

PROMOTION RECOMMENDATION  
The University of Michigan  
Law School

Kristina B. Daugirdas, assistant professor of law, Law School, is recommended for promotion to professor of law, with tenure, Law School.

Academic Degrees:

J.D.	2005	New York University School of Law, New York, NY
Diploma	2002	London School of Economics, Economics, London, England
B.A.	1999	Brown University, Public Policy, New Haven, CT

Professional Record

2010-Present	Assistant Professor, Law School, University of Michigan
2006-2009	Attorney-Adviser, Office of the Legal Adviser, United States Department of State, Washington, D.C. (Office of Diplomatic Law and Litigation, 2006-08; Office of United Nations Affairs, 2008-09)
2005-2006	Law Clerk, Judge Stephen F. Williams, United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit

Summary of Evaluation

Teaching: Professor Daugirdas has taught Transnational Law (which has been a required course), Environmental Law and Policy, International Environmental Law and Policy, The United Nations and Other International Organizations, and a related seminar on the United Nations, and she has co-taught a mini-seminar called Contagion. She has been a successful and very well regarded teacher. Students say that she is hard-working, committed, well-prepared, well-organized, energetic, and cheerful; knowledgeable and excited – “jazzed” – about the material; “wicked smart;” humane, kind, respectful, approachable, and responsive to questions both in and out of class; and clear and easy to understand. They say she is fair to all sides, creating a “safe space” in which students can develop their ideas and facilitating a free flow of conversation with broad participation. Transnational Law has been a particularly demanding assignment; this is an unpopular course, and her classes have been very large. The last time she taught it, to a class of 118, the student evaluations were superb, with many students speaking warmly about her qualities as a teacher and a median of 4.68 on the “excellent teacher” question; for a class of that size in that particular course, this was remarkable.

Research: Professor Daugirdas’ work is on international law, with an emphasis on the relatively uncharted territory of the application of international law to international organizations (IOs). One recent article argues that IOs are motivated by care about their reputation for compliance with their obligations under international law, because that reputation affects their legitimacy and hence their effectiveness. A forthcoming article argues that, whether one views IOs as peers of states or as vehicles through which states operate, international law applies to them in essentially the same way that it does to states. Another article presented a case study of congressional control over the World Bank to rebut the commonly held view that IOs limit democracy by expanding the role of the executive at the expense of the national legislature. This article won the Francis Deák Prize, which is awarded to the outstanding article by a scholar under 40

published the previous year in the *American Journal of International Law (AJIL)*, the premier international law journal in the United States.

In these articles, Professor Daugirdas has shown immense knowledge of the theory, doctrine, and practice of international law, an ability to spot an important and under-attended topic, and a knack for starting an academic conversation. Both of her most recent articles were made the subjects of on-line symposia by the journals that published them, two of the leading journals of international law in the world.

Along with Professor Julian Mortenson, also of the Law School, Professor Daugirdas has written the quarterly *Contemporary Practice of the United States* section of *AJIL*, beginning with the January 2014 issue. This is the section of *AJIL* most widely read, by scholars and practitioners, in the United States and abroad, shortly after publication and for years afterwards. Professors Daugirdas and Mortenson have selected a wide variety of interesting and significant developments to cover, and these pieces are notable for the depth and care of their research and the quality of their writing. Given that Professor Daugirdas was given this assignment at this stage of her career is a testament to the esteem in which she is already held in the international law community. The visibility of the assignment will facilitate her continuing development as a leading scholar in the field.

Recent and Significant Scholarship:

Congress Underestimated: The Case of the World Bank, 107 *Am J. Int'l L.* 517 (2013)

Reputation and the Responsibility of International Organizations, 25 *Eur. J. Int'l L.* 991 (2014)

How and Why International Law Binds International Organizations (forthcoming, *Harv. J. Int'l L.*)

Book review of Julian Ku & John Yoo, Taming Globalization: International Law, the U.S. Constitution, and the New World Order (2012), 108 *AM. J. INT'L L.* 568 (2014)

Contemporary Practice of the United States (with Julian Mortenson), *Am J. Int'l L.*, quarterly, beginning January 2014

Service: Professor Daugirdas's service record is excellent. Within the Law School, she has served on a wide range of committees, given numerous talks in various settings to students, faculty, prospective students, and alumni, and provided guidance for our law journals and our teams in inter-school moot court competitions.

Professor Daugirdas has presented her academic work in numerous settings outside the Law School. Among these are several conferences and workshops at which her papers were selected after a competitive process. These included installments of two high-visibility workshops that, along with Professor Mortenson, she has helped to bring to the Law School. The first of these, held in November 2013, was a two-day conference, titled *Politics and Principle in International Legal Theory*, sponsored annually by the American Society of International Law (ASIL), the European Society of International Law, and the Rechtskulturen Program of Humboldt University

of Berlin. The second, held in Ann Arbor in December 2015, was ASIL's International Law in Domestic Courts Annual Workshop. She has also contributed to online discussions organized by international law blogs, including the two addressed to her work.

External Reviewers:

Reviewer A: "'Congress Underestimated' continues to be widely cited. I have incorporated it in my assigned readings in international organizations and have often referred researchers to it. . . . Every one of the scholarly questions she identifies [in her scholarship statement] is a solid future project that addresses a serious challenge in the field."

Reviewer B: "Her scholarship offers a unique combination of deep knowledge of the law, meticulous attention to both doctrine and practice, and innovative viewpoints that challenge . . . conventional thinking. It offers fresh insights and new and important data and thereby provides grounds for further deliberation that promotes our understanding of the law."

Reviewer C: "The strengths of Professor Kristina Daugirdas' research lie in her focus on offering a detailed and compelling analysis of international practice. Moreover, she has consistently identified and provided her insight on topics where there exists a lacuna in the literature."

Reviewer D: "I believe that . . . [Professor Daugirdas] has demonstrated substantial achievement as a scholar, and that she shows promise of future achievement. She addresses difficult topics, and her work contains original analysis that advances the discussion."

Reviewer E: "The bottom line is that I believe that on the record in the portfolio . . . sent me for review, Professor Daugirdas comfortably satisfies the standard . . . for promotion to tenure at the University of Michigan."

Reviewer F: "[T]here are many reasons why Professor Daugirdas should be given tenure, and none why she should not. . . . Her published work displays a high level of scholarship on aspects of international law that sometimes remain under-illuminated, and her future plans suggest much the same. She is an excellent scholar, and a very welcome (and already much appreciated) member of the community of international organizations lawyers."

Reviewer G: "[H]er work is generally thorough, nimble, highly informed, analytical, creative, well-organized, and coherent. . . . The high quality of these pieces is readily confirmed by the placements she has secured and each piece provides fresh insights into very significant issues concerning international law and IOs. When I see articles written by her in the future, I anticipate making a point of reading them."

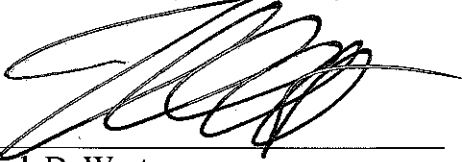
Reviewer H: "The work is original, persuasive, and valuable. The arc is positive: Each of the three pieces builds on and extends its predecessor. Each takes legal doctrine seriously but none is merely doctrinal. As a whole her work demonstrates a sound grip on contemporary international relations theory as a foundation for academic international law, but sees its task as enriching our understanding of law as such rather than as seeking to alter or challenge the theory."

Reviewer I: “In my judgment, Daugirdas’ scholarship compares favorably with that of other recently tenured professors in related and neighboring disciplines, such as Daniel Abebe (Chicago), Rachel Brewster (Duke), Robert Sloane (Boston University), and Pierre-Hugues Verdier (Virginia). ... [H]er work is of high quality and an original, creative, and significant contribution to her field. ... [M]oreover, she appears committed to developing a portfolio of skills that will sustain growth in a field in which your school has long excelled.”

Reviewer J: “[Professor Daugirdas] had a perfect eye in identifying IO law as an area which could profit from sustained and rigorous analysis – not least legal analysis. ... Her forthcoming article on How and Why is, in my view, destined to be a classic which will be the benchmark for discussion for years to come. ... It is legal scholarship at its best. And it is very, very important.”

Summary of Recommendation:

Professor Daugirdas has made a significant contribution to scholarship, and is on her way to becoming a leading scholar in her field, in which she is already widely visible and highly regarded. She is an excellent teacher, and an exemplary citizen of this institution. With the support of the Law School faculty, I recommend Kristina B. Daugirdas for promotion to professor of law, with tenure, Law School.



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Mark D. West  
Dean, Law School  
Nippon Life Professor of Law

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