

PROMOTION RECOMMENDATION
The University of Michigan-Flint
School of Education and Human Services
Department of Education

Christine K. Kenney, assistant professor of education, Department of Education, School of Education and Human Services, is recommended for promotion to associate professor of education, with tenure, Department of Education, School of Education and Human Services.

Academic Degrees:

Ph.D.	2012	University of Michigan, Educational Studies, Ann Arbor
M.A.	2004	Eastern Michigan University, Early Childhood Education, Ypsilanti
B.S.	2002	Eastern Michigan University, Special Education, Ypsilanti

Professional Record:

2012 - present	Assistant Professor of Education, University of Michigan-Flint
2009 - 2012	Graduate Student Instructor, School of Education, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor
2007 - 2009	Research Assistant, Ready to Learn Project, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor
2007 - 2008	Graduate Student Researcher, University of Michigan Autism and Communication Disorders Center, Ann Arbor
2007	Teacher Consultant, Ann Arbor Public Schools, Ann Arbor, MI
2006 - 2007	Research Assistant, Early Reading First Grant, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor
2006 / 2007	Summer Administrator, Ann Arbor Preschool and Family Center, Ann Arbor Public Schools, Ann Arbor, MI
2004 - 2006	Special Education Teacher, Ann Arbor Public Schools, Ann Arbor, MI
2002 - 2004	Special Education Teacher, Saginaw Intermediate Schools, Saginaw, MI

Summary of Evaluation:

Teaching: Professor Kenney's philosophy of teaching utilizes the metaphor of building bridges to illustrate the interconnectedness she describes between her teaching, scholarship, and service. This intentional structuring of her work positions Professor Kenney as an academic with a strong, coherent, purposeful identity. Beyond course evaluations, Professor Kenney has received accolades for her teaching from peers as her colleagues twice nominated her for the Lois Matz Rosen Junior Faculty Teaching Excellence Award. Additionally, she was awarded a certificate of recognition for her 3rd place performance in the provost's Innovation in Teaching Award.

Research: Professor Kenney has published three peer-reviewed articles with one being solo-authored while serving as first author on another, and third author on the remaining article. In addition, she has published one editor-reviewed article, and one editor-reviewed book chapter; she also has one article under consideration, and three in progress. Additionally, Professor Kenney has delivered 14 peer-reviewed presentations across a range of scholarly and pedagogically-focused conference venues. Professor Kenney is focused on teaching and learning as the threads woven through all that she does at UM-Flint. Her scholarly activity and research agenda are both

driven by and influenced by her teaching. She conducts her scholarly work with an eye toward the service of contributing to knowledge within the field. The sense of connectedness in her teaching, scholarship, and service facilitates her overall place as a thoughtful and productive member of the faculty.

Recent and Significant Publications:

- Sreckovic, M.A., Schultz, T. R., Kenney, C., & Able, H. (2018). Building classroom communities in the inclusive classroom: Setting the stage for success. *Young Children*, 73(3), 75-81.
- Kenney, C. (2018). How will you contribute? A look at an instructional strategy to improve student-centered learning. *Networks: An On-Line Journal for Teacher Research*, 20(1), 1-15.
- Kenney, C., & Evans, N. (2015). Text connections to foster learning engagement. *Academic Exchange Quarterly*, 19(3), 118-125.
- Kenney, C. (2016). It's OK to play: The importance of playing while reading aloud to young children. *Childhood Education*, 92(2), 161-163.
- Carlisle, J. F., Kenney, C., & Vereb, A. (2013). Vocabulary instruction for students with or at risk for learning disabilities: Promising approaches for learning words from texts. In M. Tankersley & B. Cook (Ed.), Research-based practices in special education. Boston: Pearson.

Service: Professor Kenney has served on multiple committees within the Education Department and in partnerships within the community. She co-created the Early Childhood Studies minor and major and substantially redesigned existing programs. She has served in leadership roles in service areas as committee chair resulting in passing amendments to the faculty code, and as planning lead for the Christopher Paul Curtis Writing Adventure which involved extensive collaboration between many campus and community constituents. In addition, Professor Kenney developed and co-facilitated a teaching circle "Flint Tutta" (All or Everything Flint) inspired by a trip to Reggio-Emilia, Italy.

Professor Kenney also coordinated professional development at all three University of Michigan-Flint early childhood sites during the 2016-2017 academic year and served as the interim elementary education coordinator in fall 2017. Professor Kenney's student-centered approach to support a testing requirement for MTTC certification and endorsement tests by developing a workshop series for early childhood students focusing on alleviating test anxiety, test-taking strategies, and practice exams, resulting in students feeling prepared and calm when taking the exam.

External Reviewers:

Reviewer (A): "Dr. Kenney is actively engaged in meaningful and relevant scholarly and creative work. Her efforts bring a very nice mix of both traditional and action research that applies directly to teachers and the classroom, while also informing the discipline."

Reviewer (B): "As an early childhood professional, I believe that both the quality and the focus of Dr. Kenney's work will have an impact on the field in many ways. She is expanding upon, and building new knowledge, and as such, drawing attention to what is current and relevant within the field."

Reviewer (C): “The depth and breadth of Dr. Kenney’s research, teaching and service are consistent with the performance record of tenured associate professors at...in education. I highly recommend that she receive tenure and promotion to Associate Professor.”

Reviewer (D): “Dr. Kenney has demonstrated a teaching ability in a variety of courses at the college that I see as a strong benefit to the department and to the students served. Her ability to teach across numerous content areas is a positive reflection on her expertise in teacher education.”

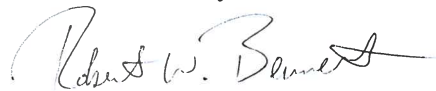
Reviewer (E): “Overall, with her publications, I believe she is performing at an Associate Professor level. These publications exceed state level audiences and reach national level readers.”

Reviewer (F): “I do believe that if Dr. Christine Kenney were being considered for tenure and promotion to Associate Professor at [my institution], that she would be enthusiastically granted it.”

Summary of Recommendation:

Professor Kenney presents exemplary records in teaching, scholarship, and engaged service. I am pleased to recommend Christine K. Kenney for promotion to associate professor of education, with tenure, Department of Education, School of Education and Human Services.

Recommended by:



Robert W. Barnett, Dean
School of Education and Human Services

Recommendation endorsed by:



Susan E. Alcock, Interim Provost and
Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs



Susan E. Borrego, Chancellor
University of Michigan-Flint

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