

PROMOTION RECOMMENDATION

The University of Michigan

A. Alfred Taubman College of Architecture and Urban Planning

Lan Deng, associate professor of urban and regional planning, with tenure, A. Alfred Taubman College of Architecture and Urban Planning, is recommended for promotion to professor of urban and regional planning, with tenure, A. Alfred Taubman College of Architecture and Urban Planning.

Academic Degrees:

Ph.D.	2004	University of California, Berkeley, City and Regional Planning, Berkeley, CA
M.S.	1999	Peking University, Geography, Peking, China
B.S.	1996	Peking University, Geography, Peking, China

Professional Record:

2020 – Present	Associate Director, Lieberthal-Rogel Center for Chinese Studies, University of Michigan
2016 – 2020	Faculty Director, Real Estate Development Graduate Certificate Program, A. Alfred Taubman College of Architecture and Urban Planning, University of Michigan
2012 – Present	Associate Professor of Urban and Regional Planning, with tenure, A. Alfred Taubman College of Architecture and Urban Planning, University of Michigan
2004 – 2012	Assistant Professor of Urban and Regional Planning, A. Alfred Taubman College of Architecture and Urban Planning, University of Michigan

Summary of Evaluation:

Teaching: Professor Deng is a diligent teacher with long-term career impact for her students. She brings exceptional ability to apply abstract theories and analytic technologies to complex real problems in the economics and policy of housing. While often deeply technical, her courses cultivate independent interpretations and adaptations. By encouraging students to direct their skills toward their own concerns, she has been able to deepen their understanding. Professor Deng has also served on a dozen doctoral dissertation committees. Her teaching and mentoring is a strength, she is energetic and versatile in her teaching efforts, and her teaching portfolio represents a core asset to the Urban and Regional Planning Program.

Research: Professor Deng's research revolves around public programs that provide, or that incentivize the private market to provide, affordable and serviceable housing for low-income populations. Having established herself as an expert through her pre-tenure work on the most prominent affordable housing production program in the United States, the Low Income Housing Tax Credit Program, Professor Deng has extended her expertise since earning tenure through deep and nuanced analysis of that program in legacy cities with declining housing markets, represented archetypically by Detroit. She has also extended her international work on housing policy in China, and she is at the cutting edge of scholarly work addressing the provision of

affordable housing in that strong-state system through a public housing program that is transitioning to a more market-oriented approach. Professor Deng's journal publications have been in the top journals for the urban and regional planning discipline, as well as leading interdisciplinary and international journals addressing urban and housing issues.

Recent and Significant Publications, Exhibitions, and Awards:

- Deng, Lan. 2020. Year 15 and the Preservation of Low-Income Housing Tax Credit Projects, Lessons from Detroit, Michigan. *Journal of Planning and Education Research*.
- Dewar, Margaret, Lan Deng, Melissa Bloem. 2020. Challenges for Low-Income Housing Tax Credit Projects at Year 15 and Beyond in a Weak Housing Market, the Case of Detroit, Michigan. *Housing Policy Debate* 30(3), 311-334.
- Deng, Lan, Xiang Yan, Jie Chen. 2019. Housing Affordability, Subsidized Lending, and Cross-City Variation in the Performance of China's Housing Provident Fund Program. *Housing Studies*.
- Deng, Lan, and Jie Chen. 2019. Market Development, State Intervention, and the Dynamics of New Housing Investment in China. *Journal of Urban Affairs*. 41(2): 223-247.
- Deng, Lan, Eric Seymour, Margaret Dewar, June Manning Thomas. 2018. Saving Strong Neighborhoods from the Destruction of Mortgage Foreclosures, the Effects of Community-based Efforts in Detroit. *Housing Policy Debate* 28(2): 153-179.
- Chen, Jie and Lan Deng. 2014. Financing Affordable Housing through Compulsory Saving: the Two-decade Experience of Housing Provident Fund in China. *Housing Studies* 29(7): 937-958.

Service: Professor Deng has a strong service record and is a respected administrator in the college and beyond, known for her ability in demanding roles and her efforts toward inclusion for international students. She recently completed a four-year term as the director of the Graduate Certificate program in Real Estate Development and is currently serving as the associate director in the Lieberthal-Rogel Center for Chinese Studies, one of America's more prestigious academic centers of its kind. Professor Deng has served the Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning as track chair for Housing and Community Development, one of the largest tracks in this main conference in the field. She was also on the board of the International Association for China Planning, for which she received the Excellence in Service Award in 2015. Professor Deng currently oversees North American manuscript submissions for the leading research journal, *Housing Studies*.

External Reviewers:

Reviewer A: "Professor Deng has decided to use her post-tenure years to focus on Detroit. This is a worthy subject of focus—the story of how a once prosperous city devolved into a poor one could provide valuable lessons about urban policy going forward, particularly since so much of Detroit's misfortune is bound up in the consequences of systemic racism... Professor Deng's knowledge of Detroit is deep and useful...she is a leading expert on an historically important city..."

Reviewer B: "Dr. Lan Deng is working in an area that is in need of her contributions. In her research, she is helping housing planners, practitioners, and policymakers better their work by expanding the knowledge base on topics that are at the forefront of affordable housing. She is

providing needed and important instruction. Deng is building her reputation as one of the leading scholars in the urban planning and housing fields both within the United States as well as within China.”

Reviewer C: “Professor Deng’s research increasingly reflects the work of someone exceptionally skilled with qualitative and quantitative methods, who understands the contexts within which she works and the nuances of highly technical programs, and who has spent the time learning with community organizations and other local partners. It reflects the growth of an exceptionally creative and talented scholar who puts significant time into her work.”

Reviewer D: “Lan has an international reputation as one of the most insightful scholars in the field of housing policy. Her work ranges widely – from Detroit to China – and encompasses various research methods. Most importantly, she distills key lessons from her research for policy and practice.”

Reviewer E: “Overall, she has clearly established herself as a respected scholar in housing policy and economics, through scholarship that is well formulated, situated in both U.S. and Chinese contexts, and informed by theory and empirical evidence.”

Reviewer F: “Her research is, simply put, consistently good in both quality and impact. Lan is an influential researcher in the area of housing policy and economics, with a particular focus on the U.S. and China, which is crucial for the field of housing policy and urban planning.”

Summary of Recommendation:

Professor Deng has a solid record of scholarly achievement, is a highly respected teacher and mentor, and provides substantial service to the program, college, university, and profession. It is with the support of the Taubman College Promotion and Tenure Committee and the Executive Committee that I recommend Lan Deng for promotion to professor of urban and regional planning, with tenure, A. Alfred Taubman College of Architecture and Urban Planning.



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Jonathan Massey  
Dean and Professor  
A. Alfred Taubman College of  
Architecture and Urban Planning

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