

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

Natalie R. Sampson, assistant professor of health and human services, Department of Health and Human Services, College of Education, Health, and Human Services, is recommended for promotion to associate professor of health and human services, with tenure, Department of Health and Human Services, College of Education, Health, and Human Services.

Academic Degrees:

Ph.D.	2013	University of Michigan, Health Behavior/Health Education, Ann Arbor, MI
M.P.H.	2007	Portland State University, Health Promotion, Portland, OR
B.S.	2003	University of Michigan, Environmental Studies, Ann Arbor, MI

Professional Record:

2014 – present	Assistant Professor, Department of Health and Human Services, College of Education, Health, and Human Services, University of Michigan-Dearborn, Dearborn, MI
2013 – 2014	Post-doctoral Research Fellow, School of Natural Resources and the Environment, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI

Summary of Evaluation:

Teaching: Professor Sampson is an excellent instructor, deeply committed to student success, engaged learning, and curriculum development. She has five courses in her teaching rotation: Introduction to Community Health Education (CHE 101); Introduction to Public Health (HHS 200); Introduction to Environmental Health (HHS 250); Fundamentals of Health Behavior Change (HPS 430) and Community Organizing for Health (HHS 350). A number of these courses rely on academic service-learning experiences in the community and meet important general education requirements designated by the Dearborn Discovery Core. One impressive indicator of Professor Sampson's classroom performance is the consistently high scores received on student evaluations. Her individual item scores ranged from 4.26 to 5.0 with an average score of 4.88 or higher on each required measure.

Research: Professor Sampson is a nationally recognized community-based public health researcher. Her multidisciplinary intervention research centers on important questions of environmental and social justice, notably the impacts of urbanization, outdoor air pollution, and food insecurity. She has distinguished herself through her commitment to the principles of community-based research, including forging meaningful community partnerships, engaging affected residents and populations as researchers, and elevating the capacities of these individuals and communities to advocate for and improve their health. Professor Sampson has undertaken a broad portfolio of scholarship since joining the faculty in 2014. Her "Bridge to a Healthy Community Project" seeks to mitigate harmful effects on nearby residents' health associated with the construction of the Gordie Howe International Bridge and projected

increased commercial truck traffic. The “Environmental Health Research to Action (EHRA)” program is a student-engaged and community-led initiative to reduce environmental exposures and improve health outcomes in a predominantly Arab American population in southeast Dearborn. The Neighborhood, Environment, and Water Research Collaborations for Green Infrastructure (NEW-GI) examines the impact of green infrastructure on Detroit residents’ physical and mental health, perceptions of safety, as well as community and social engagement. Finally, her College and University Pantry (CUP) research extends our understanding of the scope and extent of food insecurity among college students and the implications for academic performance and student success. She has published 15 peer-reviewed articles in high quality journals in her field as well as a co-authored book chapter. Consistent with her commitment to community-based, multidisciplinary work, her scholarship is collaborative and, thus, includes co-authorship. Notably, Professor Sampson served as first author on seven of these publications. She has delivered more than 60 presentations and her scholarship has produced several technical reports and policy briefs that translate research findings into products communities can use for advocacy, capacity building, and social justice work. In 2017, the American Public Health Association (APHA) named Professor Sampson the recipient of the Rebecca Head Award that recognizes, “an outstanding emerging leader from the environmental field working at the nexus of science, policy, and environmental justice.”

#### Recent and Significant Publications:

- Price, C., Sampson, N., Reppond, H., Thomas-Brown, K., & Camp, J. (2019). Creating a community of practice among Michigan college campuses food pantry directors. *Journal of Community Practice*, 27(1), 96-109. doi: 10.1080/10705422.2019.1580655.
- Sampson, N., Price, C., Kassem, J., Doan, J., & Hussein, J. (2019). We’re just sitting ducks: Examining recurrent household flooding as an underreported environmental health threat in Detroit’s changing climate. *International Journal of Environmental Research and Public Health*, 16(1). doi:10.3390/ijerph16010006.
- Sampson, N., Nassauer, J., Schulz, A., Hurd, K., Dorman, C., & Ligon, K. (2017). Landscape care of urban vacant properties and implications for health and safety: Lessons from photovoice. *Health and Place*, 46, 219-228. doi: 10.1016/j.healthplace.2017.05.017.
- Schulz, A., Mentz, G., Sampson, N., Dvonch, J.T., & Reyes, A. (2015). Effects of particulate matter and dietary antioxidant intake on blood pressure. *American Journal of Public Health*, 105(6), 1254-1261. doi: 10.2105/AJPH.2014.302176.
- Sampson, N., Schulz, A., Parker, E., & Israel, B. (2014). Improving public participation to achieve environmental justice: Applying lessons from freight’s frontline communities. *Environmental Justice*, 7(2), 45-54. doi: 10.1089/env.2014.0004.

Service: Professor Sampson has performed extensive service at every level. She served on the college’s Curriculum Committee and Center for Disparity Solutions and Equity. She serves as a steering committee member for the Community Action to Promote Healthy Environments and chaired the Public Health Work Group of the Detroit Climate Action Committee. She is very active in the American Public Health Association (APHA). With support from the Graham Sustainability Institute at the University of Michigan-Ann Arbor, Professor Sampson convened two national summits of public health and environmental justice advocates.

External Reviewers:

Reviewer A: “The results of her research inform policy makers regarding inequities in health outcomes, associated with exposure to air pollutants and contribute to the literature on social and economic inequalities in metropolitan areas.”

Reviewer B: “...Sampson has mastered first the science and art of writing successful grant applications and, second, the ability to obtain funding to study serious public health problems. Some colleagues succeed in one of these two tasks but in my view, the most attractive candidates for tenure are those who can do both.”

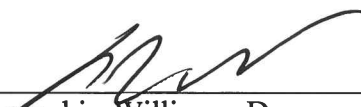
Reviewer C: “This [NEW-GI] work is a perfect example of how CBPR methodology allows researchers to follow research results to new topics that have critical impacts on the population you are partnered with, leading to studies that address real-world public health issues in a timely fashion.”


Reviewer D: “Reading the articles Dr. Sampson published in her early years and then comparing to those most recently published, one can clearly see the evolution of a teacher-scholar. Her research methodology has become more complex and she has mentored students to publish their research. She truly embodies the teacher-scholar model and will continue to be a role model for new faculty at your institution.”

Reviewer E: “Of her scholarship, Dr. Sampson’s work on survey methods in depopulating areas and green infrastructure as related to climate change in the US’s legacy cities is compelling and carries long-term significance.”

Summary of Recommendation:

Professor Sampson is a public health scholar and educator making significant contributions to the field of environmental justice. She is an excellent teacher, mentor, and collaborator. Her stellar performance is notable in the coherent integration of her teaching, research, and service. We are very pleased to recommend, with strong support of the College of Education, Health, and Human Services Executive Committee, Natalie R. Sampson for promotion to associate professor of health and human services, with tenure, Department of Health and Human Services, College of Education, Health, and Human Services.

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

  
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Domenico Grasso, Chancellor  
University of Michigan-Dearborn

May 2020