

Approved by the  
Regents  
May 21, 2015

PROMOTION RECOMMENDATION  
The University of Michigan  
School of Music, Theatre & Dance

Aaron Berofsky, associate professor of music, with tenure, Department of Strings, School of Music, Theatre & Dance, is recommended for promotion to professor of music, with tenure, Department of Strings, School of Music, Theatre & Dance.

Academic Degrees:

M.M. 1992           The Juilliard School of Music  
B.M. 1990           The Juilliard School of Music

Professional Record:

2006 – present       Associate Professor of Music, University of Michigan  
2002 – 2006         Assistant Professor of Music, University of Michigan  
2003 – present       Concertmaster, Ann Arbor Symphony  
2003 – 2008         Violin faculty, Meadowmount School of Music  
1992 – 2005         First violinist, Chester String Quartet, Indiana University

Summary of Evaluation:

Teaching: As evidenced by his consistently high course rankings, Professor Berofsky continues to excel as both an effective and highly respected pedagogue. He is a demanding and dedicated teacher who expects and attains measurable improvement and excellent results from his students. His expectations are made abundantly clear to students and are designed to facilitate a continuous development of technical skill while also fostering a deeper understanding of the subject matter at hand. Professor Berofsky's time spent offering master classes at major universities and on the faculty at prestigious summer music festivals enables him to be an exceptional recruiter of talented students. His varied professional accomplishments as soloist, concertmaster, and as the former first violinist of a distinguished string quartet, generate a wealth of experiences that inform his teaching. That his notable performance career inspires and motivates his students to do their best is apparent from the success they have had in winning major competitions, receiving prestigious scholarships, and securing professional and academic appointments.

Creative Activities: Professor Berofsky is a highly skilled soloist, longtime concertmaster of the Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra, and former first violinist of the distinguished Chester Quartet. These varied experiences have led to his remarkable trajectory in artistry and professionalism. He is highly skilled in performing both solo and chamber music literature, and he excels in particular in the domain of early music and historical performance practice. Professor Berofsky is meticulously prepared for every rehearsal and performance, and his delivery is exquisite, sensitive, beautiful, and highly consistent. He continues to receive excellent reviews from respected international publications such as *Le Figaro* (Paris), *American Record Guide*, *Diario de Mallorca* (Spain), *The Indianapolis Star*, *The Baltimore Sun*, and *The New York Times*. He continues to perform locally and regionally, having made solo appearances with such orchestras as the Ann Arbor Symphony, Paradigm Shift Chamber Orchestra, South Bend Symphony, and Buffalo Festival Orchestra, among others. Professor Berofsky also maintains an international

presence and is in demand as a performer in Europe, South America, and Asia. The Italian composer, Alessio Elia, is currently writing a violin concerto for Professor Berofsky that is scheduled to premiere in 2016.

Service: Professor Berofsky provides ample service to the university, the school, and the community. He has been a member or alternate member on the school's Council of Departmental Representatives, as well as a member of the Faculty Research Committee, the Stearns Advisory Committee, and the Organ Task Force. He has served on and chaired faculty search committees and in this capacity was thought by his colleagues to be objective, thoughtful, and generous with advice. Professor Berofsky has also donated his services to a number of schools in Ann Arbor and has been a regular performer at the Jewish Community Center.

External Reviewers:

Reviewer A: "His credentials and performing history are those of a well-seasoned musician. The qualities of leadership and initiative that he has demonstrated as a soloist, the Concertmeister of the Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra and the first violinist of a distinguished quartet offer immeasurable benefit to a musical institution seeking to provide the best for its students."

Reviewer B: "His playing is characterized by great beauty of sound, impeccable intonation, and virtuosity in every aspect of violin technique. The playing demonstrated his absolute understanding of the scores and his command of a subtle, thoughtful style that is not found on most recordings by the most successful concert artists. Mr. Berofsky is a teacher and artist who is at the top of his field."

Reviewer C: "Mr. Berofsky is known in the music world worldwide as one of the leading violinists of his generation and one of the most sought after pedagogues for violin and chamber music. His artistic tools, artistic achievements and artistic capabilities are sought after worldwide."

Reviewer D: "He has remarkable sensitivity to diverse styles, is always beautifully prepared and his presentations are artistically and emotionally satisfying. Among the many fine teachers I know, he is one of the best performers."

Reviewer E: "As a professor, he seems extremely devoted to his students and his evaluations are consistently excellent. Most importantly, they reflect the fact that he is engaging his students and inspiring them. His thoughts on pedagogy and the manner in which his students should approach both their technique and the understanding of their art are very concise and intuitive."

Reviewer F: "There is something more impressive even than the breadth and scope of his activities - the presence of re-engagements and multiple long-term ensemble relationships. Berofsky's record is reassuringly rich in both. There is no truer testament to the quality of one's work and character than to be asked back again and again."

Reviewer G: "Over the years, we'd see Berofsky's students come for auditions. They were always impeccably prepared and beautifully trained. His studio guidelines seem to be wise and very fair, and seem to demonstrate Professor Berofsky to be an experienced, distinguished, and high-level colleague."

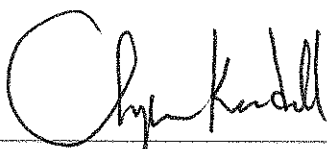
Reviewer H: "In the violin world, Berofsky is a recognized teacher and performer. His curriculum vitae clearly show that he is a serious teacher working throughout the world. Also, he remains an active performer as soloist, chamber musician and concertmaster. To top this all off, Aaron is a kind, generous, sympathetic human being and I'm sure he is a significant contributor and colleague for your school. I cannot think of a more complete role model for university students."

Internal Review:

Professor Berofsky is a multi-faceted and highly valued faculty member with exceptional qualities in many areas of the school. He has a high level of energy, commitment, and an extraordinary sense of responsibility, knowledge, personal integrity, and graciousness. His commitment to the students is palpable, and his recruitment record of talented students is well known. Professor Berofsky has developed a highly skilled and competitive studio, and he is considered a respected and well-liked teacher. Faculty at the school feel that he is a wonderful colleague in every way.

Summary of Recommendation:

Professor Berofsky is a dedicated and generous teacher who enthusiastically imparts his performing experiences and musical insight. He is a nationally and internationally acclaimed performer who continues to enjoy a busy concert career. He is highly musical and innovative in his approach to both teaching and performing. It is with great enthusiasm and with the support of the School of Music, Theatre & Dance Executive Committee that I recommend Aaron Berofsky for promotion to professor of music, with tenure, Department of Strings, School of Music, Theatre & Dance.



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Christopher W. Kendall  
Paul Boylan Collegiate Professor of Music  
and Dean, School of Music, Theatre & Dance

May 2015