

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

Denise J. Sekaquaptewa, associate professor of psychology, with tenure, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts, is recommended for promotion to professor of psychology, with tenure, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts.

Academic Degrees:

Ph.D.	1997	The Ohio State University
B.A.	1992	Arizona State University
A.A.	1989	Phoenix College

Professional Record:

2004 – current	Associate Professor, Department of Psychology, University of Michigan
1997 – current	Faculty Associate, Research Center for Group Dynamics, University of Michigan
1997 – 2004	Assistant Professor, Department of Psychology, University of Michigan

Summary of Evaluations:

Teaching – Professor Sekaquaptewa is a very successful teacher. She has been the director of the undergraduate honors program in Psychology since 2005. Her substantial skills as a mentor along with didactic teaching have helped to develop a large and first-rate program. She uses a variety of outreach measures to encourage students to consider developing a thesis project. She has been extremely successful with nearly 100 students enrolled for 2010-2011 and 94% have completed during her five years as director. Professor Sekaquaptewa is an excellent mentor for undergraduate and graduate students. She has a large, diverse, and active laboratory. Since her promotion to tenure, she has chaired or is currently primary advisor for eight graduate students and 11-20 undergraduate students each year. Approximately 75% of her published papers include student authors, and nearly every conference presentation includes student collaborators.

Research – Professor Sekaquaptewa’s research is based on a social psychological approach, which theorizes that people’s social environment influences behavior, although the degree of influence often depends upon how people construe their social situation. Using her knowledge of social identity threat and implicit measurement, Professor Sekaquaptewa examines how personal beliefs about success influence performance over time. She recently received a multi-year National Science Foundation grant for her work on improving women’s outcomes in science and engineering. Her publications are of high quality and have been placed in the top-ranked journals in her field. Her book chapters all appear in top-ranked volumes.

Recent and Significant Publications:

“Changing stereotypes, changing grades: A longitudinal study of stereotyping during a college math course,” with L. R. Ramsey, *The Social Psychology of Education: An International Journal*, forthcoming.

“Solo status and women’s spatial test performance: The role of individuation tendencies,” with J. Keller, *European Journal of Social Psychology*, 38, 2008, pp. 1044-1053.

“Implicit stereotypes, gender identification, and math-related outcomes: A prospective study of female college students,” with A. K. Kiefer, *Psychological Science*, 18, 2007, pp. 13-18.
“Armed only with paper and pencil: ‘Low-tech’ measures of implicit attitudes,” with P. Vargas and W. von Hippel, in *Implicit Measures of Attitudes*, B. Wittenbrink and N. Schwarz (eds.), Guilford Press, 2007, pp. 103-124.

Service – Professor Sekaquaptewa’s service record is exceptional. In addition to her regular service for the social psychology area, the Department of Psychology, and national professional groups, her other service contributions involve research editorships, professional organizations, and minority/diversity initiatives. In each of these areas her service is above that expected of a faculty member at her career stage. The invitations to serve as associate editors for two important journals in her field speaks again to the high regard for her research, as well as her ability to organize the review process. She has also chaired a large number of committees for professional societies, including the Midwestern Psychology Association which has as its primary mission producing an annual meeting that is used by students to make their first presentations. Professor Sekaquaptewa has been involved locally and nationally in outreach efforts to draw under-represented minorities to graduate school.

External Reviews:

Reviewer (A)

“I think that Denise’s research is highly respected... ..1) Denise is working in a very important research area – women and minority achievement, 2) her work is of the highest quality, incorporating both correlational and experimental approaches (in what is often a difficult domain to incorporate experiments), and using both established techniques along with newer innovations, 3) she cares about content/description and process – *how* does solo status affect the individual?, and 4) she represents a true integration of personological and situational approaches to understanding behavioral phenomena. ...I think her work is solid and important...”

Reviewer (B)

“Her research is right at the center of issues that have come to define the field of social psychology, and moreover, it is research that has profound implications for society in general and for academia in particular. ... Understanding how gender, race, and social class influence academic outcomes – and how academic environments can be structured to avoid the pitfalls that women and minorities often face – could hardly be a more important set of issues...”

Reviewer (C)

“She seeks to advance what we know about the thoughts, feelings, and behaviors of people who are distinctive, such as people who are in a small minority along a visible dimension such as race or gender. ...Sekaquaptewa enjoys great prominence as a social psychologist. ...her work is of such high quality and addresses such interesting and important topics that she is very highly regarded. ... It is scholars like Sekaquaptewa who build our communities.”

Reviewer (D)

“...her work is important both methodologically and in its focus on issues of minority status, especially solo status in majority contexts. In these research areas, Denise Sekaquaptewa’s research is well known, and her research is very favorably regarded...”

Reviewer (E)

“To put it simply, Dr. Sekaquaptewa’s research shows an admirable combination of high quality empiricism and significant practical relevance. It is scientifically rigorous, has a strong theoretical grounding, and addresses issues that are of great importance. Indeed, the work on solo status and on social identity threat...is extremely creative and novel. ...Sekaquaptewa is a strong scholar who uses her research to make a difference in the world. She is a leader in the field who forges new directions for research, and who takes a creative approach to its implementation. Her standing is among the top [junior] social psychologists in the field.”

Reviewer (F)

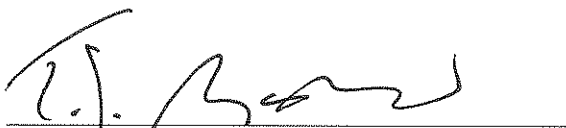
“In this extremely important interdisciplinary area, crucial for any modern psychology department... Of her more recent work, those likely to have the most impact include the *Psychological Science* 2007 article because (a) its results are crisp...(b) it uses prospective methods...and (c) it highlights implicit stereotyping of the self, a novel approach. ... Consistent with her keen research eye, Dr. Sekaquaptewa has NSF grants and is highly visible, in great demand as a speaker. ... Her work clearly merits this promotion.”

Reviewer (G)

“In my opinion, Dr. Sekaquaptewa ranks near the top in her cohort of social psychologists. ...the quality of her articles are first rate. I believe she is becoming one of social psychology’s most important scholars of stereotyping and intergroup perception. The fact that she has reviewed widely, that she has been invited to give several departmental colloquia at universities with top-ranked social psychology graduate training programs, and that she has been the chair of the Gordon Allport Prize for Intergroup Relations all suggest that this view is widely shared...”

Summary of Recommendation:

Professor Sekaquaptewa’s research program is high in quality and originality. She is a superb mentor and an excellent teacher. Her service at all levels is exemplary. The Executive Committee of the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts and I recommend that Associate Professor Denise J. Sekaquaptewa be promoted to the rank of professor of psychology, 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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