

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

Jelena Krivokapić, assistant professor of linguistics, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts, is recommended for promotion to associate professor of linguistics, with tenure, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts.

Academic Degrees:

Ph.D.	2007	University of Southern California, Los Angeles
M.A.	2003	University of Southern California, Los Angeles
Magister Artium	1998	Georg August University, Göttingen, Germany

Professional Record:

2013 – present	Assistant Professor, Department of Linguistics, University of Michigan
2012 – present	Affiliated Research Scientist, Haskins Laboratories
2007 – 2013	Assistant Professor, Department of Linguistics, Yale University

Summary of Evaluation:

Teaching – Professor Krivokapić’s teaching contributions are essential to the undergraduate and graduate curricula in phonetics. Her contributions are also central to the department’s mission to highlight multiple approaches to the scientific study of language. In addition to her repertoire of courses in general phonetics, she has successfully developed a set of courses focusing on prosody at the undergraduate and graduate levels. Her courses address the needs of a wide range of LSA undergraduates, preparing them to engage in a complex society in which experimentation and scientific argumentation form fundamental skills. An innovative, enthusiastic, and rigorous teacher, she fosters deep and engaged learning in the students with whom she works, and she has involved undergraduate students in her laboratory research. Professor Krivokapić is also a valued mentor to undergraduate and graduate students, who praise her exacting yet supportive approach and comment repeatedly on how much they have learned from her. Students also consistently note her skill at nurturing students while pushing them toward intellectual independence.

Research – Professor Krivokapić has made foundational contributions to the study of prosody, which explores the use of pitch, amplitude, rhythm, duration, and pausing to provide information about grammatical and discourse structure. She is particularly well known for her widely cited work indicating that prosodic structure is much more finely grained than dominant models have been able to capture. Professor Krivokapić is also widely recognized for her work on speech and non-speech gestures (such as head and hand movement), which provides theoretical and methodological innovation. Her findings have been published in the most prestigious journals in her field and presented in some of the most elite phonetics venues both nationally and internationally. Professor Krivokapić’s wide reaching, innovative, and methodologically rigorous research has earned her a reputation as a phonetician and laboratory phonologist of the highest caliber.

Recent and Significant Publications:

- “Gestural coordination at prosodic boundaries and its role for prosodic structure and speech planning processes,” *Communicative rhythms in brain and behaviour. Theme Issue of the Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society B (Biology)*, 369, 2014, pp. 2013.0397.
- “Rhythm and convergence between speakers of American and Indian English,” *Laboratory Phonology*, 4, 2013, pp. 39–65.
- “Prosodic boundary strength: An articulatory and perceptual study,” with D. Byrd, *Journal of Phonetics*, 40, 2012, pp. 430–442.
- “Prosodic planning: Effects of phrasal length and complexity on pause duration,” *Journal of Phonetics*, 35, 2007, pp. 162–179.

Service – Professor Krivokapić provides impressive service to the Department of Linguistics where she has served on the Executive and Undergraduate Committees, and to the university where she has served as an elected member of the Senate Assembly. She brings highly respected thoughtfulness, pragmatism, and intellectual rigor to these roles, and has especially contributed to departmental interests aimed at fostering stronger intra-disciplinary departmental connections. Professor Krivokapić is also a valued faculty member in her association with the Cognitive Science major. In service to the profession, she is regularly invited to serve as a journal, book, grant, and conference reviewer. She was also invited to be the associate editor of the *Journal of the International Phonetic Association*, one of the preeminent journals in her field.

External Reviewers:

Reviewer (A)

“...Jelena is a leading figure in her field with a cohesive research program that has already had an impact on our understanding and modeling of prosody. ...[Her] research record is very strong, in both quantity and quality, and coherent in focus, while varied at the same time.”

Reviewer (B)

“...she has regularly published an average of one substantial paper as an article in a major refereed archival journal every year, and each of these papers presents a distinct and important novel strand of work.”

Reviewer (C)

“Dr. Krivokapić is one of the most visible and productive linguistics phoneticians [in her cohort] in the field today. ...I recommend most strongly the promotion to Associate Professor with tenure of Jelena Krivokapić. Her dynamic, forward-looking and cutting-edge research program has already raised Michigan’s reputation in the area of articulatory phonetics and bolstered your existing strength in laboratory phonology.”

Reviewer (D)

“There are indeed a number of Jelena’s works that are truly outstanding. One of the areas of her research that, I believe, have contributed to the field, especially in advancing theories of the phonetics-prosody interface, can be found in a series of her papers related to the role of pause and prosodic structuring (Krivokapić, 2007; 2011; 2012). ...her proposal that the structural

complexity of prosody be driven by cognitive factors in speech planning (e.g., buffering time) is very appealing and inspiring...”

Reviewer (E)

“My overall evaluation of her research record is that it represents that of an excellent... researcher in phonetics who holds promise of a very productive, long-term career as an experimental phonetician and cognitive scientist.”

Reviewer (F)

“As is evident in her CV, Jelena shows a clear research strategy of targeting excellent journal outlets... I am also impressed by the breadth and depth of Jelena’s research focus. ...it is rare in my experience to find a researcher who combines a deep understanding of articulatory kinematics and acoustic phonetics with theoretical prosodic models, speech and language processing, and gesture. This is a terrific combination...”

Reviewer (G)

“Dr. Krivokapić has created an impressive body of work in [timing and phonetic realization of prosody]... These investigations are important from both a scientific and a practical point of view. ... She is forging new paths in conveying the characteristics of spoken language to students in her classes and is pioneering new and more detailed research into prosodic aspects of language in her research.”

Reviewer (H)

“...the scientific work carried out by Dr. Krivokapić in the past 10 years has been central in the fields of articulatory phonology and prosody.”

Summary of Recommendation:

Professor Krivokapić is regarded as one of the world’s authorities in the study of prosody and is known for her technical, methodological, and theoretical rigor as well as the elegance and clarity of her explanations. Her teaching is as meticulous as her research and reflects a scholar who engages her students and is engaged in their learning. The Executive Committee of the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts and I recommend that Assistant Professor Jelena Krivokapić be promoted to the rank of associate professor of linguistics, with tenure, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts.



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

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