PROMOTION RECOMMENDATION
The University of Michigan
A. Alfred Taubman College of Architecture and Urban Planning

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

Academic Degrees:

Ph.D.	2013	Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Urban and Regional Planning, Cambridge, MA
M.C.P.	2008	University of Maryland-College Park, Community Planning, College Park, MA
B.A.	2004	University of Michigan, History, Ann Arbor, MI

Professional Record:

2013 – Present	Assistant Professor of Urban and Regional Planning, A. Alfred Taubman College of Architecture and Urban Planning, University of Michigan

Summary of Evaluation:

Teaching: Professor Goodspeed teaches highly methodological courses under a pedagogical approach that is itself methodical. Teaching core courses in quantitative methods, as well as unique offerings in negotiative social practices, his approach develops immediately applicable professional skills but also long-term adaptive sensibility. His students learn to anticipate adaptation in learning media, processes, and subject matters. Professor Goodspeed excels as a mentor offering a level of commitment and thoroughness that is inspiring, and he works to ensure his students are recognized for their work across the planning field, highlighting their contributions on different media platforms such as posters, journal articles, and through his professional networks. He has also served on the advisory committee for ten doctoral students, many beyond the college, both inside and outside this university.

Research: Professor Goodspeed's research is advancing knowledge on the use of new information technologies by professionals and communities to respond effectively to urban problems through informed collaborative planning. He has already established a remarkable and productive record of significant scholarship. That body of research draws from and creatively integrates work on the design and use of information technologies and systems that provide support systems for planning practice, emerging practices that are expanding the realm of collaborative planning practice, and the emerging use of urban informatics data and technologies to provide new insights on urbanization processes. Pulling these threads together, he has recently published a book on scenario-based planning that bridges divides between both theory-practice and technocratic-pragmatic, that establishes his expertise at the forefront of that long-esoteric but now burgeoning practice area, and that will undoubtedly become a reference source for professionals and scholars in urban and regional planning for years to come.

Recent and Significant Publications, Exhibitions, and Awards:

Goodspeed, Robert. *Scenario Planning for Cities and Regions: Managing and Envisioning Uncertain Futures*. Lincoln Institute of Land Policy, 2020.

Goodspeed, Robert. *Scenario Planning for Cities and Regions: Managing and Envisioning Uncertain Futures*. Lincoln Institute of Land Policy, 2020.

Avin, Uri, and Robert Goodspeed. "Using Exploratory Scenarios in Planning Practice." *Journal of the American Planning Association*, vol. 86, no. 4, 2020.

Goodspeed, Robert. "Smart Cities: Moving Beyond Urban Cybernetics to Tackle Wicked Problems." *Cambridge Journal of Regions, Economy, and Society*, vol. 8, no. 1, 2015, pp. 79-92.

Recipient, *Donald Schön Award for Excellence in Learning from Practice*, 2013.

Service: Professor Goodspeed has an impressive service record, and he often takes on organizer roles, whether in mainstream academic conferences, curriculum development, awards programs, or new event planning at the college. Furthermore, he has managed to align these efforts with his research expertise. In particular, Professor Goodspeed's primary role in launching the Rackham Graduate Certificate in Urban Informatics, now in its third year, also aligns with the strategic aims of the college and its newest degree program in urban technology. He has been active in academic conferences, including the Association of Collegiate Schools of Planning and Computation in Urban Planning and Urban Management, where he has served on the board since 2018 and will co-edit the proceedings in 2021. Within the University of Michigan, Professor Goodspeed's work at conference planning is exceptional, and he has attracted interdisciplinary support, distinguished participants, and sizable audiences.

External Reviewers:

Reviewer A: "He does serious informatics-based analysis at a high level that is published in leading journals. He also reflects on the role of such analysis in public decision making, thereby asking the field to consider epistemological and procedural questions that help us better speak truth to power. He also evaluates such efforts to help us do better next time. This represents a coherent body of work that embodies Schon's norm of reflective (academic) practice, which underlies most good scholarship in urban planning."

Reviewer B: "…I consider him extremely productive and innovative; he is clearly a rising leader in the field of data-oriented planning/urban informatics. Likewise, as is evidenced by his service and teaching record, he is also a substantial asset to the communities, department and university in which he serves. He is talented and accomplished…"

Reviewer C: "Professor Goodspeed is a national leader in research on collaborative planning theory and practice. His work has enriched our understanding of collective decision-making practices, as well as developed tools that furthers its applications and captures its efficacy."

Reviewer D: "…Dr. Goodspeed…[has]…reached a very high standard in the area of scholarship. His teaching and service also appears to be very strong. He has had a productive career with significant contributions in high quality outlets. His methods are through and innovative, and his findings make important contributions to the field. He also appears to have a

strong trajectory in his work that I expect will lead him to a continued career in research and publishing."

Reviewer E: "Robert Goodspeed stands out as a unique talent in the planning profession. He is the foremost [junior] scholar in scenario planning, and he is unique, I believe, for infusing methods with connections to planning theory…Fair to say, Goodspeed is a prolific author, both individually, and in collaboration with an extensive array of scholars."

Reviewer F: "The quality and scholarly impact of Dr. Goodspeed's work is similarly impressive. His scholarship focuses broadly on the use of technology and information in planning – or planning support systems- which are increasingly critical areas of investigation, particularly when linked, as this research is, to its social implications. His 2020 book on the use of scenario planning is poised to make a strong impact on the field, especially at a time when cities and regions are managing considerable uncertainties."

Summary of Recommendation:
Professor Goodspeed is rising scholar in scenario planning, a committed teacher and mentor, and a supportive and energetic colleague providing valuable service to the university, college and profession. It is with the support of the Taubman College Promotion and Tenure Committee and the Executive Committee that I recommend Robert Goodspeed for promotion to associate 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

May 2021