PROMOTION RECOMMENDATION
UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
MEDICAL SCHOOL
DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHIATRY

Kara Zivin, Ph.D., assistant professor of psychiatry, Department of Psychiatry, Medical School, is recommended for promotion as associate professor of psychiatry, with tenure, Department of Psychiatry, Medical School.

Academic Degrees:

Ph.D.	2004	Harvard University
M.S.	2002	Harvard School of Public Health
M.A.	1998	Johns Hopkins University
B.A.	1997	Johns Hopkins University

Professional Record:

2006-present	Assistant Professor of Psychiatry, University of Michigan

Summary of Evaluation:

Teaching: Dr. Zivin is the associate director of the National Institute of Mental Health T32 Geriatric Mental Health Services Research Fellowship. The program is one of four sites nationwide. Over the past several years she has served as a mentor for T32 post-doctoral fellows as well as those from the VA Advanced Research Fellowship Program, a competitive training grant program based at the National Serious Mental Illness Treatment Resource and Evaluation Center (SMITREC), Ann Arbor VA. Dr. Zivin is the associate director for Research Training in the Geriatric Psychiatry Section. She works closely with clinical fellows, who often have minimal research experience, in their psychology or psychiatry training programs. She teaches and mentors fellows in developing their research and methodological skills and assists with their overall career development, including publishing multiple peer-reviewed papers. She provides presentations to faculty and trainees in the department to explain goals and methods of health services research and to increase opportunities for collaboration.

Research: Dr. Zivin's research focuses on vulnerable populations, specifically older adults and veterans. Her primary interest is in generating research to improve the health and well-being of depressed individuals. She has developed scholarship in the study of detection, treatment, and outcomes for depressed patients, focused substantively on both mortality and employment, and methods to longitudinally assess depression status, treatment adherence, and cost effectiveness of care using large clinical, epidemiological, and population-based studies. This research is clinically applied and targets the identification of risk factors for depression as well as policy-relevant methods to improve care. She is the principal investigator on a career development award, Level 2, "VA depression treatments: practice, policy, and cost effectiveness." She is the principal investigator on a VA Merit Award, "Risk of death among Veterans with depression." Dr. Zivin has published over 80 peer-reviewed papers (30 as first author and over 10 as senior

author). Many of these papers involved collaborations with junior faculty or post-doctoral mentees. She has received funding as the principal investigator on two multi-year VA grants in addition to local and pilot grant funding. She is a co-investigator on NIH and VA funded grants. She has provided testimony before the United States Congress regarding findings from suicide research among depressed veterans. She published one of the first assessments of the impact of depression on productivity among patients treated in the University of Michigan Department of Psychiatry. She has also conducted and published additional assessments documenting substantial unemployment among working-aged depressed Veterans in advance of new presidential initiatives to support employment needs of returning Veterans. Dr. Zivin's collaborations provided evidence supporting the need for, and limited use of psychotherapy for depressed Veterans prior to a major VA initiative designed to provide additional training and staff for these services. Dr. Zivin's award-winning research has documented unmet needs for access to prescription medications even after the initiation of the Medicare Part D prescription drug benefit among depressed disabled and older adults.

Recent and Significant Publications:

Zivin K, Kim HM, McCarthy JF, Austin KL, Hoggatt KJ, Walters HM, Valenstein M: Suicide mortality among individuals receiving treatment for depression in the VA health system: associations with patient and treatment setting characteristics. *American Journal of Public Health* 97:2193-2198, 2007.

Zivin K, Madden JM, Graves AJ, Zhang F, Soumerai SB: Cost-related medication nonadherence among beneficiaries with depression following Medicare Part D. *American Journal of Geriatric Psychiatry* 17:1068-1076, 2009.

Zivin K, Pfeiffer PN, Szymanski BR, Valenstein M, Post EP, Miller EM, McCarthy JF: Initiation of primary care–mental health integration programs in the VA health system: associations with psychiatric diagnoses in primary care. *Medical Care* 48:843-851, 2010.

Burnett-Zeigler I, Zivin K, Ilgen MA, Szymanski BR, Kales HC, Blow FC: Depression treatment in older adult Veterans. *American Journal of Geriatric Psychiatry* 20:228-238, 2012.

Pfeiffer PN, Szymanski BR, Valenstein M, McCarthy JF, Zivin K: Trends in antidepressant prescribing for new episodes of depression and implications for health system quality measures. *Medical Care* 50:86-90, 2012.

Service: Dr. Zivin is an investigator in the Serious Mental Illness Treatment Resource and Evaluation Center (SMITREC) with a major role in shaping the national evaluation of the VA mental health care system. She has been actively involved in the current evaluation of VA initiatives to integrate mental health treatment into primary care for depressed Veterans. This ongoing evaluation project is the largest study ever undertaken of patient- and system-related factors associated with collaborative care for depression in the United States or worldwide. This work involves data-based research, publishing and dissemination of findings, and shaping VA policies on depression treatment. She works closely with national VA leaders, including the national implementation and national evaluation directors. In addition, she has engaged in local

service as the associate director for Research Training in the Geriatric Psychiatry Section, Department of Psychiatry as well as national service, including leadership roles in the American Association of Geriatric Psychiatry and the Health Policy and Statistics Section of the American Statistical Association. In those leadership roles, as well as for the behavioral health section of Academy Health, she has been a frequent conference abstract reviewer. She is a peer-reviewer for scientific journals and participates in grant reviews. Dr. Zivin was the recipient of the "Michigan Road Scholar" from the Office of the Provost in 2010. She received the Barry Lebowitz Early Career Scientist Award from the American Association for Geriatric Psychiatry for the best original work by an early career investigator for "Cost-related medication nonadherence among beneficiaries with depression following Medicare Part D," published in the *American Journal of Geriatric Psychiatry*.

External Reviewers:

Reviewer A: "Dr. Zivin is a star in the health services research field. She has the creativity, imagination, perseverance, and dedication necessary for success....Based on her track record and her current research funding, I anticipate that Dr. Zivin will continue to make brilliant research and contributions in health services delivery. I anticipate that her productivity and contributions will only increase."

Reviewer B: "Dr. Zivin is among the most productive scholars for this stage of her career in the field of geriatric mental health services research. Her published work on risks and outcomes of depression and the impact of health care policies on the treatment of affective illness in later life has already had substantial impact on our field....There is every reason to believe that she will continue this level of outstanding productivity, making significant contributions in coming years to the care of the rapidly expanding population of older adults with mental illness."

Reviewer C: "...I am struck by someone who is passionate about her work, and truly committed to understanding the truth rather than simply confirming conventional wisdom. In this vein she embodies the highest virtues of an academic researcher."
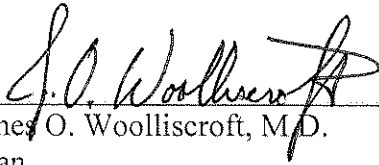
Reviewer D: "Kara Zivin established herself as a national expert with a series of excellent first-authored papers related to several aspects of treatment, particularly focusing on mediation adherence and treatment of depression....In my opinion Kara Zivin is an outstanding researcher and author, who deserved promotion to Associate Professor....We would hire her at [my institution] at that rank, and I suspect that is true at any department and medical school around the United States."

Reviewer E: "As evidenced in publications and her mentorship, she reaches across disciplinary lines with public health, social work, and medicine as well as pharmacy and policy. She will certainly continue along this path in her efforts to further her line of research."

Summary of Recommendation:

Dr. Zivin has an impressive track record in obtaining funding and is making an impact on improving health policies and health system initiatives on diagnosis, treatment, and outcomes of

mental disorders. Her research skills in evaluating systems of care designed to improve treatment of depression, particularly in vulnerable populations such as veterans and older adults is an asset to the Department of Psychiatry, and the VA SMITREC within the Health Services Research and Development Center of Excellence. She has been an outstanding mentor, and has provided relevant data to inform clinicians, policymakers, and other stakeholders to assist them in addressing the needs of vulnerable mentally ill individuals. She has worked successfully to support local and national organizations with similar objectives. With a prominent role in our national training programs, Dr. Zivin is well positioned to train the next generation of both VA and non-VA mental health researchers. I therefore enthusiastically recommend Kara Zivin, Ph.D. for promotion to associate professor of psychiatry, with tenure, Department of Psychiatry, Medical School.

James O. Woolliscroft, M.D.
Dean
Lyle C. Roll Professor of Medicine

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