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

Michael D. Gurevich, assistant professor of music, Department of Performing Arts Technology, School of Music, Theatre & Dance, is recommended for promotion to associate professor of music, with tenure, Department of Performing Arts Technology, School of Music, Theatre & Dance.

## Academic Degrees:

Ph.D.	2006	Stanford University, Computer-Based Music Theory and Acoustics
M.A.	2003	Stanford University, Computer-Based Music Theory and Acoustics
B.Mus.	2000	McGill University, Honours Computer Application in Music (high
		distinction)

## Professional Record:

2011 - present	Assistant Professor of Music, University of Michigan
2008 - 2011	Lecturer, Sonic Arts Research Centre, School of Music & Sonic Arts,
	Queen's University Belfast
2006 - 2008	Post-doctoral Research Scholar, Stanford University
2005 - 2006	Associate Scientist, Sound and Interactivity Group Institute for
	Infocomm Research, Singapore

### Summary of Evaluation:

Teaching: Professor Gurevich teaches a range of levels from the freshman seminar in media arts to master's level courses. His teaching style is best described as thoughtful and extremely thorough. Students are challenged to become more informed about the contextual, artistic, technical, and historical significance of topics of study, and as importantly, how they relate to the evolving field of music technology. Students are required to complete project-based coursework, performances, and the practical application of music technology theory. An example of his project-based coursework involves students designing, building, and eventually performing with instruments of their own creation. These elements are critical to the development of a number of core courses in the department. His commitment to integrating theory and practice and making every course an opportunity for both research and performance, has made him an exemplary and sought-after teacher. His course evaluations scores have steadily risen, and he enjoys some of the highest course rankings in the department. Professor Gurevich has created new courses in interactive media design, which focus on designing and building new instruments for musical expression, and his work with electronic chamber music has sparked new interest. He continually seeks new ways to engage students in the process of learning and creative practice. Professor Gurevich has been successful in obtaining funding with an award from UM's Transforming Learning for the Third Century for a new course entitled "Student Partnerships in Technology and Performing Arts" that expands his work in the classroom by providing an inclusive and supportive collaborative space for students in the PAT program to work with students in other performance programs. In this course, students prepare and perform integrated

acoustic and electronic music through their own compositions, improvisations, computer programming, musical instrument and interface design, and video work.

Professional Activities: Professor Gurevich is doing important research in the area of new instruments and interfaces for musical expression, especially in his work that reflects the role of gesture and movement in an audience's perception of performance by musicians using digital, computer-based musical instruments. His work is highly interdisciplinary primarily due to the nature of the field itself, however, exploring related fields informs his approach to both his teaching and research. He has a strong intellectual curiosity for topics that relate to his research interests, and broadening his knowledge base led to continuous improvements in his teaching and creative activities. He has risen to an impressive level of expertise in a diverse array of artistic. scholarly and technical fields as evidenced by the numerous insightful peer-reviewed journal articles and conference proceedings. Sample chapters of his book are well-received and they reveal details about the beginning and evolution of the field of computer music. At this relatively early stage of his career, Professor Gurevich is described as an accomplished scholar with a track record of publications in the most significant journals in the field of computer music. Of particular significance are his contributions relating to ecologies of performance, his work on the aesthetics of performing music with computers, and a book he is currently writing on the history of Stanford's Center for Computer-based Music and Acoustics. Since 2010, he has published six journal articles, one book chapter, 14 peer-reviewed conference papers, as well as his book that is underway. In addition to his scholarly work, he has to his credit a significant number of performances and installations.

Service: In September 2016, Professor Gurevich agreed to serve as the chair of the Department of Performing Arts Technology; his contributions in this role have already proven enormously helpful. He also served as the chair of the Council of Departmental Representatives for two years (2014-16), overseeing considerable curricular changes across many undergraduate programs, and he has been a vital member of several faculty search committees. Of particular note was Professor Gurevich's meaningful role as a member of the design team during construction of the Brehm Technology Innovation Suite; he also oversees the day-to-day management of the Chip Davis Technology Studio and its associated Workshop. His service to the profession is remarkable with numerous contributions to the New Interfaces for Musical Expression community in various roles as session chair, membership on program committees, and serving as a meta reviewer for the 2015/2016 conference. Professor Gurevich serves as an ongoing peer reviewer for numerous conferences, journals and publishers including Oxford University Press, Computer Music Journal, Academy of Finland, International Computer Music Conference, ACM Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI), among many others. He was guest editor for a special issue of one of the most respected and recognized music technology publications - Computer Music Journal.

#### External Reviewers:

Reviewer A: "Dr. Gurevich's dossier documents his consistent and significant contribution to the field of computer music. In the areas of scholarship and creative activity, Gurevich has contributed significantly to the visibility and leadership of the University of Michigan in the creation, performance, musical interpretation and evaluation of new instruments for musical expression."

Reviewer B: "Dr. Gurevich's research is truly exceptional and world-class. He has a strong research and publication record, an outstanding and growing teaching portfolio and is fully engaged with the advancement of his discipline, the school and the university. His successes are clearly visible in his publication record, the success of his students, and the deep respect and admiration by his disciplinary peers."

Reviewer C: "Gurevich has made enormous contributions to research, and he has done this while contributing exceptionally to the service of his school and department, and designing an impressive suite of exciting courses."

Reviewer D: "The quantity, quality, and impact of his scholarly publications, his interdisciplinary expertise across music and multiple academic and humanities disciplines, his dedicated, research-informed teaching style and high evidence of success in teaching, and his exemplary record of service both within the university and within the broader field of music technology makes this an easy case for promotion."

Reviewer E: "He has maintained a sustained level of scholarly and professional activities; the quality and quantity of his work are commensurate with that expected for promotion; he has demonstrated excellence in teaching and service both to the University and to his discipline."

Reviewer F: "In my view, he is an outstanding scholar in the field with a long and impressive track-record of practice-based research. The energy and passion which Michael brings to his work is evident in his writings and performances and I am sure that his stature in the field will continue to grow."

Reviewer G: "I think Michael Gurevich is an excellent researcher, teacher and community member. He is a great ambassador for both music technology and the University of Michigan and raise the reputation of both."

Reviewer H: "A defining aspect of Prof. Gurevich's research is its strong multidisciplinary focus. This is an important contribution to the New Interfaces for Musical Expression community, opening up new research directions, for instance, through the use of methodologies from social sciences - this is a welcome contribution."

Reviewer I: "In his field, Michael Gurevich is one of the outstanding scholars of his generation, as attested to by the impressive list of co-authors with whom he has published. His list of publications is impressive, but the aspiration and breadth of those currently in press promises to introduce his work to a still wider audience. Student evaluations are extremely positive, and supported by comments that he is an 'incredible teacher'. Clearly, Michael has been a very positive ambassador for the University of Michigan in the public aspects of his role."

<u>Internal Review:</u> The combination of highly relevant and innovative scholarly work, critical thinking on important issues, and an exemplary teaching record makes Professor Gurevich an essential faculty colleague and leader within our school. He is extraordinarily disciplinary in nature in all aspects of his appointment, and is an admirable and inspiring colleague. His skill set is a perfect match to excel and lead in the evolving field of music technology.

<u>Summary of Recommendation</u>: Professor Gurevich is an innovative and inspiring teacher who continually seeks new ways to engage students from a variety of levels and skills. His scholarly work is respected and acknowledged by peers in the field. His record of providing meaningful service and leadership to the school and the department is exemplary. Professor Gurevich's field of study is evolving quickly and his natural affinity for interdisciplinary work will be key to his continued success. It with great enthusiasm and with the support of the School of Music, Theatre & Dance Executive Committee that I recommend Michael D. Gurevich for promotion to associate professor of music, with tenure, Department of Performing Arts Technology, School of Music, Theatre & Dance.

Aaron P. Dworkin

Paul Boylan Collegiate Professor of Music and Dean, School of Music, Theatre & Dance

May 2017