

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

Robin S. Edelstein, 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. 2005 University of California, Davis
B.A. 1997 University of California, Berkeley

Professional Record:

2007 – present Assistant Professor, Department of Psychology, University of Michigan
2005 – 2007 National Institute of Mental Health Post-doctoral Fellow, Department of Psychology and Social Behavior, University of California, Irvine

Summary of Evaluation:

Teaching – Professor Edelstein is an excellent teacher and mentor. She has taught a large undergraduate introductory lecture course, an upper level undergraduate seminar, and two graduate seminars. Students give her good ratings on the 200-level course and excellent ratings on the seminars. They also comment on her ability to help them develop a rigorous, scientific, critical perspective to evaluate their everyday relationships. Professor Edelstein is a highly effective mentor of students at all levels. She has published important papers with her students, presented their work at major conferences, and they have won competitive awards and fellowships.

Research – Professor Edelstein has carried out rigorous interdisciplinary research that has challenged and extended current knowledge on theories of memory, emotion, and attachment. Both the research productivity and the impact of her work have been excellent. She has published 26 peer-reviewed papers (seventeen since coming to Michigan) in the top journals in her field and six book chapters.

Recent and Significant Publications:

“From the cradle to the grave: Age differences in attachment from early adulthood to old age,” with W. J. Chopik and R. C. Fraley, *Journal of Personality*, in press.
“Endogenous estradiol levels are associated with attachment avoidance and implicit intimacy motivation,” with S. J. Stanton, et al., *Hormones and Behavior*, 57, 2010, pp. 230-236.
“Narcissism predicts cortisol reactivity to a psychosocial stressor in men,” with I. S. Yim and J. A. Quas, *Journal of Research in Personality*, 44, 2010, pp. 565-572.
“Avoiding interference: Adult attachment and emotional processing biases,” with O. Gillath, *Personality and Social Psychology Bulletin*, 34, 2008, pp. 171-181.

Service – Professor Edelstein’s service record is excellent. She has been a valuable member of important departmental and area committees. Nationally, she has reviewed manuscripts for many of the important journals in her field and served on editorial boards or as a consulting

editor to four of the top journals. Professor Edelstein was a co-organizer of two pre-conferences at the Society of Personality and Social Psychology Meetings, which is the largest national conference in her field. She is also a grant reviewer for the National Science Foundation.

External Reviewers:

Reviewer (A)

“...she is clearly a talented and productive scholar [in her cohort], doing interesting and important work in her field. ...I would give her a positive vote on the basis of her current accomplishments and the promise that I see in her future work. I predict that her visibility and status in the field will continue on an upward trajectory.”

Reviewer (B)

“The process of examining a topic from several angles is certainly not the most efficient (in terms of turning out a large number of publications) but it is highly informative in establishing the generalizability of a phenomenon and shedding light the mechanisms likely to be driving it. For this reason, I would rate Dr. Edelstein strongly in any comparison with other researchers at her stage, placing her in the top tier of researchers at the senior Assistant Professor level.”

Reviewer (C)

“There is no question after reading her research statement and several papers that Edelstein is truly a cross-disciplinary researcher. She is deeply rooted in social, personality, developmental, and psychophysiology, and her knowledge does not seem to be superficial in these areas, but instead quite deep and integrated.”

Reviewer (D)

“Let me note, immediately, that my opinion of Dr. Edelstein’s accomplishments is extremely high. She is an extremely creative scholar by any standard, and is clearly an outstanding researcher in the fields of adult attachment, emotion, and memory, and the linkage between personality and hormonal responses.”

Reviewer (E)

“On the basis of the number and quality of her publications, Dr. Edelstein compares very favorably to the best scholars in her discipline. She has a solid history of publishing in excellent outlets and she has actively sought grant support for her research. She is also active on editorial boards and she has been an invited speaker at outside universities and conferences, signs of the respect her research program has gathered. Indeed, many of her publications appear in the top journals in social and personality psychology.”

Reviewer (F)

“One particular strength of Dr. Edelstein’s empirical work is that it incorporates multiple measures, including assessments of cognitive, emotional, and biological processes, as well as the use of multiple methods (e.g., experiments, field studies, and longitudinal research). The use of these multiple methods has allowed her to test theoretical ideas in different ways, thereby providing converging and complementary evidence. It also is a strength that her work cuts across social, personality, clinical, and developmental psychology and neuroendocrinology, allowing her work to have a broader impact across different areas and disciplines.”

Reviewer (G)

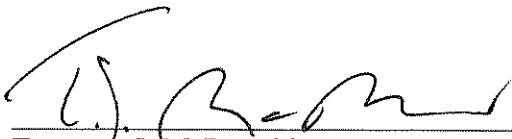
“Robin’s knowledge of multiple domains of psychology...is impressive. She is a model scientist for the next generation of researchers, all of whom must be able to communicate across subfields and utilize information from multiple disciplines...to pursue translational research. ...she is an independent scholar, who is developing and testing her own unique ideas. Her research is changing our conceptual understanding of the complex ways in which personality and emotion relate to each other and influence cognitive processes. ... She has a very solid case...”

Reviewer (H)

“Robin's research is a model for how transformative, interdisciplinary research can be done in psychological science. She doesn't allow traditional disciplinary boundaries to serve as obstacles. When she sees valuable connections between ideas, methods, and theories in various areas, she finds ways to make those connections in her research. What is most impressive is that many of these interdisciplinary projects came as genuinely new projects after she landed her job as an assistant professor. She is a role model for young scholars who want to investigate certain issues that fall outside the bounds of their original graduate training.”

Summary of Recommendation:

Professor Edelstein’s research, teaching, and service have made a positive and significant impact in her department and in her discipline. The Executive Committee of the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts and I recommend that Assistant Professor Robin S. Edelstein be promoted to the rank of associate professor of psychology, with tenure, 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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