

PROMOTION RECOMMENDATION
The University of Michigan
College of Literature, Science, and the Arts

Sueann Caulfield, associate professor of history, with tenure, and associate professor of the Residential College, without tenure, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts, is recommended for promotion to professor of history, with tenure, and professor of the Residential College, without tenure, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts.

Academic Degrees:

Ph.D.	1994	New York University
M.A.	1990	New York University
B.A.	1985	University of California, Berkeley

Professional Record:

1999-present	Associate Professor, History & Residential College, University of Michigan
1994-1999	Assistant Professor, History & Residential College, University of Michigan
1993-1994	Instructor, University of Michigan

Summary of Evaluation:

Teaching: Professor Caulfield is an extremely valuable teacher at the undergraduate and graduate levels for both History and the Residential College. Through a wide range of popular and well-reviewed classes, she brings her commitment to human rights and internationalism and experiences in Latin America into her classrooms. Her teaching emphasizes the importance of engaged learning, close mentoring, collaboration, and community in the classroom. A leader of the Humanities Collaboratory's Global Feminisms project, she has used this important archive to give her students the opportunity to experience divergent perspectives on human rights, histories of sexuality, and the construction of race and gender. Both graduate and undergraduate students speak of her deep commitment to them and their own scholarship, her skill at moderating discussions, and her generous, hands-on mentoring at every turn. The impact of her teaching is further evidenced by the forty-four dissertations she has helped usher to completion since her tenure.

Research: Professor Caulfield is a social and legal historian of gender, sexuality, and the family in Brazil. Chronologically, her work spans much of the past two-and-a-half centuries, from the final decades of slavery to 21st-century debates about DNA testing. Methodologically, Professor Caulfield often begins with microhistorical cases discovered in the archives (e.g., a single woman or person of color in an old court brief), but then zooms outwards to wider angle questions of human rights, national citizenship, and social norms. Professor Caulfield possesses an unusually fine-grained knowledge of Brazil's complex legal history and vast national archives. Her rigorous, high-quality research since promotion includes a co-edited volume; seven major articles in multiple categories of journals (legal history, gender history, history of health, etc.); two forthcoming chapters in peer-reviewed edited volumes; a second monograph-in-progress with Duke University Press; and a large body of collaborative public engagement work through the Global Feminisms project. This corpus has solidified Professor Caulfield's

broad visibility and high international standing as one of the most admired Latin Americanist in the United States.

Recent and Significant Publications:

“Jesus v. Jesus: Inheritance Disputes, Patronage Networks, and a Nineteenth-Century African Bahian Family.” *Hispanic American Historical Review* 99, no. 2 (2019): 209-245.

“From Liberalism to Human Dignity: The Transformation of Marriage in Brazil.” In *Marriage, Law, and Modernity: Global Histories*, edited by Julia Moses, 27-53. London: Bloomsbury, 2017.

“The Right to a Father’s Name: State Efforts to Erase the Stigma of Illegitimacy in Twenty First-Century Brazil,” *Law and History Review* 30, no. 1 (2012): 1-36.

Caulfield, Sueann, Sarah Chambers, and Lara Putnam, eds. Honor, Status, and Law in Modern Latin American History. Durham: Duke University Press, 2005.

Service: Professor Caulfield’s service record is exceptionally strong; her leadership has often been “transformative” for multiple units. Among her many post-tenure contributions, Professor Caulfield has been a member of the Executive Committees for both History and the Residential College; served as the history director of graduate studies twice; run the Social Theory and Practice major for the Residential College; served as the director for Latin American Studies Center in the International Institute; and spearheaded multiple DEI efforts (including chairing History’s DEI Committee and serving as their Rackham faculty diversity ally). Beyond all of this, she is the co-leader of the Global Feminisms project; works closely with many of the activist communities she writes about in Brazil; and serves on multiple editorial and advisory boards for top journals in her fields.

External Reviewers:

Reviewer (A): “This current project represents a significant chronological leap from Caulfield’s first book ... Caulfield’s ability to work on that broad historical scale is abundantly evidenced in the co-authored (with Christiana Schettini) essay, ‘Gender and Sexuality in Brazil since Independence’ (2017) ... readers looking for an authoritative, deeply informed introduction to the history of gender and sexuality in Brazil, and to the historiography on that subject, could not do better than this essay.”

Reviewer (B): “There is no doubt that Dr. Caulfield’s research has left an impact in the field of gender studies in Latin America. Although her research work concentrates in Brazil, it is part of a larger trend that flourished in the 1990s that reevaluated the importance of archival research, theory informed history-writing, and the close examination of everyday social and cultural practices. This type of scholarship gave a new meaning to the feminist motto ‘the personal is political’ by showing how concrete daily struggles and ways of life of common people—especially women—were linked in a variety of ways to broader processes taking place at the level of the State, jurisprudence, and formal politics.”

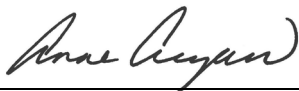
Reviewer (C): “[M]ake no mistake: at least among the historians of Brazil of her generation and beyond, judging from *In Defense of Honor* and the promise of *Stretching the Boundaries of Legitimacy*, there is no one else quite as gifted and brilliant.”

Reviewer (D): “Professor Sueann Caulfield is a leading historian of modern Brazilian history as well as of the history of gender and the law. Her work is consistently excellent in both conception and execution, and her influence is felt widely in both the Anglophone and Lusophone academic worlds.”

Reviewer (E): “Through careful distilling of the microhistories contained in inheritance or child support lawsuits, expertly placed in their broader sociopolitical and jurisprudential contexts, Caulfield puts a human face on the politico-legal struggles over rights and entitlements during the colonial and national periods.”

Reviewer (F): “*Stretching the Boundaries of Legitimacy* will have a wide-ranging impact both for its topical focus and for its ambitious temporal scope.”

Summary of Recommendation: Professor Caulfield’s publications, collaboration, and leadership have created a new form of history of the family among scholars of Brazil. Her deployment of innovative methodology has expanded her reach and impact as a senior scholar, further enhancing her reputation as one of the leading Latin American historians working today. She is also a superb teacher and generous citizen and leader in the college and in the profession. For all of these reasons, the Executive Committee of the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts and I recommend that Associate Professor Sueann Caulfield be promoted to the rank of professor of history, with tenure, and professor of the Residential College, without tenure, in the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts.



Anne Curzan, Dean
Geneva Smitherman Collegiate Professor of
English Language and Literature, Linguistics,
and Education
Arthur F. Thurnau Professor
College of Literature, Science, and the Arts

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