

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

Stephen M. Ward, assistant professor of Afroamerican and African studies, and assistant professor in the Residential College, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts, is recommended for promotion to associate professor of Afroamerican and African studies, with tenure, and associate professor in the Residential College, without tenure, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts.

Academic Degrees:

Ph.D.	2002	University of Texas
M. A.	1997	University of Texas
B.A.	1993	Hampton University

Professional Record:

2002 — present Assistant Professor, Center for Afroamerican and African Studies (CAAS) and the Residential College (RC), University of Michigan

Summary of Evaluation:

Teaching – Professor Ward’s teaching record has been exemplary. His performance in the classroom is stellar and he an extraordinary mentor. He has devised a total of ten discrete courses in CAAS and the RC for which he has received consistently strong evaluations. He has also developed several new and innovative courses that bring students beyond the walls of the classroom into communities in southeastern Michigan. He regularly teaches in the Semester in Detroit program and served as a mentor to students who initiated the original idea for its implementation. His contribution to enhancing educational instruction for undergraduates is substantial. He has done an extensive range of independent studies and has demonstrated a deep commitment to assisting students in finding their voice and achieving their goals.

Research – Professor Ward is a historian of U.S. Black radical traditions in urban environments such as Detroit. Throughout his career he has been dedicated to exploring the role of ideas in the context of radical political formations, whether these are full-fledged movements, small organizations, or influential study groups and informal associations. With his work on activist intellectuals like James and Grace Lee Boggs, he is part of a new generation of scholars who have been developing the history of civil rights struggles in the urban North and recasting the story of radical black politics, especially the Black Power Movement. Professor Ward has also begun a scholarly reconsideration of black urban politics in the late 20th Century, as the realities of deindustrialization, mass flight, shrinking tax bases, and deteriorating neighborhoods have remapped the terrain of political struggle and forced a rethinking of ideas about social transformation.

Recent and Significant Publications:

In Love and Struggle: James and Grace Lee Boggs, Black Power, and the Next American Revolution, under contract with the University of North Carolina Press.

Pages from a Black Radical's Notebook: A James Boggs Reader, edited volume, Wayne State University Press, forthcoming 2011.

"The Third World Women's Alliance: Black feminist radicalism and Black power politics," in *The Black Power Movement: Rethinking the Civil Rights and Black Power Era*, P. E. Joseph (ed.), Routledge, 2006, pp. 119-144.

"From Texas to Michigan: Reflections on the continuing struggle over affirmative action," *The Black Scholar: Journal of Black Studies and Research*, 33(3), 2003, pp. 18-22.

Service – Professor Ward has integrated classroom instruction effectively to a variety of direct engagements with communities and hands-on experiences outside the classroom. He helped found a joint CAAS-RC minor in Urban Studies, for which he is the primary faculty advisor, and he has provided crucial instruction and guidance for the Semester in Detroit program. He has served on the CAAS Curriculum Committee for several years and participates heavily in the Social Theory and Practice program in the RC.

External Reviews:

Reviewer (A)

"'In Love and Struggle: James and Grace Lee Boggs, Black Power and the Next American Revolution,' together with the edited volume of James Boggs' writings and the articles on the Institute of the Black World and Third World Feminism, create an original and compelling portrait of postwar Black radicalism that will undoubtedly reshape older interpretations and influence future scholarship in numerous ways."

Reviewer (B)

"I have no doubt that Professor Ward's engagement with his subject, as demonstrated by his footnotes and publications, make him an engaging teacher. In the forthcoming *Pages from a Black Radical's Notebook*, he brings together an exceptional range of James Boggs' writing, both published and unpublished, much of it hitherto very hard to access. As the very positive readers' reports make clear, this is a valuable addition to the scholarship on Black Power."

Reviewer (C)

"His manuscript, 'In Love and Struggle: James and Grace Lee Boggs, Black Power, and the Next American Revolution,' is at the heart and soul of Ward's major project. This is essentially volume 1 of a two-volume work on the Boggs's life and work, covering up to 1969. I cannot stress enough the utter importance of this work to American political and intellectual history, the burgeoning field of Black Power Studies, Ethnic Studies, as well as histories of radical thought and social movements."

Reviewer (D)

"There is much to admire in the book [*In Love and Struggle*]: a steady, even-handed biographical impulse; an intriguing and original three-part schematic for thinking about tendencies in the Black Freedom Struggle; a diligent and copious attention to the archives; a conscientious and fairly scrupulous use of sources. A particular strength of the book is Ward's rendering of James Boggs's gradual emergence from shop floor worker to revolutionary theorist. This narrative is unknown to scholars, and provides a compelling blueprint for other researchers into the relationship of unions and industrial labor to the Civil Rights and Black Power movements."

Reviewer (E)

"The chapter on the Third World Women's Alliance...finds Professor Ward making a signal contribution to historical scholarship. ... This is the kind of contribution not made often enough by male scholars and an impressive piece of work... I will be advising graduate students to consult this essay in the future."

Reviewer (F)

"Ward's forthcoming monograph on the Boggs, *In Love and Struggle*, is a book I am looking forward to assigning in class. While either Boggs [sic] could have merited a book in themselves (and an individual biography would be an easier undertaking), I was impressed that Prof. Ward focused on the two of them. This gives us an understanding of the rather remarkable intellectual and strategic partnership of Grace and James Boggs – and in doing so, offers a model of studying political couples rather than relegating wives to the margins."

Reviewer (G)

"...Professor Ward has effectively mined a wealth of direct evidence at his disposal and opened the door on an important subject in black urban political history and culture."

Summary of Recommendation:

Professor Ward is a valuable scholar, teacher, mentor, and university citizen with a particularly strong commitment to the unity of scholarship and pedagogy in Detroit and the region. The Executive Committee of the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts and I recommend that Assistant Professor Stephen M. Ward be promoted to the rank of associate professor of Afroamerican and African studies, with tenure, and associate professor in the Residential College, without tenure, in the 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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