PROMOTION RECOMMENDATION  
The University of Michigan  
Penny W. Stamps School of Art and Design

Sun Young Park, assistant professor of art and design, Penny W. Stamps School of Art and Design, assistant professor of information, School of Information, and assistant professor in the Digital Studies Institute, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts, is recommended for promotion to associate professor of art and design, with tenure, Penny W. Stamps School of Art and Design, associate professor of information, without tenure, School of Information, and associate professor in the Digital Studies Institute, without tenure, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts.

**Academic Degrees:**

Ph.D. 2015  Informatics, School of Information and Computer Science, University of California, Irvine, CA
M.Des. 2008  Interaction Design, Carnegie Mellon University, Pittsburgh, PA
B.F.A. 2005  Industrial Design, Ewha Woman’s University, Seoul, Korea

**Professional Record:**

2020 – present  Assistant Professor in the Digital Studies Institute, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor
2016 – present  Assistant Professor of Information, School of Information, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor
2015 – present  Assistant Professor of Art and Design, Stamps School of Art and Design, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor

**Summary of Evaluation:**

**Teaching** – Professor Park’s interdisciplinary teaching and advising exemplify the Stamps School mission to situate art and design within a larger research university context. She has taught successfully at the undergraduate and graduate levels, and her signature courses (such as Interaction Design and Research Methods) have been important additions to the school’s curriculum. She has mentored 21 Ph.D. and Master’s level students from the Stamps School, the School of Information, the College of Engineering, the School of Public Health and the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts, the majority of whom identify as women of color pursuing topics in the increasingly interdisciplinary fields of interaction design, informatics, and human-computer interaction.

Professor Park deliberately and strategically mentors students by providing them with opportunities to work directly with industry professionals and to develop their research and analytical design skills. Students cite that the benefit of the research and synthesis skills they have learned are important to job success and set them apart from other colleagues. She continues to serve as an invaluable resource and mentor after graduation and instills in her students a commitment to use their skills to improve people’s lives.
Creative Work / Research – Professor Park has established an emerging reputation in design as evidenced by significant contributions to user experience and interaction design (IU/UX), working at the intersection of human-computer interaction (HCI) and healthcare. Professor Park’s design and research agendas aim to empower patients, support their interactions with healthcare providers, and better design their overall healthcare experiences, also contributing to health and disability studies. As such, her work is inherently interdisciplinary. To accomplish these research goals, Professor Park works collaboratively with other disciplinary stakeholders from healthcare and HCI, a common practice in this interdisciplinary area.

Professor Park’s research seeks to improve the lives of the most vulnerable populations in healthcare settings, such as children going through cancer treatment. For example, her multi-year project with pediatric cancer patients tests various UI/UX solutions based on a rigorous research agenda and ethnographic methods to increase children’s agency and improve communication among patients, their families, health advocates and healthcare providers. To support her ambitious design research, Professor Park has been highly successful in securing external funding. In 2020, she was awarded a highly competitive National Science Foundation CAREER award ($565,000). She has received additional support totaling over $1 million from NIH, U-M Exercise and Sport Science Initiative, and NSF.

She has been equally successful in disseminating her findings in reputable scholarly venues within the discipline of design as well as healthcare. She has published as first author or primary faculty author on 14 papers in some of the highest-ranked peer-review venues that disseminate new knowledge at the intersection of design and healthcare – the ACM Conference on Human Factors in Computing Systems (CHI), ACM Conference on Computer Supported Cooperative Work (CSCW), the Journal of CSCW, the ACM Transaction on Computer-Human Interaction, the ACM Conference on Designing Interactive Systems (DIS), International Journal of Medical Informatics, and the Journal of Medical Internet Research.

Significant Recent Works and Activities

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<th>Year</th>
<th>Role/Activity</th>
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<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>Principal Investigator, National Science Foundation (NSF), CAREER – Advancing Pediatric Patient-Provider Communication through Collaborative Tracking and Data Sharing ($565,000)</td>
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<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>Co-Principal Investigator, National Institutes of Health (NIH), UG3 Grant – Personalized Digital Behavior Change Interventions to Promote Oral Health ($460,271)</td>
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2018  Co-Principal Investigator, University of Michigan Exercise and Sport Science Initiative (ESSI) Research Awards – *A Projection-based Augmented Reality System for Inclusive Recreational Sports and Performance Tracking* ($149,901)

2017  Principal Investigator, National Science Foundation (NSF), CISE Research Initiative (CRII) – *Empowering Pediatric Patients as Active Partners with Clinicians and Caregivers in Managing Their Chronic Conditions* ($174,993)

**Service** – Professor Park’s service to the school, university, profession and community is substantial. In addition to school-level committees, she has served the profession as associate chair for nine programs committees and as co-organizer for five workshops. She is a frequent reviewer of papers and articles for top-tier journals in her areas of expertise and serves on grant review panels for the National Science Foundation. Reflecting the interdisciplinary nature of her work, Professor Park actively engages with units across campus; in addition to those in which she holds appointments, she is affiliated with the Center for Ethics, Society, and Computing, the Michigan Interactive and Social Computing Group, the Youth and Technology Research Collaborative, and Hybrid Intelligence Systems.

**External Reviewers:**

Reviewer A: “Sun Young’s growing body of work around patient empowerment is relevant in so many ways. First, it showcases her effort in pushing the boundaries of design and HCI to be impactful in healthcare. Second, it helps to empower people to have better experiences and outcomes in healthcare, particularly people with low health literacy, of lower SES, and those with vulnerable health conditions. Third, it continues and deepens the trend of having individuals take a role in the management of their own health conditions…I find her scholarly impact, particularly in interdisciplinary work applied to the societal problem of healthcare, to be creative, innovative, and worthy of tenure.”

Reviewer B: “…my conclusion is that she is a very productive scholar, present in journals that have a high citation rate, and working on very current and important topics in healthcare. Her productivity, that combines journal articles, proceedings chapters, conference presentations, and workshop papers, is clearly outstanding.”

Reviewer C: “Dr. Park’s ability to publish as many papers as she has in these conferences so early in her career speaks highly of her ability to conduct high quality research. I am also just as impressed by the breadth of her publication record as I am with the quality of the publications…Her ability to receive funding from both non-healthcare and healthcare focused agencies speaks to her interest in and capability for taking her research across traditional boundaries to very different audiences. NSF has recognized the strength of her scholarly and teaching activities by awarding her a CAREER award in 2020.”

Reviewer D: “When it comes to research success in the form of grants, Dr. Park has already been unusually successful. The most impressive achievement is the CAREER grant from NSF, which is not easy to receive, especially not for someone in a design school. Dr. Park also has several other quite large grants from NIH, AHRQ, and NSF as PI or co-PI. It is obvious that
Dr. Park has been successful to engage in research that is recognized as both scientifically important as well as for the broader society. I see Dr. Park’s achievements when it comes to research funding as well above what could be expected at this stage.”

Reviewer E: “Considering her funding record as a whole, she is well over the bar for tenure and her grants as the lead PI put her right on par with junior faculty at R1 institutions in this competitive funding climate….Dr. Park should also be commended for collaborating with and disseminating her research findings among the clinical world – one of the most difficult environments to operate in as a researcher.”

Summary of Recommendation:
Professor Park has established a strong profile as an interdisciplinary researcher, demonstrated a high level of success at securing external funding, and is a deeply committed educator and university citizen. We strongly recommend Sun Young Park for promotion to associate professor of art and design, with tenure, Penny W. Stamps School of Art and Design, associate professor of information, without tenure, School of Information, and associate professor in the Digital Studies Institute, without tenure, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts.

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Gunalan Nadarajan
Dean and Professor
Penny W. Stamps School of Art and Design

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Thomas A. Finholt
Dean, School of Information

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Anne Curzan, Dean
Geneva Smitherman Collegiate Professor of English Language and Literature, Linguistics, and Education,
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