

PROMOTION RECOMMENDATION  
University of Michigan-Dearborn  
College of Arts, Sciences, and Letters

Daniel R. Davis, associate professor of linguistics, with tenure, Department of Language, Culture, and Communication, College of Arts, Sciences, and Letters, is recommended for promotion to professor of linguistics, with tenure, Department of Language, Culture, and Communication, College of Arts, Sciences, and Letters.

Academic Degrees:

D. Phil. 1995 Oxford University, England  
M.Phil. 1987 Oxford University, England  
A.B. 1985 Harvard University

Professional Record:

2003 – present Associate Professor of Linguistics, Department of Language, Culture, and Communication, University of Michigan-Dearborn  
1999 – 2003 Assistant Professor of Linguistics, Department of Language, Culture, and Communication, University of Michigan-Dearborn  
1994 – 1998 Assistant Professor of Linguistics, Department of English, University of Hong Kong  
1991 – 1994 Lecturer of Linguistics, Department of English, University of Hong Kong

Teaching: Professor Davis is rated excellent in teaching. Professor Davis' teaching repertoire includes LING 280 "Introduction to Linguistics," ENGL/LING 383 "American English," ENGL/LING 461/561 "Modern English Grammar," LING 475 Arab American English," LING 476 "Sociolinguistics," LING 480/580 "Concepts in Linguistics," ENGL/LING 482/582 "History of English," and ENGL/LING 484/584 "World Englishes." In addition, he has directed numerous independent study projects. Professor Davis has greatly expanded and reworked the list of course offerings in linguistics. His student evaluations are consistently high and routinely show "strongly agree" or "agree" opinions. Students at all levels praise his knowledge of the subject matter, his course organization, and his dedication. They also appreciate his humor, availability, and ability to create a positive instructional climate. Many students in upper-level courses agree that he makes a difficult subject enjoyable.

Research: Professor Davis is rated excellent in his research. He has established himself as a leading scholar with a global profile in the dynamic field of World Englishes. Professor Davis has contributed 14 scholarly publications: nine introductory essays to the volumes of The History of World Englishes; three chapters in edited volumes; and two articles. In addition, he has organized and edited two published forums in the journal *World Englishes* and published two book reviews. From 2005 to the present, he has been involved in the editorship of his field's journal of record, *World Englishes*. This leading position confirms that his peers recognize him as an important scholar and value his expertise, as the external evaluators have mentioned. As the editor of The History of World Englishes in eight volumes, besides selecting and editing the content, Professor Davis has contributed nine introductory essays that required both considerable research and wide historical knowledge. Over the period under review, he has also published

three chapters in edited volumes and two articles. Professor Davis also delivered thirteen conference papers, many at high profile international conferences. All these activities abroad and in the United States attest to his international reputation as a scholar and researcher.

#### Recent and Significant Publications:

- Davis, D. (2010a) "Standardized English: The history of the earlier circles," in Andy Kirkpatrick, ed. *The Routledge Handbook of World Englishes*, pp. 17-36.
- Davis, D. (2010b) "The inclusivity of world Englishes," *World Englishes*, Vol. 29.1, pp. 21-26.
- Davis, D. (2009) "Language learning, grammar, and integrationism," in Michael Toolan, ed. *Language Teaching: Integrational Linguistic Approaches*, pp. 73-87.
- Davis, D. (2006a) "World Englishes and descriptive grammars," in Braj B. Kachru, Yamuna Kachru, and Cecil L. Nelson, eds, *The Blackwell Handbook of World Englishes*, pp. 509-525.
- Davis, D., and Kingsley Bolton. (2006b) "A content analysis of World Englishes," *World Englishes*, Vol. 25.1, pp. 5-6.
- Davis, D., ed. (2003) *The History of World Englishes: North America*. Routledge.

Service: Professor Davis is rated significantly capable in his service. His research-related professional service is of the highest level. He is the current executive director, and past president of the International Association of World Englishes (IAWE). At the university and college levels, Professor Davis served on the Academic Standards Committee in CASL (2005-2009, 2011-2012), and on the ESL Endorsement Certificate Advisory Committee (2003-2013). These two functions required considerable consultation and meetings with colleagues. He was also an advisor to the School of Education Curriculum Committee on the implementation of state-mandated linguistics requirements in the Language Arts Education and English with Secondary Education concentrations (2003 and 2005). At the departmental level, Professor Davis served several terms on the LCC Department's Executive Committee and also on the former Humanities Department's Executive Committee as English Discipline representative. At the discipline level, Professor Davis has been the linguistics coordinator for many years. He chaired a Search Committee and finally developed a mentorship role. Professor Davis has been instrumental in the running of the Linguistics program on a daily basis.

#### External Reviewers:

Reviewer A: "... [H]e is co-editor of *World Englishes*, an internationally-renowned journal ... His service to the profession is really superb. As a co-editor, he has brought great prestige and a measure of success to the journal of *World Englishes*, which is enviable in our profession."

Reviewer B: "In all of his writings, he has consistently demonstrated breadth and depth of knowledge... As a scholar, Dr. Davis enjoys a high level of credibility among his peers and is respected by them... Finally, Dr. Davis's [sic] contributions to linguistics in general and World Englishes in particular are outstanding."

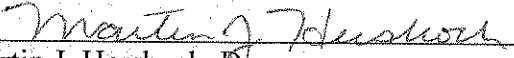
Reviewer C: "...[T]he quality of his work is of a uniformly high standard. I would rank his contribution to the *Routledge Handbook of World Englishes* ... as scholarship of the highest quality... He is very highly regarded by his peers and seen as a key figure in the field. His election as President of the International Association of World Englishes (2009-2010) and his current position as Executive Director ... are further testimony for the regard in which he is held


by his peers. His professional contribution has been and continues to be extremely valuable and important... I would say he is in the top 5 with regard to contributions to the field of World Englishes."

Reviewer D: "Dr. Davis is widely and absolutely correctly regarded as a leader in this field... Dr. Davis serves the profession as the editor of the indispensable journal *World Englishes*. [T]he extraordinary wide variety of other responsibilities that are listed in his c.v. all mark him as a colleague of superior energy and productivity... [H]is scholarship and exposition are consistently of the finest quality... He is modest about his own remarkable merits and output, always ready to accentuate and foster the achievements and potential of peers and junior colleagues—and, it is only reasonable to assume, of his students."

Reviewer E: "Professor Davis has played a very important role in the scholarly understanding of the forms and functions of the English today... He reminds us of 'the multiplicity of linguistics sources, the patchwork nature of language structure, and the political ideologies shaping and regulating language and our perceptions of it, then and now...' His observation that 'the standardized metropolitan varieties of the inner circles are themselves World Englishes' is a magnificent point that needs to be emphasized in every course on the history of the English language... He brings to the consideration of the English language a uniquely complex and unusually diverse combination of skills, which sets him apart from most of the practitioners in the field and makes his writings and talks so richly textured... And to do that with introductory essays that bring out the sociopolitical and intellectual context of each of the works ... requires Herculean scholarly effort and Johnsonian industry. ... I would like to single out for special praise, Professor Davis' editorship of the journal, *World Englishes* ... the flagship journal of the International Association of World Englishes ... Under Professor Davis' editorship ... the journal has flourished and expanded, maintaining scholarly rigor but expanding in scope, and enhanced vibrancy and intellectual provocativeness... I will be speaking for a grateful international community of scholars when I write that the profession owes Professor Davis a special debt of gratitude for this yeoman service."

Summary of Recommendation: We are very pleased to recommend, with strong support of the College of Arts, Sciences, and Letters Executive Committee, Daniel R. Davis for promotion to professor of linguistics, with tenure, Department of Language, Culture, and Communication, College of Arts, Sciences, and Letters.

  
Martin J. Hershock, Dean  
College of Arts, Sciences, and Letters

  
Daniel Little, Chancellor  
University of Michigan, Dearborn

May 2014