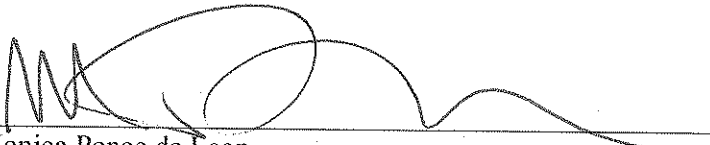
Reviewer E: "The publications and work in progress reveal a scholar with an impressive interdisciplinary range and a capacity for both detailed historical work and theoretically informed cultural interpretation. The quality of the scholarship is excellent over this wide range, and his productivity is at least comparable with other scholars at this point in his career; he would have a clear case for tenure at my institution."

Reviewer F: "Taken together, Herscher's recent work on violence, reconstruction, and heritage constitutes a provocative, challenging critique of a naive, uncritical, essentializing recourse to architecture in order to advance specific political goals."

Reviewer G: "One of the reasons for the strength of his work is that prof. Herscher employs a flexible, interdisciplinary and experimental approach that thinks architecture in relation to other disciplines and fields of knowledge. ... An important characteristic of prof. Herscher's work however is that it uses a wide diversity of analytical frames to reinforce the component parts of his work. In this sense, his work could be simultaneously understood as 'practice lead [sic] research', and 'theory informed practice.'"

Summary of Recommendation:

Professor Herscher has maintained a standard of excellence across all aspects of his academic and professional production. He is a creative, promising architectural historian whose provocative body of work has gained a significant level of international recognition. By bringing this same approach to his teaching, Professor Herscher has proven to be a particularly valuable member of the faculties of the Architecture Program at Taubman College and of the Department of Slavic Languages and Literatures. These factors merit his promotion. We, together with our Executive Committees, recommend his promotion to associate professor of architecture, with tenure, A. Alfred Taubman College of Architecture and Urban Planning, and associate professor of Slavic languages and literature, without tenure, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts.



Monica Ponce de Leon

Dean and Eliel Saarinen Collegiate Professor of Architecture and Urban Planning
A. Alfred Taubman College of Architecture and Urban Planning



Terrence J. McDonald

Arthur F. Thurnau Professor, Professor of History, and Dean
College of Literature, Science, and the Arts

May 2011