

PROMOTION RECOMMENDATION

The University of Michigan

A. Alfred Taubman College of Architecture and Urban Planning

Joy Knoblauch, assistant professor of architecture, A. Alfred Taubman College of Architecture and Urban Planning, is recommended for promotion to associate professor of architecture, with tenure, A. Alfred Taubman College of Architecture and Urban Planning.

Academic Degrees:

Ph.D.	2012	Princeton University, History and Theory of Architecture, Princeton, NJ
M.E.D.	2006	Yale University, Environmental Design, New Haven, CT
B.Arch.	2002	Cornell University, Architecture, Ithaca, NY

Professional Record:

2012 – Present	Assistant Professor of Architecture, A. Alfred Taubman College of Architecture and Urban Planning, University of Michigan
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Summary of Evaluation:

Teaching: Professor Knoblauch's teaching contributions include her outstanding ability to help students make connections between architecture's theoretical, critical, and material dimensions. Her teaching spans a wide range of courses and degree programs within the college, from foundational design studios, undergraduate theory courses, graduate history surveys, advanced research seminars, and doctoral advising. As an educator to the broadest possible cross-section of students in the college, Professor Knoblauch cultivates in her students a capacity for critical discourse, supporting their individual advancement in the discipline whether they become design professionals or scholars. Professor Knoblauch's teaching has had a positive impact on the college, from the two substantial reworkings of core survey courses to advanced research seminars and doctoral advising.

Research: Professor Knoblauch's research using behavioral psychology in architecture has succeeded in creating original scholarship that is deeply revealing of a period in post-war America when social science tied to activist government seemed to be the key to the future, and not only in architecture. Her path breaking research into such diverse areas as hospital design, community mental health centers, "open prisons," and "defensible spaces" for public housing points to a new understanding of a whole era of American architecture. In her book, The Architecture of Good Behavior: Psychology and Modern Institutional Design in Postwar America, Professor Knoblauch critically explores how the U.S. government policy-makers in the immediate post-World War II period sought to control the behavior of individuals through an approach to spatial design she terms "psychological functionalism." Professor Knoblauch received several prestigious research grants and fellowships to support her work on the book, including a Fulbright Canada fellowship, a Woodrow Wilson Scholars fellowship, and a National Science Foundation grant.

Recent and Significant Publications, Exhibitions, and Awards:

Knoblauch, Joy. The Architecture of Good Behavior: Psychology and Modern Institutional Design in Postwar America. (2020) Pittsburgh: University of Pittsburgh Press.

Canadian Center for Architecture: Canadian Center for Architecture Research Fellow, Summer 2020.

Guardian Industries Grant: Biometric, Communicative, and Environmental Interfaces: Expanding the Functional Integration of Glass in Promoting Health and Wellness in the Workplace, Fall 2019, \$133,000.

Knoblauch, Joy. "The Economy of Fear, Oscar Newman Launches Crime Prevention through Urban Design (1969 -197x)," *Architectural Theory Review*, Vol. 19, No. 3, 2015, pp. 336–354,

Fulbright Canada: The Visiting Research Chair in Philosophy and Public Health, McGill University, Fall 2015, \$25,000.

Service: Professor Knoblauch has made strong service contributions to the architecture program, the college, the university, and the profession. For the architecture program, she has been an active leader of the doctoral program in architecture by taking responsibility for the "Design Studies" track of the program as well as serving as a member of the Doctoral Advisory Committee and a mentor to students. In July 2020, she was appointed as the co-director of the Doctoral Program and has taken the lead in shepherding the students and the program through the COVID crisis. She is on the Steering Committees for the Masters of Science in design health and the interdisciplinary certificate in healthy cities. For the university, she is a member of the Faculty Senate and the Steering Committee for Science, Technology, and Society where she co-organized the 2019-2020 lecture series. For the profession, she has been active in reviewing manuscripts and other forms of academic service, as well as member of The Architecture Lobby, the advocacy group that promotes fair labor practices in the architecture profession.

External Reviewers:

Reviewer A: "Dr. Knoblauch has established a focused and innovative scholarly practice, combining methods from a range of fields and engaging in pertinent contemporary discourse. Her work on psychology and behavior suggest important parameters that have been essential to the field's development...Indeed, she plays a prominent role amongst a new group of scholars focused on questions of ethics and equity in how we understand the built environment..."

Reviewer B: "Overall Professor Knoblauch is a scholar who produces high quality work, is an effective teacher and leader...and her scholarly writings make an important contribution to architecture history and theory. Professor Knoblauch's work is engaging and impactful because she shows in meticulous detail how psychology in architecture attempted to solve problems by controlling individual behavior through its design."

Reviewer C: "Knoblauch importantly explains environmental determinism and analyses the environments it generates without defending it or, for that matter, attacking it. What is equally important is that in her scholarship and teaching she is addressing social and environmental issues that are going to be of more relevance in the future..."

Reviewer D: “Joy’s combined record of research, teaching and service clearly merits this recognition. Joy brings a unique voice to the study of modern architecture in the United States, and one that is sorely needed...especially the ways in which she weaves theoretical and critical material into courses for professional students. Her interest in expanding architecture practice is also very evident in her service work, which is extensive, and even more importantly, wide ranging.”

Reviewer E: “Knoblauch’s approach to her research subjects provides a model for what scholars in my field call ‘engaged STS’--that is, knowledge that doesn’t just sit in a book or journal article but finds its way into the world...Scholars like Knoblauch...help present-day designers create ‘better’ work--as well as recognize how their design ambitions are constrained by larger political, economic, and cultural forces...”

Reviewer F: “Joy has demonstrated that she has a well-conceived research agenda that explores important issues in architecture, urban planning, psychology, and the built environment...and an aspiration to develop leadership in her discipline over the next few years. She has developed a strong cross discipline identity, examining the built environment and building typologies through specific lenses tied to psychology and society. As to the quality of her teaching...she lays out a very well organized, thoughtful, and innovative set of objectives for her classes.”

Summary of Recommendation:

Professor Knoblauch’s pedagogical approach demonstrates innovative scholarship that substantively engage issues such as climate, race, gender that force scholars and teachers to reimagine the field and its future trajectories. She has a robust research portfolio that lends itself to our understanding of how architectural practices are integrally linked with the psychology of users of built structures. Her leadership of the doctoral program in architecture and other critical initiatives signifies her commitment to service. It is with the support of the Taubman College Promotion and Tenure Committee and the Executive Committee that I recommend Joy Knoblauch for promotion to associate professor of architecture, with tenure, A. Alfred Taubman College of Architecture and Urban Planning.



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

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