

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

Cindy Ann Lustig, 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.	2001	Duke University
M.A.	1996	Case Western Reserve University
B.A.	1996	Case Western Reserve University

Professional Record:

2010 – present	Associate Professor, Department of Psychology, University of Michigan
2004 – 2010	Assistant Professor, Department of Psychology, University of Michigan
2001 – 2004	Post-doctoral Fellow, Department of Psychology, Washington University

Summary of Evaluation:

Teaching – Professor Lustig has an excellent record of teaching and mentoring. She regularly teaches “Learning and Memory” at the undergraduate and graduate levels with very high ratings from her students. This topic is central to the department’s mission so these offerings provide a critical service to the curriculum. She also regularly teaches upper-level undergraduate courses which are very highly rated. Because the department struggles to offer enough upper-level courses, Professor Lustig’s teaching fills a critical need. Her students often mention that she has very high expectations and inspires them to work very hard, so the fact that she still manages to obtain high student ratings is a testament to her effectiveness as a teacher. She has successfully mentored a very large number of students, both at the undergraduate and graduate levels, and student letters speak very highly of her deep commitment to mentorship.

Research – Professor Lustig is an outstanding researcher who investigates the neural, genetic, and chemical basis of memory and attention, with a particular focus on the mechanisms underlying forgetting. Her work is among the most interdisciplinary in the entire field, combining behavioral studies with neuroimaging, animal work, genetic studies, and work with older populations and with patient populations, and humans demonstrating the role of the neurotransmitter acetylcholine in attention and distraction, the development of a task that is now being used to assess attention in a large number of schizophrenic. She has published over 40 articles and five of her papers have been cited over 100 times. Professor Lustig’s research contributions have been recognized by the American Psychological Association Early Career Contribution Award and by the UM Henry Russel Award, among others. She has been consistently productive her entire career and we only expect that productivity to grow.

Recent and Significant Publications:

“Cholinergic capacity mediates prefrontal engagement during challenges to attention: Evidence from imaging genetics,” with A. S. Berry, et al., *NeuroImage*, 108, 2015, pp. 386-395 (doi:10.1016/j.neuroimage.2014.12.036).

“CNTRICS final animal model task selection: Control of attention,” with R. Kozak, et al., *Neuroscience and Biobehavioral Reviews*, 37, 2013, pp. 2099-2110 (DOI: 10.1016/j.neubiorev.2012.05.009).

“Aging, training, and the brain: A review and future directions,” with P. Shah, et al., *Neuropsychology Review*, 19, 2009, pp. 504-522.

“Who benefits from memory training?” with D. Bissig, *Psychological Science*, 18, 2007, pp. 720-726.

Service – Professor Lustig’s record of service is outstanding. Locally, she has served on countless committees, including the Psychology Augmented Executive Committee, the Psychology Student Academic Affairs Committee, the IRB HSBS Advisory Committee, the LSA IT Security Committee, the fMRI Lab Executive Committee, the Psychology Annual Review Committee, and numerous faculty search committees. Her national service record is even more impressive. She has served on the editorial boards of four major journals, is currently serving as associate editor for two of them, and recently co-founded another journal.

External Reviewers:

Reviewer (A)

“I would recommend, without hesitation, Dr. Lustig’s promotion to Professor with Tenure. She’s highly productive, is fully engaged, has done high impact work, and has a stellar international reputation.”

Reviewer (B)

“...she has written some very important influential reviews (i.e., Aging, Training and the brain – over 200 citations) and these are a major contribution...to the field as well. Thus...I think the case for her promotion is good and multifaceted...”

Reviewer (C)

“I think Cindy is very well recognized in cognitive neuroscience of aging and is rapidly achieving recognition in the new domains she started in the last few years. As past member and chair of several promotion committees, I believe Cindy would receive promotion to full professor at [my institution]....”

Reviewer (D)

“Her papers on memory and aging have had substantial impact, and she is clearly an international leader in that field. ... I have been impressed with her published studies and their impact. ... In sum, Dr. Lustig is a highly admired researcher who continues to produce important and sophisticated new work.”

Reviewer (E)

“Dr. Lustig has excellent visibility in the wider community. This is evident particularly in her prizes from the APA and the APS, and her founding editorship together with Trevor Robbins of the new journal: ‘Current Opinion in Behavioral Sciences’... Much of her work is well cited, particularly that in [aging]...and working memory, and she has clearly had a reasonable measure of success in getting funding in what is a trying time.”

Reviewer (F)

“...it is overly clear that Dr. Lustig is a rising leader in her field and a highly valuable asset to the Psychology program at UM. She has been highly productive in research accomplishments and contributions to the profession and to the university. She is well recognized as a leader in the field as reflected in her many well-cited papers, invited talks in many venues, and leadership roles.”

Reviewer (G)

“...Professor Cindy Lustig is a bright, creative and hard working scientist who has already demonstrated that she can address important scientific issues resulting in new theories that should guide research for many years to come. I have no doubt that this impressive trajectory of scientific contributions will only further accelerate in the future.”

Reviewer (H)

“My very positive impression of Dr. Lustig’s research profile is clearly shared by the international neuroscientific community as is evident when considering her impressive list of publications in topnotch journals...her h-index of 26, her editorial involvement in important journals...as well as the prestigious prizes awarded to her... Taken together, the promotion of Cindy Lustig to the rank of Professor has my unconditional and strong support.”

Summary of Recommendation:

Professor Lustig has excelled in her teaching, research, and service since her promotion to tenure and throughout her career. She is a crucial contributor to the Department of Psychology’s mission. The Executive Committee of the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts and I recommend that Associate Professor Cindy Ann Lustig 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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