

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

Scott T. Kurashige, associate professor of American culture, with tenure, and associate professor of history, without tenure, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts, is recommended for promotion to professor of American culture, with tenure, and professor of history, without tenure, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts.

Academic Degrees:

Ph.D.	2000	University of California, Los Angeles
M.A.	1996	University of California, Los Angeles
B.A.	1990	University of Pennsylvania.

Professional Record:

2010	Visiting Professor, Shanghai Jiao Ton University Joint Institute
2008 – 2009	Fellow and Visiting Scholar, Charles Warren Center for Studies in American History, Harvard University
2006 – present	Associate Professor, Program in American Culture and Department of History, University of Michigan
2000 – 2006	Assistant Professor, Program in American Culture and Department of History, University of Michigan

Summary of Evaluation:

Teaching – Professor Kurashige has been a valuable curricular colleague on issues of transnational and world history. He has consistently taught a variety of undergraduate courses, many of which were cross-listed between History and American Culture. His graduate courses include a methodology class and special-topics courses. He brings strong public-scholarship and community-service-learning dimensions to the classroom. His teaching evaluations and enrollments are strong overall. Professor Kurashige has worked with seven graduate students, serving as dissertation chair in one case. He has supervised ten additional students in other capacities; for example, as first year advisor and as teaching mentor to his graduate student instructors.

Research – Professor Kurashige is a distinguished urban historian and historian of race who has produced widely influential work. His first book, Shifting Grounds, has achieved significant national and international impact, including receipt of the Alfred J. Beveridge Award. In his next work, The Next American Revolution (with G. L. Boggs), he engages in innovative community scholarship. He recently published four articles that build on or resonate with Shifting Grounds, and he is currently working on a promising book project that compares the experiences of Asian Americans and African Americans in Los Angeles, Philadelphia, and Detroit. Finally, he has advanced an urgent effort to collect Japanese American oral histories for a book on their experiences in post-war Detroit.

Recent and Significant Publications:

The Next American Revolution: Sustainable Activism for the Twenty-First Century, co-authored with G. L. Boggs, University of California Press, 2011.

The Shifting Grounds of Race: Black and Japanese Americans in the Making of Multiethnic Los Angeles, Princeton University Press, “Politics and Society in Twentieth-Century America” series, W. Chafe, et al. (eds.), 2008.

“Between ‘white spot’ and the ‘world city’: Racial integration and the roots of multicultural Los Angeles,” in *A Companion to Los Angeles History*, W. Devereell and G. Hise (eds.), Blackwell, 2010, pp. 56-71.

“Organizing from the margins: Japanese American communists in Los Angeles during the great depression,” in *Race Struggles*, S. Cha-Jua, et al. (eds.), University of Illinois Press, 2009, pp. 205-224.

Service – Professor Kurashige routinely shoulders tasks in the service of the university. Most notably, he has directed the Asian/Pacific Islander American studies program for two years, and he served on important committees in his departments. He has assisted and advised other units on matters pertaining to his expertise.

External Reviews:

Reviewer (A)

“Kurashige is highly respected and widely known in the field of Asian American studies as an historian of urban racialized communities... In his valuable introduction to his co-authored book with Boggs Kurashige provides the sophisticated historical framing that both the lay and the academic need to situate Boggs’ work. ...[his] scholarly work on Detroit’s urban history with Boggs and individually will allow him to reach a new and a very wide audience...”

Reviewer (B)

“In my estimation, Scott Kurashige is one of the most important 20th c. political historians working in the field of Asian American history. ...the impact of his scholarship has been felt beyond Asian American studies circles, and is equally well received among 20th c. U.S. political historians as well as urban historians. I have no doubts that his future scholarship on Asian Americans and urban politics will also be of paramount importance in these fields of U.S. history as well as Asian American history.”

Reviewer (C)

“...Professor Scott Kurashige has established himself as one of a very few scholars in Asian American and Ethnic Studies who deliberately focuses on progressive political activists in the Asian American community. ... As the critical acclaim for his books indicate, his scholarship is very clearly focused, very well researched, multidisciplinary, and effectively contextualized within the larger currents of U.S. history. ...Kurashige has generated both the quality and quantity of publications that qualify him for promotion to full professor.”

Reviewer (D)

“...I write to you...with full support for his promotion to full professor. ... We have on our hands a very competent historian who has already written an excellent book, and has curated another remarkable book. His projects in hand sound superb, and [they are] within his abilities. Scott is such a determined and dedicated thinker, that I expect to see all these completed in due course and more on the way.”

Reviewer (E)

“...Prof. Kurashige’s visibility at the national and international levels has expanded astronomically since the publication of [The Shifting Grounds of Race]... I have the highest possible regard for his scholarship, and cannot imagine a more promising colleague than him.”

Reviewer (F)

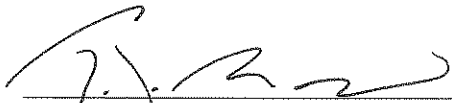
“...his teaching chronicle demonstrates his rigor in the classroom and his commitment to connecting teaching and citizenship. In this respect, he adds considerably to your university’s commitment to engaging students with Detroit and the larger society. ...Kurashige has emerged as an important figure in Asian American studies, but he is also well known beyond that subfield. ...he has been recognized with prestigious awards and postdoctoral fellowships, and deservedly so. I have no doubt that he will continue to be a productive, visible and important scholar.”

Reviewer (G)

“...Kurashige’s two books have clearly established his national reputation as a leading historian of race and ethnicity in the United States... ..his productivity is nothing less than stunning. His research agenda is cutting-edge, his writing is first-rate, and he consistently produces scholarship that help[s] us rethink both standard narratives in American history as well as standard ways of *doing* history.”

Summary of Recommendation:

Professor Kurashige is an established leader in his field. His contribution to the teaching and service missions of the college has been substantial. The Executive Committee of the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts and I recommend that Associate Professor Scott T. Kurashige be promoted to the rank of professor of American culture, with tenure, and professor of history, 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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