

PROMOTION RECOMMENDATION
The University of Michigan-Dearborn
College of Arts, Sciences, and Letters

Anna Muller, assistant professor of history, Department of Social Sciences, College of Arts, Sciences, and Letters, is recommended for promotion to associate professor of history, with tenure, Department of Social Sciences, College of Arts, Sciences, and Letters.

Academic Degrees:

Ph.D.	2010	Indiana University, History, Bloomington, IN
M.A.	1999	University of Gdańsk, History & Political Science, Gdańsk, Poland
B.A.	1999	University of Gdańsk, History & Political Science, Gdańsk, Poland

Professional Record:

2013 – present	Assistant Professor, Department of Social Sciences, University of Michigan-Dearborn
2011 – 2013	Lecturer, Center for European Studies, University of Florida
2010 – 2013	Curator, The Museum of the Second World War, Gdańsk, Poland

Summary of Evaluation:

Teaching: Professor Muller is rated excellent in teaching. She is a vital member of the history discipline, teaching courses in Polish and East-Central European history, as well as the history methods course and courses in the university's Honors Program. Since becoming an assistant professor in Fall 2013, Professor Muller has taught 30 classes requiring 13 separate preps, including a Poland Study Abroad program that she created. Professor Muller is a highly talented teacher. The qualitative portion of her student evaluations abounds with praise for her teaching, while the quantitative section places her among the department's highest rated teachers. From Fall 2013 through Winter 2018, Professor Muller's mean scores for "evaluation of instructor" and "evaluation of course" were 4.67 and 4.52, respectively. Eighty percent of her courses received a score of 4.5 or higher for evaluation of instructor. Professor Muller's performance on other evaluation questions mirrors the results for her overall ratings. For each of the four remaining evaluation questions used for all University of Michigan-Dearborn instructors—instructor knowledge, communicating course requirements, effective teaching, and high standards for student achievement—Professor Muller's mean score was 4.5 or higher. Her mean score across all six core questions for all classes was 4.6. Students are especially impressed with her ability to help students understand complex concepts, create opportunities for thoughtful discussion among students, and stimulate critical thinking.

Research: Professor Muller is rated excellent in research. She has published one book, two journal articles, four book chapters, and numerous book reviews and completed additional articles that are currently under review. Her book on female political prisoners in Communist Poland documents how the women were able to retain their dignity and humanity in the face of government oppression. She argues that although incarceration interrupted their lives, women prisoners managed to refashion themselves during their interrogations, apply their senses to orient themselves in the prison space, and use their bodies to gain control over themselves and as a means to exercise pressure on state authorities.

Recent and Significant Publications:

- Muller, Anna. *If the Walls Could Speak: Inside a Women's Prison in Communist Poland*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 2018, 344 pages.
- Muller, Anna. "Masculinity and Dissidence in Eastern Europe in the 1980s." *Gender in Twentieth Century Eastern Europe and the USSR*, edited by Catherine Baker, 185-200. London: Palgrave, 2016.
- Muller, Anna. "Walls that Unite: Unlikely Friendships in Mokotów Prison, 1949-1956," *Rocznik Antropologii Historii [Yearly in Anthropology of History]*, 8 (2015): 245-262.
- Muller, Anna. "The Mother of Solidarity': Anna Walentynowicz's Quest in Life," *Rocznik Antropologii Historii [Yearly in Anthropology of History]*, 7 (2014): 55-75.
- Logemann, Daniel, Muller, Anna. "Exponate und ihre intellektuelle und emotionale Botschaft. Die Ausstellung über nationalsozialistische Konzentrationslager im Museum des Zweiten Weltkriegs in Gdańsk/Danzig." ["Exhibits and Their Intellectual and Emotional Message: The Exhibition About National Socialist Concentration Camps in the Museum of the Second World War in Gdańsk/Danzig"] *Gedenkstättenarbeit und Erinnerungskultur. Ein deutsch-polnischer Austausch, [Memorial Work and Remembrance Culture: A German-Polish Exchange]*, edited by P. Ciupke, Hitze, Kenkmann, Wolters, and Wysok, 281-287 (in German), 288-293 (in Polish). Essen, 2014.
- Muller, Anna. "Codzienność i opór. Próba usystematyzowana pojęcia oporu na przykładzie więźniarek stalinowskich z lat 1945-1956." [Everyday Life and Resistance: The Attempt to Systematize the Concept of Resistance on the Example of Stalinist Prisoners, 1945-1956] In *Płec Buntu [The Gender of Rebellion]*, edited by Natalia Jarska and Jan Olszak, 15-31. Warszawa: IPN, 2014.
- Muller, Anna. "Between Social and Individual Memory: Being a Polish Woman in a Stalinist Prison." *Tapestry of Memory: Evidence and Testimony in Life-Story Narratives*, edited by Nanci Adler and Selma Leydesdorff, 55-76. London: Transaction Publishers, 2013.

Service: Professor Muller is rated excellent in service. Whether creating new learning opportunities for students and the community, aiding the campus's development of global learning strategies, advising student organizations, carrying out administrative tasks, or bringing scholars and exhibits to campus, she has consistently treated service as vital. She has aided student and community learning through the Poland Study Abroad and museum exhibits. She has created a community of student scholars by advising the history honors society. Professor Muller has aided institutional operations by conducting reviews of LEO faculty, serving on curriculum committee, performing program assessments, and actively serving on program faculty bodies for multiple academic programs. She has advanced her profession by organizing conferences and serving in leadership roles for key professional organizations. Professor Muller has been active in each of these service roles and consistently performed her duties with a goal of improving the university and the opportunities it provides for students, faculty, and the broader community.

External Reviewers:

Reviewer A: "...Anna Muller's body of work is very impressive. It is an achievement in itself to be published by Oxford University Press, let alone for a first book. Yet a publication, even with a prestigious press is not an ironclad guarantee that the content will match expectations. This is not the case with *If Walls Could Speak*."

Reviewer B: "I have won great regard for your colleague and congratulate you and hope to read anything else Müller puts her mind to. In my view, she merits tenure at any of the finest research

universities in North America. Müller easily figures among a handful of the most interesting, thoughtful, productive and eloquent scholars studying East Central Europe in her generation.”

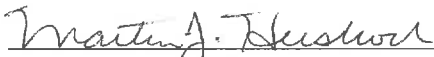
Reviewer C: “*If the Walls Could Speak* is based on a wealth of data meticulously collected and triangulated ... This form of empirical research is highly challenging and demands years of work immersed in documents as well as pursuing human subjects and developing trust with one’s research participants. Muller has accomplished this with superb sensitivity, a reflexive style of writing, and a scrupulous attention to detail... Dr. Muller’s scholarship shows excellence to date and a great deal of future promise in her field in terms of quality, quantity, and impact. Muller’s meticulous research and incisive arguments ... make significant contributions to her field of history ... Her book ... will undoubtedly make further impact in the coming years.”

Reviewer D: “In many important respects ... Professor Muller represents the future of Polish historical studies in the next generation ... Her collected work thus comprises a new approach to Stalinist era Eastern Europe ... As such, Muller is unique in the field of East European history and promises to continue to carve out new territory in this important realm of inquiry ... The East European gulag has been a relatively closed system to historians ... Muller’s *If the Walls Could Speak* changes all this ... Muller promises to be a leader in the next generation of Polish scholars. I could not support her case more fully.”

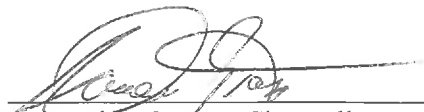
Reviewer E: “ ... many people in the discipline respect and admire Anna’s knowledge and thinking ... *If Walls Could Speak* will definitely influence the field of Eastern European studies, Polish history, and gender studies... The monograph is well researched and Anna uses oral histories in innovative and fascinating ways. This is an important contribution to the field... Dr. Muller would rank in the top five percent of colleagues in her field.”

Reviewer F: “ ... *If Walls Could Speak* makes a serious contribution... This is the best kind of social history... Muller’s articles also make a significant scholarly contribution... As for Muller’s ‘standing in relation to her peer group,’ I believe that her accomplishments would put her in the top tier of this group.”

Summary of Recommendation: Professor Muller is a talented classroom instructor who fosters student growth through classes that are both challenging and enjoyable. Her research sheds light on the important history of political prisoners and is recognized for its excellence by external reviewers. Her service greatly benefits our students, academic programs, community, and the campus as an institution. We are very pleased to recommend, with strong support of the College of Arts, Sciences, and Letters Executive Committee, Anna Muller for promotion to associate professor of history, with tenure, Department of Social Sciences, College of Arts, Sciences, and Letters.



Martin J. Herschick, Dean
College of Arts, Sciences, and Letters



Domenico Grasso, Chancellor
University of Michigan-Dearborn