

PROMOTION RECOMMENDATION
The University of Michigan
College of Literature, Science, and the Arts

Ethan F. Kross, associate professor of psychology, with tenure, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts, is recommended for promotion to professor of psychology, with tenure, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts.

Academic Degrees:

Ph.D.	2007	Columbia University
M.A.	2004	Columbia University
B.A.	2001	University of Pennsylvania

Professional Record:

2013 – present	Associate Professor, Department of Psychology, University of Michigan
2009 – present	Faculty Affiliate, Center for Culture, Mind and Brain, University of Michigan
2008 – present	Faculty Associate, Research Center for Group Dynamics, and Faculty Affiliate, Depression Center, University of Michigan
2008 – 2013	Assistant Professor, Department of Psychology, University of Michigan
2007 – 2008	Post-doctoral Research Fellow, Social and Affective Neuroscience, Columbia University

Summary of Evaluation:

Teaching – Professor Kross is an outstanding teacher and mentor. Since his promotion, he has taught a number of courses in the social psychology area, including the large gateway course which satisfies a key degree requirement, an upper level undergraduate seminar course, and a graduate seminar. All have been extremely successful. Professor Kross received two teaching awards from the college – the 2014 Individual Award for Outstanding Contributions to Undergraduate Education and the 2013 Class of 1923 Memorial Teaching Award.

Research – Professor Kross is a social psychologist who studies emotions and emotion regulation. A key question in this field is whether thinking about past negative events is helpful or harmful. He has shown that it could be either depending how it is done. Professor Kross is highly respected and sought after in his field. He has been exceedingly productive throughout his career, publishing eighteen scholarly articles in the last two years alone. He also has a very strong funding picture that includes awards from the National Science Foundation and the National Institute for Mental Health, among others.

Recent and Significant Publications:

“Passive Facebook usage undermines affective well-being: Experimental and longitudinal evidence,” with P. Verduyn, et al., *Journal of Experimental Psychology: General*, 144(2), 2015, pp. 480-488.

“Self-talk as a regulatory mechanism: How you do it matters,” with E. Bruehlman-Senecal, et al., *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology*, 106, 2014, pp. 304-324.

“Exploring Solomon’s paradox: Self-distancing eliminates the self-other asymmetry in wise reasoning about close relationships in younger and older adults,” with I. Grossmann, *Psychological Science*, 25(8), 2014, pp. 1571-1580.

“Neural and genetic markers of vulnerability to post-traumatic stress symptoms among survivors of the World Trade Center attacks,” with A. Olsson, et al., *Social Cognitive Affective Neuroscience*, 10(6), 2014, pp. 863-868.

Service – Professor Kross has provided excellent service to the university and to his field. He has served on the Department of Psychology Executive, Augmented, and the Annual Review committees. He has also served on numerous faculty search committees and sits on the mentoring committees of two of junior faculty. Nationally, Professor Kross is an associate editor for the Personality Processes and Individual Differences Section of the *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology*, the major journal in his field. He is also a consulting editor for *Psychological Science*, and a grant reviewer for the National Science Foundation.

External Reviewers:

Reviewer (A)

“Viewed from any vantage point, his work is stellar. The ideas are innovative and theoretically rich, the methodologies are diverse and ambitious, and the execution is elegant and compelling. It’s easy to see why Dr. Kross has reliably placed this work in the most prestigious journals...”

Reviewer (B)

“I have long thought Ethan Kross was a clever, talented researcher who had all the tools to be an accomplished scientist. Now that he has developed theoretically deep and important research directions, I am persuaded that the signs auger really well for his future productivity and for very major contributions to the field.”

Reviewer (C)

“I would place Dr. Kross’s [sic] most central research interests – on self-distancing and social rejection – in the broad area of emotion- or self-regulation. These areas of inquiry are very crowded indeed, teeming with micro theories and overlapping and competing measures. I consider Dr. Kross’s [sic] work, undertaken since his graduate school days at Columbia, to be the most exciting, innovative, theoretically rich work in this very broad area in the field.”

Reviewer (D)

“... he has made important contributions to the science of personality, emotion, social psychology, clinical psychology, cognitive psychology, neuroscience, developmental psychology, health psychology, psychophysiology, industrial/organizational psychology, psychiatry, and medicine. ...in all of these areas he has not simply dabbled. He’s published in the very top outlets for research in each area. His vita displays an exceptional level of diversity of expertise, ambition, and intellectual courage. It is quite simply outstanding.”

Reviewer (E)

“...I think this is a very strong case for promotion to the rank of professor with tenure.

Dr. Kross...has been highly productive and unusually programmatic in his research. He has identified an important and interesting problem with broad implications for our understanding of emotion regulation and its role in a number of mental health and other applied problems..”

Reviewer (F)

“...what is making Kross so successful is his ability to look at complex problems from multiple perspectives... He draws from methods in neuroscience, developmental psychology, and social and personality. His ideas are refreshing and reveal a rich curiosity about the world. ... He is publishing at an astonishing rate in the top journals. ... Kross is smart in taking his work into the neuroscience domain which will open new funding options.”

Reviewer (G)

“Kross has been amazingly productive and his articles have appeared in a wide array of the very finest journals in our field. In fact, one of the most striking things about his vita is not the number of publications (which is undeniably impressive) but the breadth and consistently high quality of the outlets in which his work has appeared. ...Kross is already an internationally recognized scholar whose star seems poised to rise to even higher heights in the future.”

Summary of Recommendation:

Professor Kross has excelled in research, teaching, and service, not only since his promotion, but throughout his career. The Executive Committee of the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts and I recommend that Associate Professor Ethan F. Kross be promoted to the rank of professor of psychology, with tenure, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts.



Andrew D. Martin, Dean
Professor of Political Science and Statistics
College of Literature, Science, and the Arts

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