

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

Approved by the  
Regents  
May 21, 2015

Priscilla Lindsay, associate professor of theatre and drama, with tenure, Department of Theatre and Drama, School of Music, Theatre & Dance, is recommended for promotion to professor of theatre and drama, with tenure, Department of Theatre and Drama, School of Music, Theatre & Dance.

Academic Degrees:

M.A. 1972 University of Michigan  
B.A. 1971 University of Michigan

Professional Record:

2010 – present Associate Professor of Theatre and Drama and Chair,  
University of Michigan, School of Music, Theatre & Dance  
2002 – 2010 Lecturer, Butler University, Department of Theatre  
1999 – 2010 Associate Artist and Director, Indiana Repertory Theatre  
1997 – 1999 Associate Artist, Indiana Repertory Theatre  
1976 – 2010 Instructor, Indiana Repertory Theatre educational outreach programs  
1975 – present National and regional radio and TV commercial voice-over actress  
1974 – 2010 Resident Actress, Indiana Repertory Theatre  
1973 – 1974 Associate Professor of Theatre, University of Missouri-Kansas City  
and member of the Repertory Company, Missouri Repertory Theatre  
1972 – 1973 Professional Actress, Alley Theatre, Houston, Texas and  
Tiffany's Attic Dinner Theatre, Kansas City, Missouri

Summary of Evaluation:

Teaching: Professor Lindsay's extensive training, vast knowledge of the field, and experience on the professional stage enable her to provide students with a similarly broad perspective of the discipline. She is, by all accounts, a demanding teacher who nonetheless comes across to students as warm and empathetic. She has the highest expectations for her students and consistently challenges them to think beyond traditional assumptions or initial reactions to complex issues. She is both respected and admired by students, and she consistently receives high rankings in course evaluations. In addition to her administrative responsibilities and professional activities, Professor Lindsay teaches, on average, two to three courses per year. Time and again she has proven willing to provide additional teaching coverage when there has been a shortage of available faculty due to travel or unexpected illness. Professor Lindsay is enthusiastic and passionate about her students' education, and undoubtedly for this reason is highly sought after as an advisor and mentor to students here at Michigan.

Creative Activities: A highly accomplished actress, Professor Lindsay has performed many of the great female roles in plays ranging from the classics to contemporary theatre. Over the span of her career, she has appeared in more than 60 plays at the Indiana Repertory Theatre, The Alley Theatre in Houston, Missouri Repertory Theatre, Syracuse Stage, and a host of other nationally recognized companies. She has also directed numerous productions, including ones at

the Indiana Repertory Theatre, the Pine Mountain Music Festival, and the Repertory Theatre of St. Louis. One indicator of her success in the field is the repeated invitations she has received to work at acclaimed regional theatres such as the Purple Rose Theatre and, most notably, the Indiana Repertory Theatre, where she was engaged in a professional capacity for over 30 years. In addition to her stage acting, Professor Lindsay has had noteworthy success as a commercial voice-over artist. She has worked in this capacity for such leading corporations as Maytag, Gerber, Kraft, Kroger, the American Dairy Association, and Meijer Stores, among others. Her latest voice-over project narrating the documentary “A Passing of the Torch” won her a prestigious Emmy Award, the highest honor bestowed in the television industry.

Service: As chair of the Department of Theatre and Drama, Professor Lindsay has proven to be an extraordinarily talented administrator, an effective leader, and a supportive mentor. She has had a significant impact on student recruitment to the department as evidenced by the notable increase in the department’s acceptance yield. She has also spearheaded many effective changes to the department’s curriculum and to its programmatic structure, and in doing so has been a tireless advocate on behalf of diversity initiatives within the department. She has worked closely and cooperatively with several faculty search committees and has herself served as a member of the Nominating Committee and Scholarship Committee at the School of Music, Theatre & Dance. Also in her capacity as chair, Professor Lindsay has arranged for a diverse array of distinguished practitioners to visit campus in order to work with students—experiences that are vital for students’ professional development. Finally, Professor Lindsay has been of service to her profession as well, including as a longtime and highly respected member of such professional associations as the Actors Equity Association and the Screen Actors Guild.

External Reviewers:

Reviewer A: “Priscilla Lindsay is a highly accomplished artist. Equally at home in comedy or drama, she is a supremely versatile, deeply gifted chameleon who renders characters with sensitivity, humor and keen insight. She is radiant on stage. The fact that Professor Lindsay is still a sought after actor and working at excellent regional theatres such as IRT and Purple Rose is evidence of her continued value to the field.”

Reviewer B: “Professor Lindsay is an excellent collaborator, offering insight and honoring the wishes and needs of others. I find her respectful and appropriately assertive. She is an excellent peer colleague. Her professional accomplishments are excellent and she remains consistently and continuously engaged in professional activity.”

Reviewer C: “Professor Lindsay has an illustrious professional career as a basis for her teaching, and she actively engages other working artists in the classroom. Artist/teachers like Professor Lindsay not only bring their own exceptional creativity into the classroom, but they also bring experience gained from regular work in the profession, and an often missed benefit—such an artist is a strong and vital role model to our young artists.”

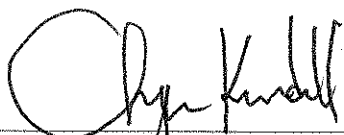
Reviewer D: “The amount of work she has done, four projects in four years—three of which are at theatres with a national reputation—is an impressive record. I have no reason to believe that her future contributions will not be at this same level of activity and influence, so therefore her trajectory seems strong.”

Reviewer E: "Professor Lindsay would be recognized at any of our peer institutions as a highly successful and accomplished artist, teacher, and administrator. Her most visible achievements are her long tenure at the Indiana Rep, where she acted, directed, and managed; her outstanding career as a voice artist, recognized by her Emmy Award; and her leadership of a flagship theatre department at the University of Michigan."

Reviewer F: "Professor Lindsay's reputation as an actor/director of national stature is well earned. She is respected in the profession as evidenced by her ongoing relationship with significant professional producers. I find Professor Lindsay to be a very talented artist with a significant body of work and professional relationships."

Summary of Recommendation:

Professor Lindsay is a highly accomplished performing artist and a respected teacher. She has been an effective and inspiring leader of a large and complex department, and her collegial nature is a model worthy of emulation. It is with great enthusiasm and with the support of the School of Music, Theatre & Dance Executive Committee that I recommend Priscilla Lindsay for promotion to professor of theatre and drama, with tenure, Department of Theatre and Drama, 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