

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

Christopher John Ratté, associate professor of classical studies, with tenure, and associate professor of the history of art, with tenure, College of Literature, Science, and Arts, is recommended for promotion to professor of classical studies, with tenure, and professor of the history of art, with tenure, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts.

Academic Degrees:

Ph.D.	1989	University of California, Berkeley
M.A.	1984	University of California, Berkeley
A.B.	1981	Harvard University

Professional Record:

2010 – present	Associate Professor, Department of the History of Art, University of Michigan
2010 – 2011	Associate Research Scientist, Museum of Anthropology, University of Michigan
2006 – present	Associate Professor, Department of Classical Studies, University of Michigan
1996 – 2006	Associate Professor, Department of Classics, Institute of Fine Arts, New York University
1993 – 1996	Assistant Professor, Department of Classics, Institute of Fine Arts, New York University
1989 – 1993	Assistant Professor, Department of Classics, Florida State University

Summary of Evaluation:

Teaching – Professor Ratté teaches a broad range of classes that range in date and topic from early Greek to Late Antique Roman and in size from small undergraduate and graduate seminars to large introductory courses. Professor Ratté is committed to expanding and improving his teaching. His courses are popular with students and their evaluations give him top scores. He is also chairing four dissertation committees.

Research – Professor Ratté has achieved international prominence in the field of classical archaeology on the strength of almost three decades of fieldwork and publication. His expertise is very broad and interdisciplinary, spanning the archaeology and history of many different periods and regions of the Eastern Mediterranean Sea and the Black Sea. Professor Ratté has maintained a steady rhythm of publication over his career. In the last five years he has published a monograph entitled Lydian Architecture, which consists of a meticulously detailed survey of the materials, construction techniques, and decoration of fifteen tombs and a number of terraced walls which have been found in and around Sardis. He also co-edited a major excavation report and two additional books, and published seven articles and two encyclopedia entries.

Recent and Significant Publications:

Aphrodisias Regional Survey, co-edited with P. D. De Staebler, Mainz, forthcoming 2012.

Lydian Architecture, Harvard/Cornell Sardis Expedition, Cambridge, MA, 2011.
Archaeology and the Cities of Asia Minor in Late Antiquity, co-edited with O. Dally, Kelsey Museum Publications, 6, 2011.
“Aphrodisias Papers 4,” co-edited with R. R. R. Smith, *Journal of Roman Archaeology Supplement Series*, 70, 2008.

Service – Professor Ratté has served on committees in Classics and the History of Art. He is director of the Interdepartmental Program in Classical Art and Archaeology, a highly ranked graduate program shared by the Departments of Classical Studies and History of Art. He contributes to the running of the Kelsey Museum and is president of the local chapter of the Archaeological Institute of America. He also serves on committees for the American School of Classical Studies in Athens, Greece.

External Reviews:

Reviewer (A)

“...Ratté’s contribution as an organizer of archaeological scholarship can hardly be overestimated...his archaeological projects in the field as well as the publications which he supervises as editor enable other scholars to be active in research and to make their results known in appropriate contexts...he introduces students into research in the most direct way.”

Reviewer (B)

“I have no doubt that Chris would be promoted to the rank of full professor at my own institution... He is well known as a terrific teacher, a superb scholar, and a dedicated mentor. I would say, without hesitation, that hiring Chris allowed Michigan to strengthen an already thriving program in Old World archaeology...”

Reviewer (C)

“Ratté’s achievements, both as a publishing scholar and as a project administrator (and facilitator for others) have built for him a strong international reputation; he has also developed strong connections in Turkey, Greece, and Germany. His success in securing grants, especially from the National Endowment for the Humanities and the Alexander von Humboldt Foundation, is especially important and demonstrates the high regard in which he is held in the broader field of classical studies.”

Reviewer (D)

“In evaluating this contribution [the field operation at Aphrodisias] it is essential to appreciate that R[at]té has not simply been a researcher working on a theme of interest to him, but the director of a complex and demanding field programme, which has been successfully sustained over nearly fifteen years. That is a considerable achievement in its own right.”

Reviewer (E)

“...Christopher Ratté has maintained the kind of active field career, accompanied by scholarly publications and conferences, that marks a successful and mature archaeologist, as well as the kind of mentor who supervises students in the field and towards their degrees. All of this makes him more than fully qualified for the rank of Full Professor at the University of Michigan.”

Reviewer (F)

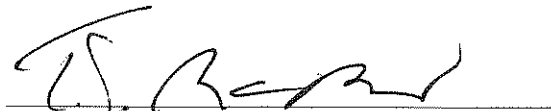
“Professor Ratté is an example of best practice of the new generation of American scholars in Anatolia. Turkey is a big place with a long tradition in archaeological research by teams of many different nationalities. ... Against this background, professor [sic] Ratté has shown a consistent interest in targeting a meticulous methodological framework for fieldwork in both excavation and survey to wider types of research questions...”

Reviewer (G)

“Chris Ratté is certainly among the most talented and active Classical archaeologists of his generation ... He is well known and respected world-wide, particularly in Germany, where he spent two Humboldt years and with whose scholars he remains in close contact. He is a generous and wide-ranging scholar, and a credit to Michigan’s excellent program, and I fully endorse his promotion to professor with tenure.”

Summary of Recommendation:

Professor Ratté is a recognized authority on the archaeology and architecture of ancient Anatolia. He is an excellent teacher and mentor to students and provides needed service to the department and the university. The Executive Committee of the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts and I recommend that Associate Professor Christopher John Ratté be promoted to the rank of professor of classical studies, with tenure, and professor of the history of art, with 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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