

PROMOTION RECOMMENDATION
UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
MEDICAL SCHOOL
DEPARTMENT OF INTERNAL MEDICINE
DEPARTMENT OF OBSTETRICS AND GYNECOLOGY
SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SCIENCES

Emily C. Somers, Ph.D., assistant professor of internal medicine, Department of Internal Medicine, assistant professor of obstetrics and gynecology, Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, Medical School, and assistant professor of environmental health sciences, Department of Environmental Health Sciences, School of Public Health, is recommended for promotion to associate professor of internal medicine, with tenure, Department of Internal Medicine, associate professor of obstetrics and gynecology, without tenure, Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, Medical School, and associate professor of environmental health sciences, without tenure, Department of Environmental Health Sciences, School of Public Health.

Academic Degrees:

Ph.D.	2006	London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine
Sc.M.	1999	Johns Hopkins School of Hygiene and Public Health
B.S.	1997	University of Michigan

Professional Record:

2012-present	Assistant Professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology, University of Michigan
2011-present	Assistant Professor of Environmental Health Sciences, University of Michigan
2009-present	Assistant Professor of Internal Medicine, University of Michigan
2007-2009	Research Assistant Professor, Department of Internal Medicine, University of Michigan
2004-2007	Lecturer, Department of Internal Medicine, University of Michigan

Summary of Evaluation:

Teaching: Dr. Somers is engaged in a broad range of teaching activities that include mentoring of students, fellows, and junior faculty from several academic departments. She has also been an invited lecturer at a national and international level and her presentations have been especially well received. She participates in the program selection committee for the American College of Rheumatology Scientific Meeting. In her teaching, as in her research, she is especially skilled at bridging the distinct fields of epidemiology and rheumatic disease clinical research.

Research: Dr. Somers' primary focus has been on the epidemiology of rheumatic and autoimmune diseases, especially systemic lupus. She asks questions that range from defining factors important in initiation of autoimmunity and autoimmune disease to careful description, at a population level, of the clinical characteristics and subsets of systemic lupus erythematosus. Her research has been ground breaking and is respected at a national and international level. As an assistant professor, she has been remarkably successful at securing large amounts of grant funding from federal agencies and

other sources. Her trajectory of high quality publications continues to accelerate. Dr. Somers has achieved great success in defining a unique research niche at the University of Michigan and within the broader epidemiology and rheumatology research communities.

Recent and Significant Publications:

Somers EC, Thomas SL, Smeeth L, Hall AJ: Are individuals with an autoimmune disease at higher risk of developing a second autoimmune disorder? *Am J Epidemiol* 2009; 169:749-755, 2009.

Marder W, Ganser MA, Romero V, Hyzy MA, Gordon C, McCune WJ, Somers EC: *In utero* azathioprine exposure and developmental delays in children of mothers with systemic lupus erythematosus. *Arthritis Care Res* 2012; Nov 8 [Epub ahead of print]. PMID: 23139238; PMCID:PMC3572294.

Somers EC, Zhao W, Lewis E, Wang L, Wing J, Sundaram B, Kazerooni E, McCune WJ, Kaplan MJ: Type I interferons are associated with vascular risk and preclinical atherosclerosis in a cohort of lupus patients without overt cardiovascular disease. *PLoS One* 2012; 7:e37000. Epub 2012 May 14.

Somers EC, Antonsen S, Pedersen L, Sørensen HT: Parental history of lupus and rheumatoid arthritis and risk in offspring in a nationwide cohort study: Does sex matter? *Ann Rheum Dis* 72:525–529, 2013.

Somers EC, Marder W, Cagnoli P, Lewis EE, DeGuire P, Gordon C, Helmick CG, Wang L, Wing JJ, Dhar JP, Leisen J, Shaltis D, McCune WJ: Population-based incidence and prevalence of systemic lupus erythematosus: the Michigan Lupus Epidemiology & Surveillance (MILES) Program. *Arthritis Rheum* 2013; *In press*.

Service: Dr. Somers has assisted numerous faculty colleagues within the University of Michigan in development of their clinical research projects, ensuring statistical validity of their research design. She has been active at a national level in numerous study sections and research program committees for the American College of Rheumatology and its affiliated Association of Rheumatology Health Professionals. She serves as a member of the editorial board for *Arthritis Care & Research*, a prestigious journal in the field, and reviews for numerous other journals. She is also active in international epidemiology professional societies. Through these activities, Dr. Somers has achieved a high level of visibility and respect among her peers in the scientific community.

External Reviewers:

Reviewer A: “Dr. Somers has gained visibility within the American College of Rheumatology (ACR) and the Association of Rheumatology Health Professionals. She has been a member of the Lupus Initiative, a program develop by the ACR to bring awareness to the disparities observed in the course and outcome of lupus between minority population groups and the Caucasian majority.”

Reviewer B: “Dr. Somers has received a number of international invitations to give presentations or serve as a visiting scientist. These invitations attest to her international reputation. Her national reputation is reflected in her active participation in the Annual Scientific Meeting of the American College of Rheumatology and the Association of Rheumatology Health Professionals. She has also been quite active on a number of committees for the professional society, including the program

committee. Her work is always well-received and she has strong respect from her colleagues and peers in the field.”

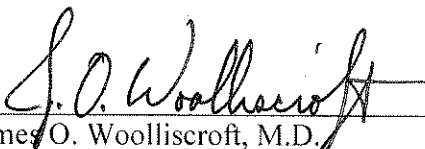
Reviewer C: “Dr. Somers has considerable interest, expertise and experience in research regarding autoimmune disease epidemiology....Dr. Somers also is an outstanding reviewer for many journals, including *Arthritis Care & Research*...She is quite well respected within the rheumatology and immunology communities for her work on SLE and epidemiologic approaches to clinical research.”

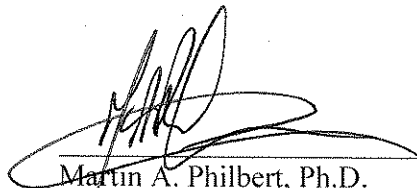
Reviewer D: “Dr. Somers has collaborated with several leading researchers within her field of epidemiological rheumatology and has taken initiatives to bond epidemiological research with laboratory research. Dr. Somers seems already at the present time to take a leading position among peers and is well respected among them. For the same reason she was invited to Denmark to give an inspirational lecture on her field with emphasis on systemic lupus erythematosus.”

Reviewer E: “Her studies are rigorous and are characterized by careful planning, masterful execution, and cautious interpretation of her results in a way that moves the field forward and lays out the next critical questions that need to be addressed. I would rank Dr. Somers in the top 15% in terms of her peers.”

Summary of Recommendation:

Dr. Emily Somers is a talented investigator with important additional roles in teaching. Her professional activities and scholarly work can be expected to have a significant impact on our institution and on her fields of research well into the future. For these reasons, we enthusiastically recommend Emily C. Somers, Ph.D. for promotion to associate professor of internal medicine, with tenure, Department of Internal Medicine, associate professor of obstetrics and gynecology, without tenure, Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, Medical School, and associate professor of environmental health sciences, without tenure, Department of Environmental Health Sciences, School of Public Health.


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


Martin A. Philbert, Ph.D.
Dean, School of Public Health

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