

Promotion Recommendation
The University of Michigan
School of Music, Theatre & Dance

Rodney C. Dorsey, assistant professor of music, School of Music, Theatre & Dance, is recommended for promotion to associate professor of music, with tenure, School of Music, Theatre & Dance.

Academic Degrees:

D.M. (Conducting)	2006	Northwestern University
M.M. (Conducting)	1992	Northwestern University
B.M. (Music Education)	1988	Florida State University

Professional Record:

2006 – present	Assistant Professor of Music and Associate Director of University Bands, University of Michigan
2000 – 2006	Assistant Professor of Music, DePaul University School of Music
1997 – 2000	Director of Athletic Bands, Northwestern University School of Music
1993 – 1997	Director of Bands, George Jenkins High School, Lakeland, FL
1992 – 1993	Director of Bands, Forest Park High School, Forest Park, GA
1991 – 1992	Graduate Conducting Assistant, Northwestern University School of Music
1988 – 1991	Director of Bands, James S. Rickards High School, Tallahassee, FL

Summary of Evaluation:

Teaching: Professor Dorsey has considerable breadth of teaching experience, including concert bands, athletic bands, jazz ensembles, and advanced-placement music theory. Many of these activities have included work at both the high school and collegiate levels. He is an effective and efficient rehearsal technician who garners results by being encouraging rather than authoritative. Students respect his warm personality, high artistic standards, and supportive nature. Professor Dorsey's ability to build an exceptional and cohesive musical ensemble in a short amount of time is also admirable. He is a valuable teacher who provides our students with the tools they need to advance their musicianship and ensemble playing.

Professional Activities: Professor Dorsey's numerous engagements as a clinician and guest conductor (for all-state bands, honors bands, clinics and adjudication seminars) continue to expand. Some of the most notable accomplishments are his guest conducting engagements with the Kentucky All-State Band, the University of Alabama Honors Band, and the Florida 9–10 All-State Band. He is clearly building a robust national reputation within the university band director community. Professor Dorsey has also served as a clinician for the National Concert Band Festival, the Michigan Music Conference, and on more than one occasion, the Midwest

Band and Orchestra Clinic in Chicago. Within the Department of Conducting, he has performed admirably with the Concert Band and the Michigan Youth Band. His rehearsals are energetic, focused, efficient, and deeply musical. His concerts are clean, elegant, and confident. Professor Dorsey has made measurable and significant contributions to the musical world at large.

Service: Professor Dorsey's service contributions to his department and the School are valuable and appropriate, and they continue to broaden. He has served on several faculty search committees, he was a member of the School's Council of Departmental Representatives (the undergraduate curriculum committee), and is a member of the School's Scholarship Committee. In 2011, he assumed the role as doctoral advisor for the Conducting Department, and in that capacity he serves on the Faculty Council on Graduate Studies. His service to the University also includes a three-year term as an elected member of the Faculty Senate. Professor Dorsey's contributions to the profession are also admirable. He actively participates in the Midwest Clinic (this renowned organization's fundamental purpose is to raise the standards of music education for teachers), and is an active member of the College Band Directors National Association: Gender and Ethnic Issues Committee.

External Reviewers:

Reviewer A: "The admirable reputation enjoyed by the University of Michigan among Schools of Music, and specifically the unique tradition for excellence in the Michigan Band Program are well known. I am impressed by the organization of the syllabus and supporting materials. Also notable is the instructor's student evaluation record in this course; clearly, students feel well-served and universal in their support of Dr. Dorsey's teaching style. There is no question that Rodney's service to his profession, his university, and his school is exceptional."

Reviewer B: "Professor Dorsey is a fine musician and ranks among the top musicians in his field nationally. His supporting recordings and documents prove the top level abilities of his teaching and conducting. His scholarship is clear and is representative of the finest work I have observed for people in his field. His thoughtful approach to music making and the study of music is a model for all to emulate. He is a selfless and attentive colleague."

Reviewer C: "Dr. Dorsey's creative work, as a performer, is notable. His contributions to the field and to your school as a clinician and adjudicator are highly laudable. Through his efforts, Dr. Dorsey is helping ensure that the School's distinguished record as one of the premiere places to train as a teacher is maintained. I am happy to report that I find Dr. Dorsey's work to be of high quality and well in-line with the best work being done by his peers at comparable university music schools throughout the United States."

Reviewer D: "Dr. Dorsey's influence as a musician and as a conductor extends well beyond the state of Michigan. I have no doubt that Professor Dorsey will continue to positively influence the future of the wind band repertoire. I believe that Rodney Dorsey possesses the talent, the motivation, the vision, the commitment, and the excellent track record of creative activity, teaching and service that would merit serious consideration by the University of Michigan of his promotion to the rank of associate professor with tenure. I have no doubt that he will continue to represent the University of Michigan with distinction and will continue to contribute meaningfully to the profession for many years to come."

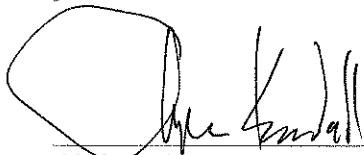
Reviewer E: “Rodney has established himself as a leader in our field, and I’m sure that his career will continue to grow and have a considerable influence on our craft. Rodney Dorsey is a caring, nurturing teacher with a musical sense that is at a par with the finest conductors in our field. He has an intensity, a willingness to learn and develop, a strong inner desire to succeed, a dedication, and a sense of purpose.”

Reviewer F: “Professor Dorsey’s student evaluations reveal that he is consistently and highly regarded as an effective, inspirational teacher. All evidence suggests to me a highly productive and genuine faculty member who has continued promise as a national leader in the band field.”

Reviewer G: “Professor Dorsey’s creative activities are very consistent with the best individuals in the US at his career position. His conducting technique is polished and athletic. I would consider myself quite fortunate as Director of Bands to have Dr. Dorsey on my staff serving in the same capacity he does for you.”

Internal Reviewers: Valuable, wonderful colleague, very perceptive and sensitive in working with students and faculty. Approachable colleague who is always eager to be of assistance. Enthusiastic and warm-hearted person who embraces an obvious love of the profession and the institution.

Summary of Recommendation: Professor Dorsey is a talented, conscientious, and respected teacher. He provides valuable experience and the skills that will be required for students to continue their musical careers. He represents the University of Michigan with distinction at professional engagements and will continue to contribute substantially to the profession for years to come. It is with enthusiasm and the unanimous support of the School of Music, Theatre & Dance Executive Committee that I recommend Rodney C. Dorsey for promotion to associate professor of music, with tenure, School of Music, Theatre & Dance.



Christopher W. Kendall
Paul Boylan Collegiate Professor of Music,
and Dean, School of Music, Theatre & Dance

May 2012