

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

Daniel H. Weissman, assistant professor of psychology, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts, is recommended for promotion to associate professor of psychology, with tenure, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts.

Academic Degrees:

Ph.D.	1999	University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign
M.A.	1997	University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign
B.S.	1991	University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign

Professional Record:

2006 – present	Assistant Professor, Department of Psychology, University of Michigan
2004 – 2006	Assistant Research Professor, Duke University
1999 – 2004	Post-doctoral Fellow, Duke University

Summary of Evaluation:

Teaching – Professor Weissman has developed into an excellent teacher. Over the last five years, he has taught a large undergraduate course, a graduate seminar, and a graduate methods course that he developed when he first arrived at Michigan. This course provides a deep understanding of the methods used to analyze various types of functional imaging data. It is a tough course that is well attended and respected by graduate students. This undergraduate course is important for the neuroscience and brain, behavior, and cognitive science concentrations. Undergraduates have a particularly high opinion of Professor Weissman as a research mentor and teacher. Graduate students also report that he provides consistent and strong mentorship which has helped them produce excellent dissertations and multiple publications.

Research – Professor Weissman has achieved an excellent reputation for interdisciplinary research that addresses questions about the cognitive behavioral mechanisms involved in avoiding distraction, having stimuli capture attention, and the consequences of attentional lapses on performance. He has published or has in press 38 papers. All but one include student co-authors as first authors. Professor Weissman currently holds three grants. Two support his work on momentary lapses of attention. The third is a pilot grant from Michigan's Geriatrics Center to support work on GABA depletion with age.

Recent and Significant Publications:

“Heightened interactions between a key default-mode region and a key task-positive region are linked to suboptimal current performance but to enhanced future performance,” with J. Prado, *NeuroImage*, 56, 2011, pp. 2276-2282.

“Involuntary transfer of a top-down attentional set into the focus of attention: Evidence from a contingent attentional capture paradigm,” with K. S. Moore, *Attention, Perception, and Psychophysics*, 72, 2010, pp. 1495-1509.

“Attentional lapses permit greater processing of irrelevant stimuli,” with L. M. Warner and M. G. Woldorff, *NeuroImage*, 48, 2009, pp. 609-615.

“The neural bases of momentary lapses in attention,” with K. C. Roberts, et al., *Nature Neuroscience*, 9, 2006, pp. 971-978.

Service – Professor Weissman has participated in important committees in the department. He also developed his own efforts with a cross-disciplinary journal club. He has reviewed manuscripts and grant proposals for societies, journals, and granting agencies.

External Reviews:

Reviewer (A)

“...Dr. Weissman has built a programmatic body of work that required an in-depth knowledge of a wide domain of theoretical and methodological approaches. He has embraced a truly cross-disciplinary approach...”

Reviewer (B)

“Dr. Weissman’s work is characterized by rigorous neuroimaging experiments that test hypotheses drawn from a careful reading of the psychological literature. ...[he] moves easily between the domains of neuroimaging and behavioral research, and he has published in high quality journals... When comparing Dr. Weissman’s work with others in his peer group, I would highlight his research on attention lapses as among the best and more influential in the last five years...”

Reviewer (C)

“Weissman’s laboratory at Michigan has produced a fine record of research accomplishments in recent years, and he has trained a large number of students in the process. ...his work brings in evidence from a variety of methods for measuring neural function and cognitive function, and thus includes a broad perspective on relating the two.”

Reviewer (D)

“Dr. Weissman works on a set of problems that are fundamental to a broader understanding of human cognition: why is attention limited, and how is it controlled. ...Weissman has shown a knack for finding interesting phenomena and/or controversies in the literature, and addressing these with empirical contributions from cleverly, carefully designed studies.”

Reviewer (E)

“Dr. Weissman is respected among his peers as an independent and influential researcher – in fact I simply assumed that he was already an associate professor, based on his apparent seniority as an independent researcher in the field. His work is well received and cited, and he is working his way towards the elite in his field.”

Reviewer (F)

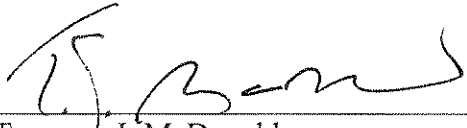
“His research using functional magnetic resonance imaging (fMRI) has been and continues to be amongst the most elegantly designed to address very important questions regarding the psychological nature and neural mechanisms of attention, distraction, and cognitive control. ...[his] work has already made a substantial impact on the field.”

Reviewer (G)

“Overall, Dr. Weissman has produced a steady flow of research productivity that is of high quality and represents important contributions to cognitive neuroscience. His work is being frequently cited and appears to be having an impact. The recent work has demonstrated productivity that is independent of his former mentors and represents a very good trajectory.”

Summary of Recommendation:

Professor Weissman’s research, teaching and service are of the highest caliber. The Executive Committee of the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts and I recommend that Assistant Professor Daniel H. Weissman be promoted to the rank of associate professor of psychology, with tenure, in the 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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