

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

Jesse E. Hoffnung-Garskof, associate professor of American culture, with tenure, and associate professor of history, with tenure, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts, is recommended for promotion to professor of American culture, with tenure, and professor of history, with tenure, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts.

Academic Degrees:

Ph.D.	2002	Princeton University
A.B.	1993	Harvard University

Professional Record:

2008 – present	Associate Professor, Departments of American Culture and of History, University of Michigan
2002 – 2008	Assistant Professor, Departments of American Culture and of History, University of Michigan

Summary of Evaluation:

Teaching – Professor Hoffnung-Garskof has a strong record of successful teaching, innovative pedagogy, and outstanding student mentoring. He has developed an impressive menu of courses in Latin American, Latina/o, and immigration history. His courses are cross-listed among several units, which reflects his versatility and multidisciplinary interests. He has taught “History of Latinas/os in the U.S.” three times and “History of Colonial Latin America” once, receiving solid scores and generally positive comments from his students. His signature class, “The Latin Tinge,” has increasing enrollments in the mid-40s and students consistently praise his teaching style and comment positively on the quality of his lectures. The other signature class is “Immigration Law,” which incorporates workshops and group assignments. This course has been successful from the beginning, with student evaluations giving him near-perfect scores and student comments on the transformative impact of this class. Professor Hoffnung-Garskof has been one of the most active advisors of graduate students in the Departments of American Culture and History, among others. He has served on thirty dissertation committees, including four that he has chaired.

Research – Professor Hoffnung-Garskof has solidified his leadership in Latin American and Latina/o history, exploring the intersections of race, gender, class, nationalism, and politics through studies of diasporic communities and social activism. He shows notable versatility and breadth in his scholarship, and his original and significant research is breaking new ground in the fields of Latin America and Latina/o history. His dossier is characterized by a range of well-received articles, which he has published in high-impact journals. The centerpiece of his promotion case is the book manuscript entitled Racial Migrations, a monograph accepted by Princeton University Press that soon will be headed for production and publication. This book is an eloquently written microhistory that brings together the best of global and local history. Professor Hoffnung-Garskof has a high level of scholarly productivity that promises to continue in new and exciting directions.

Recent and Significant Publications:

Racial Migrations: New York City and the Revolutionary Politics of the Spanish Caribbean, 1850-1910, Princeton University Press, under contract, publication date fall 2018.

“The Immigration Reform Act of 1965,” The Familiar Made Strange: Iconic American Texts after the Transnational Turn, B. Blower and M. Bradley, eds., Cornell University Press, 2015, pp. 125-140.

A Tale of Two Cities: Santo Domingo and New York after 1950, Princeton University Press, 2008.

“To abolish the law of castes: Merit, manhood, and the problem of color in the Puerto Rico liberal movement, 1873-1898,” *Social History*, 36(3), 2011, pp. 312-342.

Service – Professor Hoffnung-Garskof has a very strong record of service to his departments and the university. He served as the director of the Latin American and Caribbean Studies Center and currently serves as the associate chair of the Department of American Culture. He has many administrative strengths, superb communication skills, and a promising future in leadership roles.

#### External Reviews:

##### Reviewer (A)

“Jesse Hoffnung-Garskof is already a well-established, well-known, respected scholar whose work transcends and complicates traditional distinctions between the United States, Latin America, and the Caribbean. ‘Racial Migrations’ is a singular and important addition to a growing field of transnational studies that seek to understand how racial meaning, practices, and discourses are produced transnationally. ... Hoffnung-Garskof’s scholarly standing and trajectory compare favorably to several excellent scholars [in his cohort]... This is a rather distinguished cohort. ...Hoffnung-Garskof...has been for some time...one of its most visible and accomplished members.”

##### Reviewer (B)

“...Hoffnung-Garskof has produced an excellent book manuscript, one which will transform our understanding of race, migration, and politics in the nineteenth century circum-Caribbean world. ... Indeed, this book will substantially re-write many of our assumptions about ethno-racial groupings in New York City as well as about the creation of turn-of-the-century revolutionary circum-Caribbean politics and its own particularities of paternalism. ...In the current political climate Jesse Hoffnung-Garskof’s mentoring of minority women graduate students could not be more important.”

##### Reviewer (C)

“What stands out about Hoffnung-Garskof’s work is that it is delightfully difficult to categorize. In this sense it richly embodies an interdisciplinary approach that is part of his position in History and American Studies and more broadly central to the work of the Humanities at the University of Michigan. ... In addition to the contributions it makes to Caribbean and U.S. History, then, it is also a model both for the writing of multi-sited history and for the successful combination of varied methodologies. ...I believe he would receive this promotion at my own institution.”

##### Reviewer (D)

“Jesse’s second book, *Racial Migrations*...will be an immensely important book. Superbly written, researched, and argued, it is full of original generative insights. I...am confident that it will have a lasting impact across multiple fields of scholarship... ...Jesse’s analysis of the way this group of Caribbean migrants engaged and shaped Caribbean politics and revolution, is highly original and important.”

##### Reviewer (E)

“...I find Professor Hoffnung-Garskof’s work to be of the highest quality, significant depth, and admirable range. I consider him one of the foremost scholars of the Hispanic Caribbean, of the

foundations of U.S. Latino history, and of racial democracy in Latin America and the Caribbean, as well as a leading practitioner of the art of writing for a broad readership while keeping the integrity and complexity of first-rate scholarship.”

Reviewer (F)

“...Dr. Hoffnung-Garskof is a major presence in multiple linked but distinct disciplinary fields, including Caribbean, Latin American, and Latino history and American Studies. He is among the most thoughtful and incisive architects of transnational history writing today. His international profile is confirmed both by his range of fellowship awards and invited lectures, and by the important collective publication projects he has joined. His already-stellar reputation will be boosted even more by the upcoming publication of *Racial Migrations*, a scholarly *tour de force* that will be read with great benefit by specialist and non-specialist readers alike.”

Reviewer (G)

“Deserving of special mention are his important contributions to the emerging field of Afro-Latinidades. ...Professor Hoffnung-Garskof’s book, as well as several of his articles, help remedy the gap by providing work that will become foundational in this field of study. ... With his conceptualizations and methodological approaches, his books and articles simultaneously become path breaking, pointing to new directions in several fields of study.”

Summary of Recommendation:

Professor Hoffnung-Garskof is an accomplished scholar. His engagement with the currents of scholarship on teaching is well paced. He is a highly active mentor of graduate students and has an excellent record of productive administrative work. The Executive Committee of the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts and I recommend that Associate Professor Jesse E. Hoffnung-Garskof be promoted to the rank of professor of American culture, with tenure, and professor of history, with tenure, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts.



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

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