

PROMOTION RECOMMENDATION
The University of Michigan
College of Literature, Science, and the Arts

Jeffrey D. Morenoff, associate professor of sociology, with tenure, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts, is recommended for promotion to professor of sociology, with tenure, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts [also being promoted to research professor, Institute for Social Research].

Academic Degrees:

Ph.D.	2000	University of Chicago
M.A.	1995	University of Chicago
B.A.	1988	University of Pennsylvania

Professional Record:

2005 – present	Research Associate Professor, Survey Research Center, Institute for Social Research, University of Michigan
2004 – present	Associate Professor, Department of Sociology; Research Associate Professor, Population Studies Center, Institute for Social Research, University of Michigan
2001 – 2004	Assistant Research Scientist, Population Studies Center, University of Michigan
1999 – 2004	Faculty Associate, Survey Research Center, Institute of Survey Research, University of Michigan
1999 – 2000	Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology, University of Michigan

Summary of Evaluation:

Teaching – Professor Morenoff’s courses are rigorous and engaging. He has taught a 300-level course on criminology and a 500-level course on beginning statistics for graduate students. Student evaluations are solid and the 500-level course stands out as especially strong. He has served on 38 dissertation committees since 2004, and many of these were for students from a variety of disciplines outside of sociology. He chaired 11 of these committees. He has also served as an advisor to numerous undergraduate honor thesis writers and as a mentor to Summer Undergraduate Research Opportunity students, winning a best mentor award for this work with undergraduate research assistants.

Research – Professor Morenoff is a researcher who has maintained coherent research themes, focused in particular on neighborhoods and inequality. This is an important area of research that has a long tradition in sociology in general and Michigan sociology in particular. He has produced thirteen journal articles and six book chapters. He has been engaged in collaborative research and interdisciplinary research, sometimes involving graduate students. His work extends into other fields, such as epidemiology. Professor Morenoff is clearly an excellent collaborator and is in high demand as such. He has successfully launched a promising new research project on prisoner reentry.

Recent and Significant Publications:

- “Su salud es...¿Regular?: Language of interview, Self-rated health, and the other Latino health puzzle,” with E. Viruell-Fuentes, et al., *American Journal of Public Health*, December 2010, pp. e1-e8 (published online ahead of print).
- “Residential environments and obesity: What can we learn about policy interventions from observational studies?” with A. D. Rous, et al., *Making Americans Healthier: Social and Economic Policy as Health Policy*, in R. F. Schoeni, et al. (eds.), Russell Sage Foundation, 2008, pp. 309-343.
- “Understanding social disparities in hypertension prevalence, awareness, treatment, and control: The role of neighborhood context,” with J. S. House, et al., *Social Science & Medicine*, 65, 2007, pp. 1853-1866.
- “Durable inequality: Spatial dynamics, social processes, and the persistence of poverty in Chicago neighborhoods,” with R. J. Sampson, *Poverty Traps*, S. Bowles, et al., (eds.), Russell Sage Foundation, 2006, pp. 176-203.

Service – Professor Morenoff has performed extensive service, especially in Sociology, where he is now in his sixth year as associate chair. He helped to develop a variety of new initiatives in Sociology, and to prepare for and respond to an external review. Professor Morenoff also serves as co-director of the Robert Wood Johnson Health and Society Scholars Program. He has served as associate director of the Population Studies Center (PSC, 2007 -2010), where he was responsible for overseeing training programs. He focused primarily on the pre-doctoral training program after initially being responsible for that program and the postdoctoral training program. He also served as an elected member of the PSC Advisory Committee (2006-2009).

External Reviews:

Reviewer (A)

“Morenoff is methodologically sophisticated and has brought the study of spatial dynamics to the contextual study of community health. He has contributed substantially to the literature on immigration, race and ethnicity particularly in relation to crime and delinquency. ... Few scientists have this interdisciplinary reach or impact. ...the value of Morenoff’s work lies not in the quantity of the papers but the quality of them and his capacity to integrate both intriguing theoretical perspectives with rigorous analytic approaches.”

Reviewer (B)

“In my opinion I can think of no one in Jeff Morenoff’s Ph.D. cohort who surpasses him. ... Everyone working on questions about neighborhood effects must respond to and take into account these papers and they have set the standard for researchers working on these topics.”

Reviewer (C)

“Morenoff is one of the leaders among his peers in his area of study in criminology and sociology. ... Morenoff’s funding record is impressive. He has collaborated productively to generate external support from several funding streams and branches within the federal institutes, demonstrating his ability to market ideas successfully to diverse audiences and to get substantial returns on those efforts.”

Reviewer (D)

“Jeffrey Morenoff is a highly sophisticated scholar who uses advanced statistical methods to explore and explain patterns of health and crime by taking into account both individual and group level sources of variation, including an enduring interest in the spatial dynamics of neighborhood relationships. ... It is clear that he is a driving force in the generation of both successful research proposals and journal articles, most often with his own role placed as secondary to others, for example, in orderings of authorship. ... I regard the pattern of co-authorship as a major strength.”

Reviewer (E)

“Dr. Morenoff is in the top five or so of [his cohort]...in sociology. His productivity includes referred articles in such major journals as the *American Sociological Review*, *Social Forces*, *Criminology*, and the *American Journal of Sociology*. With these and other publications, Dr. Morenoff has established a very substantial reputation as one of the leading quantitative sociologists in his cohort.”

Reviewer (F)

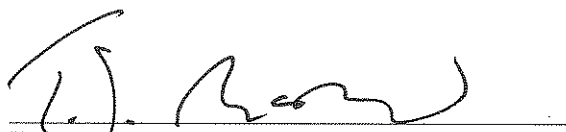
“Morenoff’s contribution is to bring a keen awareness of neighborhood contexts and spatial effects, along with experience in the use of contextual or multilevel measures and models, to studies of health outcomes. All of these studies are characterized by theoretical clarity, careful analysis, and a strong focus on the sociological or community correlates of health disparities.”

Reviewer (G)

“Jeff Morenoff is a sociologist *tout court*... The core issues treated by Jeff Morenoff are the core issues that distinguish contemporary sociology...[that] distinguish Michigan sociology, and that have productively bound together for many years the Department of Sociology, the Population Studies Center, and the Survey Research Center. ...Morenoff is the author or a key author of a long string of works that have defined the contemporary field of ‘neighborhood effects.’”

Summary of Recommendation:

Professor Morenoff is a highly effective researcher and teacher, and a dedicated mentor whose presence as a member of our faculty greatly enhances the University’s educational mission. The Executive Committee of the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts and I recommend that Associate Professor Jeffery D. Morenoff be promoted to the rank of professor of sociology, with tenure, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts.


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

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