

PROMOTION RECOMMENDATION
The University of Michigan-Dearborn
College of Education, Health, and Human Services

Gail R. Luera, associate professor of education, with tenure, Department of Education, College of Education, Health, and Human Services, is recommended for promotion to professor of education, with tenure, Department of Education, College of Education, Health, and Human Services.

Academic Degrees:

Ph.D.	1998	Resource Policy and Behavior, University of Michigan-Ann Arbor
M.S.	1984	Education: Outdoor Teacher Education, Northern Illinois University, DeKalb, IL
B.A.	1980	English, California State University, Dominguez Hills, CA

Professional Record:

2006 – present	Associate Professor, University of Michigan-Dearborn
2006 – 2010	Associate Dean, School of Education, University of Michigan-Dearborn
1998 – 2006	Assistant Professor, University of Michigan-Dearborn

Summary of Evaluation:

Teaching: Professor Luera is rated excellent in teaching. She is an excellent teacher who models effective pedagogy for future teachers. She has taught eight different classes including online classes, both at the undergraduate and graduate level. Professor Luera consistently received very high student evaluations with a mean of 4.29 for the overall course rating and 4.46 for the overall instructor rating for all of her classes. She has been actively involved in the program development of three master's degree programs and doctoral program in education. She advises graduate students in several programs and has served on three master's level thesis committees.

Research: Professor Luera is rated excellent and significantly capable in research. Professor Luera, who has 10 publications and two book chapters since earning tenure, strongly connects research to practice exemplifying the Teacher/Scholar Model. She is accomplished as an external grant evaluator for both on and off campus grants. One area of her research has been the long term study of ePortfolios which are central to many fields in education. She has demonstrated her expertise in program evaluation and assessment, which is a central connecting theme in her research.

Recent and Significant Publications:

Luera, G., Brunvand, S. & Marra, T. (2016). Challenges and rewards of implementing ePortfolios through a bottom-up approach. *International Journal of ePortfolio*, 6(12), 127-137.

- Luera, G. & Murray, K. (2016). A mixed-methods approach to determining the impact of a geoscience field research program upon science teachers' knowledge, beliefs, and instructional practices. *Journal of Geoscience Education*, 64(4), 303-313.
- Otto, C.A., Everett, S.A., Luera, G.R. & Burke, C. (2013). Drawings as a component of triangulated assessment. *Networks: An Online Journal for Teacher Research*, 15(1), 1-7.
- Murray, K., Napieralski, J. Luera, G., Thomas-Brown, K. & Reynolds-Keefer, L. (2012). Broadening diversity in the geosciences through teacher-student workshops that emphasizes community-based research projects. *Journal of Geoscience Education*, 60(2), 179-188.
- Thomas-Brown, K., Brunvand, S., Luera, G., Hentrel, B., Barlow, L. & Wood, L. (2010). Breaking down the ivory tower: Creating a school/university partnership where everyone benefits. *Scholarlypartnershipsedu*, 5(2), 3-12.

Service: Professor Luera is rated excellent and significantly capable in service. She has been an active colleague in service activities especially at the university level. Her work has included key committees related to the campus Higher Learning Commission accreditation process, Vision 2020, Faculty Senate, Dearborn Discovery Core, and most recently the Gateway to Completion (G2C) grant project. In addition, Professor Luera served as the associate dean, for four years, in the former School of Education.

External Reviewers:

Reviewer A: "It is important, as well, to illustrate the impact of the journals in which she has published. Both the *International Journal of Science and Mathematics Education* and the *Journal of Geosciences Education* are sought after journals on the Social Sciences Index scale. The *Journal of College Science Teaching* is one of the most widely read journals in our field."

Reviewer B: "Another strand of Dr. Luera's scholarship includes studies on geoscience field research. This work is timely and innovative, and in area [sic] of increasing relevance and attention in science education. ... It is readily evident that Dr. Luera has strong dedication to her teaching and to implementing theory-based practices in school classrooms to improve teaching and learning."

Reviewer C: "The corpus of the written work and presentations at professional meetings are on par with professionals in similar niches. I am sure her multitude of formal, pragmatic contributions are appreciated by peers. ... Dr. Luera's professional history is substantial and her involvement in cooperative efforts are [sic] admirable. The record is one of collegial support and contribution that is invaluable to the advancement of an academic unit of the academy."

Reviewer D: "Several of her publications have appeared in journals that science education scholars would classify as top-tier in our field including the *International Journal of Science and Mathematics Education* (2 articles), and the *Journal of Science Teacher Education*. Other published research articles were also of high quality and appeared in well-read journals such as *School Science and Mathematics* and the *Journal of College Science Teaching (JCST)*. The JCST is a high-impact journal in that scholars, who are dedicated to innovation and improvement in college science teaching, often turn to this particular journal for examples and emergent

research in this field. This is extremely important, as college-level science instruction is often culturally incongruent and passive in nature.”

Reviewer E: “Dr. Luera’s work makes significant contributions to the scholarship of integration, application, and teaching. Her work with ePortfolios has allowed her to integrate her knowledge of assessment into the science classroom.”

Reviewer F: “Gail Luera has a publication record that meets or exceeds that of faculty at her stage of professional development. In support of her scholarly activities, Dr. Luera has initiated new collaborations and sustained others for extended periods of time. ... In my professional opinion her research thus far in her career indicates that she is poised to expand upon her current research and make a substantial contribution in the future to the educational research body of knowledge.”

Summary of Recommendation:

Professor Luera has successfully focused on the intersections of teaching, research and service in the field of program evaluation and assessment to develop her expertise and reputation as a scholar. Her collaborative work with others on campus demonstrates her commitment to the scholarly growth of both faculty and students. We are pleased to recommend, with strong support of the College of Education, Health, and Human Services Executive Committee, Gail R. Luera for promotion to professor of education, with tenure, Department of Education, College of Education, Health, and Human Services.



Ann Lampkin-Williams, Interim Dean
College of Education, Health, and Human Services



Daniel Little, Chancellor
University of Michigan-Dearborn

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