

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

Charles H. Garrett, associate professor of music, with tenure, Department of Musicology, School of Music, Theatre & Dance, is recommended for promotion to professor of music, with tenure, Department of Musicology, School of Music, Theatre & Dance.

Academic Degrees:

Ph.D. 2004	University of California, Los Angeles
M.A. 2000	University of California, Los Angeles
B.A. 1998	Columbia University ( <i>summa cum laude</i> )
B.A. 1988	Columbia University (American History/Computer Science)

Professional Record:

2014 – present	Chair, Department of Musicology, University of Michigan, School of Music, Theatre & Dance
2009 – present	Associate Professor of Music, University of Michigan, School of Music, Theatre & Dance
2004 – 2009	Assistant Professor of Music, University of Michigan, School of Music, Theatre & Dance
2004	Instructor, Department of Musicology, University of Michigan, School of Music, Theatre & Dance

Summary of Evaluation:

Teaching: Professor Garrett's ability to engage students on challenging topics is, in a word, incredible. He receives consistently high rankings on student course evaluations, and yet he continues to refine his teaching by incorporating suggestions from students and colleagues alike. Professor Garrett further avails himself of university resources by attending workshops and seminars provided by the Center for Research on Learning and Teaching. His seminars and upper division courses cover interesting and relevant topics that expand the education of SMTD undergraduates, master's students, and Rackham doctoral students, and he has established a stellar reputation as an instructor in many of the school's large music appreciation courses on central campus that have inspired hundreds, if not thousands, of students over the last twelve years. Professor Garrett is also a popular dissertation advisor and committee member for both DMA and PhD students, a testament to the respect in which he is held by students and to his outstanding mentorship. Many of his own doctoral students have been very successful in finding positions as tenure-track faculty following graduation.

Professional Activities: A respected and active scholar, Professor Garrett's research contributions to his field are widely known. He has presented his work at international meetings of four major scholarly societies and at prestigious universities in North America and Asia. He has published numerous articles and book chapters and routinely referees articles submitted to scholarly journals. His published book, Struggling to Define a Nation: American Music and the Twentieth Century (University of California Press, 2008), won two prestigious awards: the Irving Lowens Memorial Book Award given out by the Society for American Music; and an Honorable Mention in the competition for the Woody Guthrie Award given out by the American branch of the International Association for the Study of Popular Music. He has another book under contract with the University of California Press, Joking Matters: Music, Humor, Contemporary Culture, which is currently slated

for publication in 2016. His prolific scholarly profile also includes an edited reference work of enormous impact to the field of music. Professor Garrett was selected to edit the second edition of a standard reference work in music, namely The Grove Dictionary of American Music, which consists of eight volumes (and an online edition) featuring 8,500 articles authored by roughly 1,500 contributing scholars. This source is deemed one of the most important reference encyclopedias available in the field, and the current iteration doubles the size of the original edition. This immense work involved soliciting and tracking hundreds of authors and thousands of articles with a team of area editors all coordinated by Professor Garrett. The finished product won several honors, including the Prose Award for Best Multivolume Reference Work in the Humanities and Social Sciences (2013) and Best Reference Work List, *Library Journal* (2013). Professor Garrett is a proven leader and scholar among his generation; we have much to look forward to with a steady production of his forthcoming works.

Service: Professor Garrett's professional affiliations include the Society of Ethnomusicology, International Association for the Study of Popular Music, Center for Black Music Research, American Musicological Society, and the Society for American Music, of which he currently serves as president. His University of Michigan service includes shared advising responsibilities for the LSA Music Program, which has attracted significant numbers of majors and minors from across campus. He has served as a member of the SMTD Council of Departmental Representatives, as an SMTD undergraduate advisor, and as a member of the Department of Musicology's graduate admissions committee, in addition to serving on several faculty search committees. In 2014, Professor Garrett began a three-year term as chair of the Department of Musicology. In this capacity, he has delivered dynamic and exemplary service to the school and the department; his continued leadership will be fundamental in guiding the department into a new era marked by an increased level of excellence.

External Reviewers:

Reviewer A: "It is not an overstatement to say that he is one of the best-known scholars in American music and his work will undoubtedly influence the field for the next several decades. Professor Charles Hiroshi Garrett is a prominent, influential, and respected scholar in the field of musicology. His productivity and importance in American music studies are unmatched by few others in his generation."

Reviewer B: "The combination of his editorial leadership and achievement represented in 'AmeriGrove' [i.e., The Grove Dictionary of American Music] and his role as President of the Society for American Music, I believe, clearly place him at the top of the profession."

Reviewer C: "Garrett continues to grow and surprise. He is a natural leader. A gentle man. A deep thinker. A scholar with abundant creativity. Garrett is at the top of his game. His work occupies a position of prominence within the study of American music and culture, and his long-term trajectory is exceptional."

Reviewer D: "I can think of few scholars whose scholarly achievements are only matched by his impeccable professional comportment. Garrett is a seasoned, astute, and patient man with a gentle demeanor and powerfully considered thoughts. These are all hallmarks of a great teacher. This promotion will provide him a platform to contribute more to the field, to guide students of American music history into new territories, and to inspire his peers with his matchless insights."

Reviewer E: “His standing among his colleagues nationally is very high, and it rests both on his abilities as a writer and scholar, on his presentations at conferences, and his willingness to tackle time-consuming service duties. Among the awards and honors that support his promotion, there are his scholarly awards, of course, but also his election as President of the Society for American Music as an honor, as a mark of the esteem his peers have for him as a scholar.”

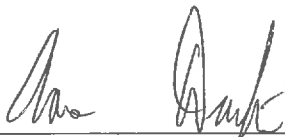
Reviewer F: “Garrett’s list of accomplishments is long, his academic work – both the separate parts and taken collectively – is singularly impressive. His achievements demonstrate the highest level of scholarly research, and his service to his home institution and to the field of musicology in general places him among a very small cohort of deeply impactful individuals. He is a scholar of serious and substantial achievement and with many more ideas still being formulated and developed in a creative but rigorous manner. Garrett has established himself in the field of musicology beyond a doubt.”

Reviewer G: “He is highly regarded in our field, both as a scholar and as a citizen of the American Musicological Society, and that he commands the respect of everyone whom I’ve ever heard speak of him.”

Reviewer H: “Chuck Garrett is the foremost American-music scholars of his generation, and among the four or five most accomplished American-music scholars active today. His own service – both to the University of Michigan and to the profession – is of the very highest caliber. He has already accomplished what many professors aspire to achieve in a lifetime. He is engaged in a highly promising trajectory of research and service that will make his record all the more stellar.”

Reviewer I: “Garrett’s work is carefully focused and powerfully resonant. I propose with some degree of certainty that there are few musicologists at the rank of associate professor in any position in the nation who have accomplished more of such consistently high quality than Charles Garrett. Garrett has impacted American musicology with a depth and breadth that few scholars having spent many decades in the discipline have accomplished.”

Summary of Recommendation: Professor Garrett’s genuine concern for the wellbeing of the students and his devotion to their education make him a popular and effective teacher. He is a respected scholar with an impressive record of accomplishment. Thoughtful, congenial and wise, he is considered a trusted and valued member of our school, and we are grateful for his calming presence, wisdom, and innumerable contributions. It is with great enthusiasm and with the support of the School of Music, Theatre & Dance Executive Committee that I recommend Charles H. Garrett for promotion to professor of music, with tenure, Department of Musicology, School of Music, Theatre & Dance.



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Aaron P. Dworkin, Dean  
Paul Boylan Collegiate Professor of Music  
School of Music, Theatre & Dance

May 2016