

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

Approved by the
Regents
May 21, 2015

Eugene C. Rogers, Jr., assistant professor of music, Department of Conducting, School of Music, Theatre & Dance, is recommended for promotion to associate professor of music, with tenure, Department of Conducting, School of Music, Theatre & Dance.

Academic Degrees:

D.M.A.	2008	University of Michigan (choral conducting)
M.M.	2001	University of Michigan (choral conducting)
B.S.	1996	University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign (music education)

Professional Record:

2011 – present	Assistant Professor, Conducting, University of Michigan
2008 – 2011	Assistant Professor and Director of Choral Activities, Macalester College
2005 – 2008	Graduate Instructor of Choral Music, University of Michigan
2004 – 2005	Visiting Instructor of Choral Music Education, University of Michigan
2001 – 2003	Director of Choirs, Grosse Pointe North High School
1996 – 1999	Co-Director of Choirs, Waubonsie Valley High School

Summary of Evaluation:

Teaching: As associate director of choirs at Michigan, Professor Rogers is responsible for directing the University Choir and the University of Michigan Men's Glee Club, and for teaching two conducting courses, one primarily for undergraduates and the other for graduate students. He is a highly successful and gifted teacher and conductor, as evidenced by the consistently high rankings he receives on student course evaluations. He leads first and foremost by example, modeling effective rehearsal techniques and strategies for improving vocal production, along with a deep knowledge of and insight into the choral literature. Also apparent is that he works well with students across all levels and all backgrounds. His success as a pedagogue is reflected in the sheer number of workshops and master classes that he offers throughout the country and abroad, including in Canada, England, Italy, Portugal, and China. Perhaps the single greatest testament to his skill as a teacher and conductor is the invitation that the Men's Glee Club received to perform at the 2015 National Convention of the American Choral Directors Association—a highly coveted invitation that reflects Professor Rogers' recognized success.

Creative Activities: Highly sought-after as a guest conductor, clinician, and speaker, Professor Rogers' list of professional engagements is lengthy and impressive. Worth noting here are guest conducting appearances at choral festivals in Canada, Singapore, and Portugal; an invitation to serve as conductor of the All-State and Honor Choirs for the North Central Division of the American Choral Directors Association; and guest conducting opportunities at the conferences of the Organization of American Kodaly Educators and the Northwest Division of the National Association for Music Education. Professor Rogers has also presented papers at such venues as the Chorus America National Conference, the National Association of Negro Musicians International Spiritual Festival, and at numerous state music education conferences. His work in this area has encompassed a wide variety of topics, including multicultural music, the use of improvisation in rehearsals, and the challenges of preparing works for chorus and orchestra. In a related vein, Professor Rogers has also published three choral arrangements issued by Hal Leonard, one of the largest and most respected

publishers of choral music, and he has also contributed to a compilation of choral music published jointly by McGraw-Hill and Hal Leonard. It perhaps goes without saying but is nonetheless worth underscoring that the invitation to perform at the National Convention of the American Choral Directors Associations cited above is a reflection of his overall stature in the field.

Service: Professor Rogers has provided an enormous level of service to the university and to the profession at large. He currently serves as the doctoral advisor for his department and in this capacity has been a member of numerous dissertation committees. He has also recently served on the search advisory committee tasked with finding a new dean for the School of Music, Theatre & Dance, and has also been a member of faculty search committees for other departments in the school. In addition, he has been a member of SMTD's Faculty Council on Graduate Studies, its Council of Departmental Representatives, and its Scholarship Committee, and from 2012 through 2013 was a member of the school's Alumni Society Board of Governors. Finally, Professor Rogers serves on the Men's Glee Club Executive Committee and in this capacity is involved in arranging tours, outreach activities, and special performances for the ensemble. Where his service to the profession is concerned, Professor Rogers has held a variety of key administrative posts in, among other organizations, the Central Division of the American Choral Directors Association, the National Collegiate Choral Organization, the American Composers Forum, and the Michigan American Choral Directors Association.

External Reviewers:

Reviewer A: "Dr. Rogers' extensive and varied list of appearances as a guest conductor for honor choirs, festivals, and schools in the U.S. and abroad is among the most impressive that I have seen for someone in this rank. Dr. Rogers exhibits a breadth and diversity of scholarly activity that is of considerable appeal and impact across many facets of the choral profession."

Reviewer B: "Throughout all his activities, Dr. Rogers maintains an extremely high standard for excellence and professional level of preparation. He is highly sought after because he is among the finest conductors in our profession and is able to present himself without the extra baggage of an inflated ego."

Reviewer C: "He is uniformly well loved and respected, admired and sought after. With regard to his professional activity, I would rank Eugene Rogers at the top of his peer group in terms of national visibility and quality of his appearances."

Reviewer D: "Dr. Rogers' creative activities reflect a wide range of contributions as a conductor, clinician, and adjudicator. Student evaluations are consistently high and reflect an enthusiastic respect for Dr. Rogers. His performance as a teacher and conductor is most impressive, and he is a highly respected member of the choral community."

Reviewer E: "His recordings and concert programs show evidence of vital, healthy, and thriving choirs. Moreover, the students seem to perceive the choirs to be a valid learning experience. The recent invitation to perform at the 2015 National Convention of the American Choral Directors Association is indicative of the highest quality research in our field and is perhaps the greatest honor that can be given to a collegiate choral director in the U.S."

Reviewer F: "Dr. Rogers is a rising star in our profession and is, without question, at or near the top of his peer group. He is quickly developing a national reputation, and has made significant

contributions to our profession as a guest conductor and presenter. His productivity has been consistent throughout his career, with increasing levels of achievement.”

Reviewer G: “Based on the recordings, the imaginative and creative programming, the number of guest appearances as conductor and presenter both nationally and internationally, and the range of college, university, and national service activities, Dr. Rogers exceeds the expectations of a musician, conductor, and educator in his peer group.”

Reviewer H: “He is a well known figure in national and international circles, and colleagues associate him with superb musicianship, an ability to connect with choirs and singers with whom he engages, and an inspiring and charismatic demeanor. He represents the highest standards of artistry and ability and is providing a meaningful example for both students and colleagues alike.”

Reviewer I: “He has been productive in conducting and he has been very productive in the workshop/clinic settings—all of which made him visible within the choral music professional community. He has become one of our young rising stars. I believe he will maintain his productivity and strengthen his contributions with time.”

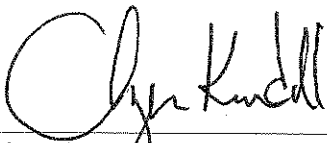
Reviewer J: “Professor Rogers maintains a staggering schedule of guest conducting and teaching at clinics and festivals. The excellence of his musical leadership has been widely recognized in this country for a number of years. It appears that Eugene regularly has the respect and gratitude of his students for setting a standard of excellence.”

Internal Review:

Greatly admired and respected by his colleagues, Professor Rogers has found ways for his work to intersect with many departments in the school, most notably those of Composition, Voice, and Winds and Percussion. He is tireless in his dedication to the university, to his colleagues, and to students, and he has struck an ideal balance between pursuing university-related activities and professional engagements in the broader field. He is bright, energetic, talented, inquisitive, generous with his time, and always prepared for rehearsals and classes. He is, in short, an ideal colleague.

Summary of Recommendation:

Professor Rogers is a deeply musical, charismatic, and enthusiastic teacher. He is widely respected for his work with the University Men’s Glee Club and the University Choir. His impressive and ever-expanding list of performances, guest conducting engagements, conference presentations, and service roles truly sets the standard for junior faculty at the school. It is with great enthusiasm and with the full support of the School of Music, Theatre & Dance Executive Committee that I recommend Eugene C. Rogers, Jr. for promotion to associate professor of music, with tenure, Department of Conducting, School of Music, Theatre & Dance.



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

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