

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

Dean C. Yang, assistant professor of economics, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts, is recommended for promotion to associate professor of economics, without tenure, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts [also associate professor of public policy, with tenure, Gerald R. Ford School of Public Policy].

Academic Degrees:

Ph.D.	2003	Harvard University
B.A.	1995	Harvard University

Professional Record:

2009 – present	Associate Professor, Gerald R. Ford School of Public Policy, University of Michigan
2006 - 2007	Visiting Assistant Professor and Visiting Research Scholar, Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs, Princeton University
2003 – present	Assistant Professor, Department of Economics, University of Michigan
2003 – 2009	Assistant Professor, Gerald R. Ford School of Public Policy, University of Michigan

Summary of Evaluation:

Teaching – Professor Yang is an excellent instructor who is advising a number of economics doctoral students. He has taught the economics development sequence to very strong reviews.

Research – Professor Yang is an applied micro economist who focuses on important issues in international development. His research spans a variety of topics, but all are focused on how conditions and policies affect firms and households in developing countries. Recently he has been involved in randomized experiments in several countries. These experiments are designed to study issues such as savings and micro-finance in Malawi and the use of innovative financial instruments among international migrants from El Salvador and other countries. Professor Yang has involved many graduate students in these field experiments. His papers have appeared in or been accepted by many of the top general-interest and field journals of economics, and an award-winning paper was featured in the “9<sup>th</sup> Annual Year in Ideas,” *New York Times Magazine* (December 13, 2009).

Recent and Significant Publications:

- “Exporting and firm performance: Chinese exporters and the Asian financial crisis,” with A. Park, et al., *Review of Economics and Statistics*, 92(4), 2010, pp. 822-842.
- “Under the weather: Health, schooling, and economic consequences of early-life rainfall,” with S. Maccini, *American Economic Review*, 99(2), 2009, pp. 1006-1026 (awarded Best Article on the Economics of Food Safety or Nutrition, Food Safety and Nutrition Section, Agricultural and Applied Economics Association).
- “Coping with disaster: The impact of hurricanes on international financial flows, 1970-2002,” *B. E. Journal of Economic Analysis and Policy*, 8(1), Advances – Article 13, 2008.

“Integrity for hire: An analysis of a widespread customs reform,” *Journal of Law and Economics*, 51(1), 2008, pp. 25-57.

Service – Professor Yang has exceeded any reasonable expectation for service in the Department of Economics. He has frequently contributed to recruitment efforts and has played a major role in coordinating the EDTS series which is co-sponsored by the International Policy Center at the Gerald R. Ford School of Public Policy, the Ross School of Business, and the Department of Economics. He also is an active participant in the informal development lunch.

External Reviews:

Reviewer (A)

“Dr. Yang’s publications since arriving at the University of Michigan in 2003 are both numerous and of very high quality. He already has had five publications in top general economics journals... ..he has published three chapters in books and on[e] book review in the *Journal of Economic Literature*. This is an outstanding publication record...”

Reviewer (B)

“Yang has proven to be a consistent, productive and insightful scholar, with a strong focus on the study of remittances and insurance in developing countries. He is strikingly more focused than many development economists, and this has worked to his advantage, as he has built a strong reputation particularly on issues both in economics and policy on remittances.”

Reviewer (C)

“...Dean is doing very exciting work that speaks directly to important policy issues in international development. ... He has a strong set of both applied econometrics and theory skills. ... Dean has put together a remarkably coherent and productive research agenda, tied together by an empirical focus on how individuals and households respond to economic shocks in less developed countries. ... The range of new grants, research proposals...and working papers on his CV indicates that his trajectory will continue to be upwards.”

Reviewer (D)

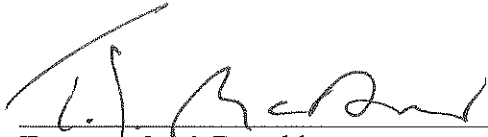
“I am enthusiastic about Dean’s research agenda, especially his work on migration and remittances. While Dean’s most ambitious work in this area is still in the fieldwork stage, his track record makes me believe that his current research agenda will lead to important research papers...”

Reviewer (E)

“...I think Dean’s work on migrants and credit markets is important, careful, and innovative, focuses on fundamental questions and also speaks to both big policy questions – what is holding back development? – and policy projection questions – what practical things can be done to help? ...Dean’s portfolio of articles...is large and distributed among top field and rigorous journals and in my mind the reputation of the journals understates the value of the work.”

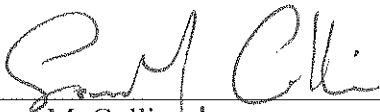
Summary of Recommendation:

Professor Yang is doing high quality economics research and making important contributions to the intellectual life of the department. His contributions in teaching, advising, seminar participation, and service are substantial. The Executive Committee of the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts and I recommend that Assistant Professor Dean C. Yang be promoted to the rank of associate professor of economics, without tenure, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts.



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



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Susan M. Collins  
Joan and Sanford Weill Dean,  
Gerald R. Ford School of Public Policy

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