

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

Damani J. Partridge, assistant professor of anthropology, and assistant professor of Afroamerican and African studies, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts, is recommended for promotion to associate professor of anthropology, with tenure, and associate professor of Afroamerican and African studies, with tenure, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts.

Academic Degrees:

Ph.D.	2003	University of California, Berkeley
M.A.	1997	University of California, Berkeley
B.A.	1995	Amherst College

Professional Record:

2005 – present	Assistant Professor, Department of Anthropology and the Center for Afroamerican and African Studies (CAAS), University of Michigan
2003 – 2005	Research Investigator and Lecturer II, Department of Anthropology and CAAS, University of Michigan

Summary of Evaluation:

Teaching – Professor Partridge is a committed instructor, whose teaching adds depth and richness to the curriculum in CAAS. With his expertise on African diasporas in Europe and with his interests on citizenship, diasporic aesthetics, and urban anthropology, he challenges conceptual certainties at the heart of current interpretive social science. He has retooled his undergraduate classes to increase student involvement and their response has been very positive. They acknowledge that they have learned a great deal from him.

Research – Professor Partridge provides a unique contribution to sociocultural anthropology and to diaspora studies. His publications include his forthcoming book, *Becoming Noncitizens: Hypersexuality, Headscarves, and Leftover Bodies in Post-Wall Germany*, as well as peer-reviewed journal articles and chapters in edited volumes. In focusing on “exclusionary incorporation” and “noncitizens” in Germany, on the practices of transnational corporations involved in “activist capitalism,” national sovereignty, and workers’ rights, and diasporic aesthetics, Professor Partridge seeks to unravel the intellectual bases on which inequality is constituted and maintained. His research has been recognized by several awards, including the DAAD Summer Seminar fellowship (2005), a Fulbright fellowship (2006), and Alexander von Humboldt Foundation fellowships (1999-2000, 2007, 2009), among others.

Recent and Significant Publications:

Becoming Noncitizens: Hypersexuality, Headscarves, and Leftover Bodies in Post-Wall Germany, in the “New Anthropologies of Europe” series, M. Bunzl and M. Herzfeld (eds.), Indiana University Press, forthcoming 2011.

“Exploding Hitler and Americanizing Germany—Occupying ‘Black’ bodies and post-war desire,” in *Germans and African Americans: Two Centuries of Exchange*, L. Greene and A. Ortlepp (eds.), University of Mississippi Press, forthcoming 2011, pp. 201-217.

“Holocaust *mahnmal* (memorial): Monumental memory amidst contemporary race,”
Comparative Studies in Society and History, 52(4), 2010, pp. 820-850.

“We were dancing in the club, not on the Berlin Wall: ‘Black’ bodies, street bureaucrats, and exclusionary incorporation in the New Europe,” *Cultural Anthropology*, 23(4), 2008, pp. 660–687.

Service – In Anthropology, Professor Partridge has served on the Colloquium, Curriculum, and Executive committees. He was also a first-year advisor. In CAAS, he has served on the Fellowships Committee. He is a member of the Advisory Committee of the Center for European Studies-European Union Center. Nationally and internationally, he has served as president of the Federal Chancellor Fellows’ Alumni Organization of the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation, on the Fellowship Committee for the New York-based Council for European Studies, and as a reviewer for the National Science Foundation and top journals in his field.

External Reviews:

Reviewer (A)

“...Damani especially stands out because of the originality and the intellectual sovereignty of his perspective. He doesn’t follow well trodden paths but seeks his own trails. ... He has always been unconventional and self-sufficient in his theoretical orientation and conceptual framings. ...Damani is one of the outstandingly talented scientists [of his generation]...”

Reviewer (B)

“...*Becoming Non-Citizens* will make a significant contribution to on-going discussions in Cultural Anthropology, African American Studies, and German Studies. I have no doubt that the book will become a standard text in race-relations in the German context.”

Reviewer (C)

“...although I have long regarded Partridge as one of the sharpest analysts of racial exclusion writing anywhere in European studies (and really the only one operating in anthropological German studies), Partridge’s book *ms.*, *Becoming Noncitizens*, was eye-opening in terms of the breadth, depth and quality of his thinking about what he terms the ‘exclusionary incorporation’ of racialized ‘black’ diasporic subjects within western liberal nation-states.”

Reviewer (D)

“...Professor Partridge is an excellent scholar whose work on the anthropology of post-Wall Germany and the processes of racialization in contemporary Europe is making a crucial contribution to the field. ...in the years since he received his Ph.D., Professor Partridge has built an outstanding scholarly record, making him a leader among a new generation of anthropologists of Europe. I have every expectation that he will continue on this trajectory and continue to establish himself as an important presence in the profession at large.”

Reviewer (E)

“Damani Partridge’s work has always been undertaken with certain broad social aspirations in mind. ... His scholarship is admirably based in recent immigration and citizenship law in Germany, and combined in most interesting ways with ethnographic methods of observation and

participation from within the field of anthropology. ... His work has extraordinary range... He has my very highest recommendation for tenure and promotion.”

Reviewer (F)

“The essay [on Holocaust memorialization and its unacknowledged racial effects] is utterly original and, to my mind, nothing short of brilliant in its conception and execution. The essay seamlessly combines architectural criticism with nuanced first-person ethnography with historical analysis with well-chosen interview data with forward-looking reflections.”

Reviewer (G)

“Prof[.] Partridge’s active participation in international debates in his field, including at the Berlin Institut für Europäische Ethnologie and the University of Tübingen—both institutions with a high profile in his area—also confirms him as a significant participant in ongoing transatlantic conversations on questions of the black subject in contemporary culture and politics.”

Reviewer (H)

“Dr. Partridge brings a different focus and insights, especially in his concern for minorities of diverse backgrounds, especially but not exclusively African-Germans. ... I have no doubt that he would receive tenure and promotion at [my institution]....”

Summary of Recommendation:

Professor Partridge’s scholarship, teaching, and service activities reflect his commitment to the highest standard of intellectual engagement and scholarly community. The Executive Committee of the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts and I recommend that Assistant Professor Damani J. Partridge be promoted to the rank of associate professor of anthropology, with tenure, and associate professor of Afroamerican and African studies, 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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