

PROMOTION RECOMMENDATION  
The University of Michigan  
School of Public Health  
Department of Nutritional Sciences

Katherine W. Bauer, assistant professor of nutritional sciences, Department of Nutritional Sciences, School of Public Health, is recommended for promotion to associate professor of nutritional sciences, with tenure, Department of Nutritional Sciences, School of Public Health.

Academic Degrees:

Ph.D.	2010	University of Minnesota
M.S.	2002	Harvard School of Public Health
B.A.	1998	Oberlin College

Professional Record:

2015-Present	Assistant Professor, Department of Nutritional Sciences, University of Michigan School of Public Health
2012-2015	Assistant Professor, College of Public Health, Temple University
2010-2011	Post-doctoral Fellow, Minnesota Obesity Prevention Training Program
2005-2009	Pre-doctoral Fellow, Adolescent Health Protection Research Training Program
2002-2005	Public Health Prevention Service Fellow, National Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
2001-2002	Research Assistant, Division of Adolescent and Young Adult Medicine, Boston Children's Hospital
1999-2001	Research Assistant, Center for Community Based Research, Dana Farber Cancer Institute

Summary of Evaluation:

Teaching – Professor Bauer's teaching approach prioritizes inclusive teaching techniques to provide students the knowledge, skills, and confidence to evaluate evidence, question findings, and consider alternative ways to solve problems. Over the past five years at the University of Michigan School of Public Health, she has contributed greatly to the curriculum developing three new courses: Socio-ecological Approaches to Child and Adolescent Nutrition (NUTR650, graduate level), Obesity: Cells to Society (PUBH403, undergraduate level), and Hunger in America: Building Skills to Feed Communities (PUBH309, undergraduate level). NUTR650 provides nutritional sciences students in the Masters in Public Health Program a venue to meet school-wide competencies in program evaluation and cultural competence. In 2016, she co-taught NUTR310/510: Nutrition in the Life Cycle. In 2018, Professor Bauer assumed responsibility for the department's graduate research seminar, Innovations in Nutrition Research, and successfully refocused the course on research ethics, scientific communication, and skills to support productivity while maintaining emotional health. Professor Bauer's teaching evaluation scores have consistently risen across all years and currently are excellent, with Q1 scores in 2019 ranging from 3.0 to 4.8 and Q2 scores ranging from 3.5 to 5.0. Professor Bauer has served as the primary mentor or co-mentor for two Ph.D. students in the Department of Nutritional Sciences (one graduated), and has served as a doctoral dissertation committee member for four additional students. She additionally has mentored numerous masters of science and masters of public health students.

Research – The overarching goal of Professor Bauer’s research is to identify novel family and community-based approaches to promote healthy eating and prevent obesity among children by integrating perspectives from nutritional sciences, epidemiology and developmental psychology. One theme of Professor Bauer’s research focuses on the determination of how parents and families impact children’s risk for obesity. This research is grounded in epidemiologic methods, but is distinctive because of its integration of concepts and approaches traditionally used by other disciplines, such as developmental psychology and behavioral coding of laboratory and home-based observations of families to provide insight into the nuances of parenting. A second theme of Professor Bauer’s research is the development and evaluation of child obesity prevention interventions. She has become an expert in community-based intervention implementation and methods having contributed to the development and evaluation of multiple intervention programs and serving as an essential collaborator in the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) breakfast in the classroom trial overseeing data management and analysis.

Professor Bauer has published 35 peer-reviewed articles while in rank at the University of Michigan, and has a total of 68 career peer-reviewed articles, including 26 first author, 15 second author and six senior author papers. Her work has been published in prestigious journals including the *Journal of the American Medical Association Pediatrics*, the *International Journal of Behavioral Nutrition and Physical Activity*, *Social Science and Medicine*, and the *American Journal of Public Health*. In 2016, Professor Bauer received the prestigious International Life Sciences (ILSI) Future Leader Award for her research. Professor Bauer’s research program has garnered \$4.1 million in principal investigator (PI) awards from the National Institutes of Health (NIH), major foundations (Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, American Heart Foundation), and competitive internal awards from entities such as the Michigan Institute for Clinical and Health Research (MICHR). Currently, she is the PI of an R01 from the NIH/National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute (NHLBI) which aims to identify prospective relationships between mothers’ self-regulation, their weight-related parenting practices, and changes in child adiposity from age three through age five, a critical period for preventing the onset of long-term obesity. Over the past five years at rank at the University of Michigan School of Public Health, Professor Bauer also has participated as a co-investigator on awards from NIH, the Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI), and the JPB Foundation totaling \$8.9 million.

Recent and Significant Publications:

- Bauer, K.W., Weeks, H.M., Lumeng, J.C., Miller, A.L., Gearhardt, A.N. (2019). Maternal executive function and the family food environment. *Appetite*. 137:21-26.
- Bauer, K.W., Hilliard, M.E., Albright, D., Lo, S.L., Fredericks, E.M., Miller, A.L. (2020) The role of parent self-regulation in youth type 1 diabetes management. *Current Diabetes Reports*. 20:8.
- Bauer, K.W., Haines, J., Miller, A.L., Rosenblum, K., Appugliese, D.P., Lumeng, J.C., Kaciroti, N.A. (2017). Maternal restrictive feeding and eating in the absence of hunger among toddlers: a cohort study. *Int J Behav Nutr Phys Act*. 14:10.
- Bauer, K.W., Foster, G.D., Weeks, H.M., Polonsky, H.M., Davey, A., Sherman, S., Abel, M.L., Ruth, K.J., Dale, L.C., Fisher, J.O. (2020). Breakfast in the classroom initiative and students' breakfast consumption behaviors: A group randomized trial. *Am J Public Health*. 110(4):540-546.
- Luan, D., Mezuk, B., Bauer, K.W. (2019) Remission of obesity among a nationally representative sample of US children. *Pediatr Obes*. 14(1):9.

Service – Professor Bauer has undertaken a substantial set of departmental and school service responsibilities including serving as the chair of the Admissions and Recruitment Committee in 2019, member of the faculty committee to create the department’s five-year strategic plan in 2016,

member of multiple faculty search committees, and founding member of the school-wide Junior Faculty Advisory Board (J-FAB) which aims to advance the professional development of non-tenured faculty. At the university level, Professor Bauer reviews fellowship and grant applications for MICHR and the Institute for Healthcare Policy and Innovation (IHPI). External to the university, Professor Bauer has held both nominated and elected leadership roles in the Obesity Society and has served as the chair of The Obesity Society's (TOS) Annual Meeting Program Planning Committee Population Health track, organizing over 20 key lectures, symposia, oral abstract and poster presentation sessions for the annual meeting each year. Professor Bauer is also the elected representative to TOS Council representing Population/Epidemiology/Community-focused membership.

#### External Reviewers:

Reviewer A: "Dr. Bauer's overall research productivity has been exceptional... Her scientific work impressively combines disciplinary approaches in psychology, epidemiology and nutritional sciences to understand how parents and families impact children's risk for obesity. She has expanded this focus by exploring broader contextual factors at play, and applying this information for the development, implementation and evaluation of different types of interventions to prevent or reduce child obesity. In summary, Dr. Katherine Bauer is an outstanding Assistant Professor, with an exemplary publication record, and very strong record for obtaining external funding, including federal funding. She has made impressive service contributions at many levels, and is a recognized teacher and mentor."

Reviewer B: "I highly recommend her promotion with no reservations, given her outstanding achievements in the field of childhood obesity and in particular in relation to her work on the role of parents and families and how interventions may be targeted to reduce childhood obesity...Her scientific papers are outstanding in quality, focus, and scholarly impact. She has a nice body of literature including 65 peer-reviewed journal articles. Her papers are very well cited, with over 3,000 citations. Her work is truly impactful...I believe Dr. Bauer to have tremendous potential to contribute to critical scientific questions with clear public health relevance. I recommend her promotion to the rank of Associate Professor without reservation."

Reviewer C: "In comparison to her peers at a similar career stage, Dr. Bauer is truly exceptional. I would place her among the top 1-5% of candidates that I have reviewed during my career. Her research and teaching productivity, as well as her involvement in national and international organizations demonstrates a commitment and drive that bode well for her future academic career and reputation... It is clear that Dr. Bauer has made exceptional contributions to the field of public health, specifically in the area of childhood obesity... I fully and unequivocally support Dr. Bauer's consideration for promotion to associate professor with tenure in the Department of Nutritional Sciences in the School of Public Health at the University of Michigan. She is a rising star, and will be an asset to your school!"

Reviewer D: "I am writing with enthusiastic support for Dr. Katherine Bauer's candidacy for promotion to Associate Professor with tenure at the University of Michigan School of Public Health. Dr. Bauer has an outstanding record of excellence in research, teaching/mentorship, and service... Dr. Bauer is a highly productive scientist with an innovative program of research that has high potential not only for funding but also for impact on the field of childhood obesity. She has developed a national and international reputation for her work, and is a sought after mentor."

Reviewer E: “Dr. Bauer has established herself as a funded independent investigator, who is a sought after collaborator. Her scholarship is of high quality, and her productivity level is strong, and indicates that is increasing over time. She is also providing valued service to her discipline. I strongly recommend the appointment of Dr. Bauer to associate professor with tenure at the University of Michigan.”

Reviewer F: “I am in full support of Dr. Bauer being promoted to Associate Professor with tenure at the University of Michigan. Given her productivity, research impact, significant contributions to teaching and mentorship, and trajectory to date, I have no reservations with this recommendation. I would remiss not to mention that she has also has received two training honors – both the ILSI Future Leader Award a participant in the Dannon Institute’s Nutrition Leadership Institute – further demonstrating her commitment and passion for her field of work.”

Summary of Recommendation:

Professor Bauer has established a robust research program in the field of childhood obesity that uniquely integrates perspectives from nutritional sciences, epidemiology and developmental psychology. Her outstanding intellectual and collaborative strengths have garnered her a well-established internal and external reputation in the field of child obesity research. She has made significant contributions to the curriculum of the Department of Nutritional Sciences, has been an excellent teacher and mentor, and has made significant contributions in service to the department, university and professional community. It is with the support of the School of Public Health Executive Committee that we recommend Katherine W. Bauer for promotion to associate professor of nutritional sciences, with tenure, Department of Nutritional Sciences, School of Public Health.



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F. DuBois Bowman, Ph.D.  
Dean, School of Public Health

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