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

Matias D. Cattaneo, associate professor of economics, with tenure, and associate professor of statistics, without tenure, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts, is recommended for promotion to professor of economics, with tenure, and professor of statistics, without tenure, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts.

Academic Degrees:

Ph.D.	2008	University of California, Berkeley
M.A.	2005	University of California, Berkeley
M.A.	2003	Universidad Torcuato Di Tella, Argentina
Licentiate	2000	Universidad de Buenos Aires, Argentina

Professional Record:

2015 – present	Associate Professor, Department of Statistics, University of Michigan
2013 – present	Associate Professor, Department of Economics, University of Michigan
2012	Visiting Scholar, Department of Economics, Massachusetts Institute of Technology
2011	Visiting Scholar, Department of Economics, Harvard University
2008 – 2013	Assistant Professor, Department of Economics, University of Michigan

Summary of Evaluation:
Teaching – Professor Cattaneo is an outstanding teacher. He is a key instructor for core econometrics courses at the graduate level taken in economics and a range of related fields. Professor Cattaneo has prepared a total of six new courses at the 400 and 600 levels during his time at Michigan, which is an unusually high number. These courses include both undergraduate and graduate courses ranging from core courses for all Ph.D. students to advanced field courses on the most technical subjects and quantitative methods courses. His courses are widely praised and student evaluations are very strong across the board. Professor Cattaneo helped revitalize the study of theoretical econometrics, training and placing the first student specializing in advanced econometric theory to graduate from Michigan in several decades.

Research – Professor Cattaneo has made important contributions to theoretical econometrics. He has published extensively and now serves on the editorial teams for several major field journals. He is recognized as the one of the world's leading experts on "robustifying" classical semi-parametric inference. Professor Cattaneo's work has important implications for the application of the widely used regression-discontinuity designs, providing bridges between statistical theory and empirical social science research.

Recent and Significant Publications:
"Alternative asymptotics and the partially linear model with many regressors," with M. Jansson and W. Newey, *Econometric Theory*, forthcoming.

"Optimal data-driven regression discontinuity plots," with S. Calonico and R. Titiunik, *Journal of the American Statistical Association*, 110(512), 2015, pp. 1753–1769.

"Bootstrapping density-weighted average derivatives," with R. Crump and M. Jansson, *Econometric Theory*, 30(6), 2014, pp. 1135–1164.

"Robust nonparametric confidence intervals for regression-discontinuity designs," with S. Calonico and R. Titiunik, *Econometrica*, 82(6), 2014, pp. 2295–2326.

Service – Professor Cattaneo has served the department, college, and university well. At the departmental level, he has been a member of the Executive, Graduate Program, and Ph.D. Admissions committees. For the college, he is a member of the LSA Dean's Committee on Quantitative Social Science. For the university, he has been elected representative to the Senate Assembly. For the wider community, Professor Cattaneo co-founder and co-organizer of the Interdisciplinary Seminar of Quantitative Methods (ISQM).

External Reviewers:

Reviewer (A)

"Matias is a rising star in his cohort, and I expect him to write many more insightful and important papers. In my evaluation, the case of promoting him to the rank of full professor is a very, very strong one…"

Reviewer (B)

"Let me state clearly my bottom line, which is that, in my opinion, Matias should be promoted to Professor. His scholarship since receiving tenure has only further cemented his leadership in the field of econometrics. This is a no-brainer."

Reviewer (C)

"…I consider Matias an outstanding scholar who is doing important work to advance the frontiers of the field. He is a tremendous asset to your department and university. … Matias has also developed significant interdisciplinary connections with researchers in statistics, political science, and other fields. This is evident from his cross-disciplinary research collaborations, his publication record in journals in statistics, political science, and other fields, and his service on the editorial boards of two statistics journals. …it takes nontrivial effort and a certain kind of openness to really establish such connections, as Matias has done."

Reviewer (D)

"…he is an excellent econometrician who has made substantive contributions in econometrics and statistics… Prof. Cattaneo's publication trajectory is promising and, in my opinion, his papers keep getting more interesting. … I think his research profile clearly merits promotion to full professor in the economics department at the University of Michigan."

Reviewer (E)

"Matias is one of the rare econometricians these days who actually cares about empirical work. …['Nonparametric bias-corrected inference in the regression discontinuity design'] is the cleverest idea I have seen in the regression discontinuity literature for the last couple of years…"

Reviewer (F)
"Matias Cattaneo is an extremely accomplished researcher with important publications in top-rated journals and a well-deserved international reputation as one of the leading experts in econometrics."

Reviewer (G)
"This is such a no-brainer decision… Matias is extremely smart, super quick, very ambitious, hard-working, efficient and full of energy. He is also very friendly. I wish that I could have him as a colleague."

Reviewer (H)
"While Matias Cattaneo's works are of high technical level, they are all motivated by their practical implementation. This characteristic makes their impact much higher and wider than usual theoretical econometrics papers. … Cattaneo's work is original and highly respected by applied econometricians as well as theoretical econometricians. Within his cohort, he belongs in the group of very top econometricians."

Reviewer (I)
"I believe that Mathias [sic] is an extremely strong econonometrician [sic], who, in my opinion, is at the top of his cohort. I most enthusiastically recommend his promotion. …[he] has written a number of excellent papers, published or forthcoming in top general interest journals or top field journals."

Summary of Recommendation:
Professor Cattaneo is a high-impact scholar with an emerging international reputation in theoretical econometrics. In addition to his exemplary research, teaching, and service, he has played a leading role in stimulating interdisciplinary connections among quantitative social scientists at the University of Michigan. The Executive Committee of the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts and I recommended that Associate Professor Matias D. Cattaneo be promoted to the rank of professor of economics, with tenure, and professor of statistics, without 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

May 2017