

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

Jane E. Westlake, associate professor of theatre and drama, with tenure, Department of Theatre and Drama, School of Music, Theatre & Dance, and associate professor of English language and literature, without tenure, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts, is recommended for promotion to professor of theatre and drama, with tenure, School of Music, Theatre & Dance, and professor of English language and literature, without tenure, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts.

Academic Degrees:

Ph.D.	1997	University of Wisconsin-Madison, Theatre and Drama
M.A.	1990	Portland State University, Theatre Arts
B.I.S.	1985	University of Minnesota-Minneapolis, Bachelor of Individualized Studies; Theatre Arts, Business, Economics

Professional Record:

2012 – present	Associate Professor of English Language and Literature, Department of English Language and Literature, University of Michigan
2010 - present	Associate Professor of Theatre and Drama, Department of Theatre and Drama, University of Michigan
2004 - 2010	Assistant Professor of Theatre and Drama, Department of Theatre and Drama, University of Michigan
2001 - 2004	Adjunct Assistant Professor, Department of Theatre and Drama, University of Michigan
2001	Instructor, Department of Sociology, Bowling Green State University
2000 -2001	Visiting Assistant Professor, Theatre Department, Bowling Green State University
1999 - 2000	Instructor, Department of Theatre, Auburn University
1998 - 1999	Lecturer, Department of Theatre and Drama, University of Wisconsin-Madison

Summary of Evaluation:

Teaching: Professor Westlake teaches a wide range of diverse and engaging courses on the study of productions, playwrights, and theatrical movements. Students from across campus attend her courses including Engineering, Social Work, Women's Studies, Psychology, English, and the School of Music, Theatre & Dance. Professor Westlake utilizes a variety of methods to enliven and challenge the students including guest speakers, books, periodicals, videos, and live performances. Her deep interest in scholarship in the arts have inspired a number of students to continue on to graduate studies. Professor Westlake has mentored Bachelor of Theatre Arts students for over 13 years, providing advice regarding curriculum and career paths, and guided them through their years at Michigan. She is an excellent mentor for our students, and confirmation of this is borne out in the high course evaluations she continually receives.

Professor Westlake is dedicated and committed to teaching and attaining a high level of academic success, also taking great care and interest in students' individual development.

Professional Activities: Professor Westlake's scholarly activities are thought to be well-regarded, significant, and focused on important global issues across a variety of disciplines. She has won two prestigious research awards – a Fulbright Fellowship and an American Society for Theatre Research fellowship – as well as numerous campus grants. She has developed a research profile that consists of two published books, one accepted and forthcoming book, World Theatre: The Basics, which is considered a significant contribution to the field of theatre and performance studies and is scheduled to be published in one of the most highly regarded academic presses. An additional book in progress, El Güegüence, Nicaragua, and Post-Sandinista Politics, is a critical edition of a Nicaraguan dance-drama with a new translation. Additionally, she has five published chapters in books, two new book chapters under review and forthcoming, and seven published articles in scholarly journals. Professor Westlake has been invited to share her research through a significant number of lectures and conferences both nationally and internationally.

Service: Professor Westlake has provided an astounding amount of meaningful service in many areas. Within her department, she has served numerous terms as the departmental representative for the Faculty Council on Graduate Studies, as the primary Bachelor of Theatre Arts Advisor, and on numerous thesis/dissertation committees. She reformed and diversified the curriculum for Theatre Studies and was a founding member of the Global Theatre and Ethnic Studies minor, providing students with global and diverse perspectives on performance in the department and across the university. Professor Westlake has also served as a member of the school's Council of Departmental Representatives overseeing the undergraduate curriculum, and has served on numerous faculty search committees. For the university, Professor Westlake has been a member of the Faculty Senate, a Hopwood Awards Judge, and co-director of the performance and ethnography series for the Center for World Performance Studies. Her service to the profession is equally impressive with election to the American Society for Theatre Research executive committee, a book review editor for *Theatre Annual*, currently serving on the editorial board of *Youth Theatre Journal*, and most recently, a finalist to be co-editor and then editor of *Theatre Journal* - the most prestigious journal in the field.

External Reviewers:

Reviewer A: "Dr. Westlake has maintained a strong record of scholarly research, noteworthy for its breadth as well as its depth. Dr. Westlake has made a significant and sustained contribution to her field at a level commensurate with her rank and status within the profession."

Reviewer B: "Professor Westlake's scholarship is strong. Her work is focused on important issues and demonstrates multifaceted, socially and critically articulated research and study, especially with representative works of the western hemisphere. She is making meaningful contributions to the field of performance studies, integrating postmodern theory, anthropology, history and performance praxis, among other disciplines."

Reviewer C: "Professor Westlake's creative work, her scholarship and teaching are obviously informed by an understanding of and deep interest in the creative side of the discipline. This is

borne out by her vita, which shows a considerable range of practical theatre experience in directing, acting, design, and playwriting.”

Reviewer D: “Without exception, I found the materials included in the dossier to be of the highest caliber and on par with (or, indeed, exceeding!) disciplinary norms. The scholarly works listed and examples provided are sophisticated in scope and progressive in their attempt to push the study of theatre and performance forward in important and exciting ways.”

Reviewer E: “Dr. Westlake is widely-known and visible in her field. She is clearly on the cusp of a very productive, fruitful stage of her career that will bring prestige to your institution and further raise her standing in our field.”

Reviewer F: “I rank the quality, quantity, focus and scholarly impact of Professor Westlake’s recent research highly. Professor Westlake is exemplarily active in our major national professional society, American Society for Theatre Research, where she served on the important (and competitive) executive committee for three years. This is a file of a scholar who makes a substantive difference in her service, pedagogy, and research, whose commitment to performance and social change is steadfast and ever-evolving.”

Reviewer G: “Clearly, she is a strong teacher, constantly working to re-assess her effectiveness in the classroom and to introduce new pedagogical methods into her repertoire. She has also been active in her outreach across departments at Michigan, serving on outside committees and as an advisor to students beyond her program.”

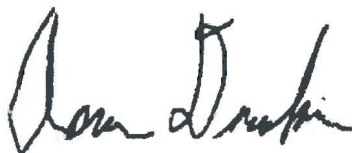
Reviewer H: “Dr. Westlake has amassed a strong list of publications and scholarly accomplishments. Dr. Westlake’s depth of passion for her subjects and scholarship that is imbued with imagination and creativity are also reflected in her work in the classroom. Her scholarship, teaching and service clearly demonstrate excellence in the fields of Theatre History, Performance Studies, and World Dramatic Literature.”

Reviewer I: “In all the work I have read by Dr. Westlake, I have found her to be a thoughtful and reliable guide through some of the thorny issues facing scholars of theatre and performance, especially in the context of ignored or undervalued minoritarian practice. She is also a caring teacher who has earned the respect and gratitude of her students.”

Reviewer J: “Dr. Westlake is a hard-working scholar, with a record of productivity both in her specific area of research and more generally in the field of popular performance. Her case represents a significant achievement of original research that witnesses an ongoing scholarly trajectory - which is everywhere evident in this case.”

Internal Review: Professor Westlake has established a high degree of respect and support from her colleagues regarding her teaching, research and service activities. She is a thoughtful and contributing member of the department and is a great collaborator. Professor Westlake has a collegial way of working with departmental issues and is a strong advocate for female scholars within her department and the school in general. Her colleagues describe her as a generous mentor, innovative teacher, and an original and idealistic scholar.

Summary of Recommendation: Professor Westlake is an enthusiastic and dedicated teacher, and generous mentor. She is an active and respected scholar who is making significant contributions to the field of theater and performance studies. Her service profile is prolific within the school and the profession. Professor Westlake has created relationships across disciplinary boundaries on the UM campus with affiliate appointments with American Culture, the Center for World Performance Studies, the Department of Latin American and Caribbean Studies, and the Department of Romance Languages. She is an exceedingly interdisciplinary colleague and we are grateful for her presence and work within the school. It is with great enthusiasm and with the support of the School of Music, Theatre & Dance Executive Committee and the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts Executive Committee that we recommend Jane E. Westlake for promotion to professor of theatre and drama, with tenure, Department of Theatre and Drama, School of Music, Theatre & Dance, and professor of English language and literature, without tenure, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts.



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Aaron P. Dworkin  
Paul Boylan Collegiate Professor of Music  
and Dean, School of Music, Theatre & Dance



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

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