

PROMOTION RECOMMENDATION
THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN
MEDICAL SCHOOL
DEPARTMENT OF INTERNAL MEDICINE
DEPARTMENT OF OBSTETRICS AND GYNECOLOGY
SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SCIENCES

Emily C. Somers, Ph.D., Sc.M., associate professor of internal medicine, with tenure, Department of Internal Medicine, associate professor of obstetrics and gynecology, without tenure, Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, Medical School, and associate professor of environmental health sciences, without tenure, Department of Environmental Health Sciences, School of Public Health, is recommended for promotion to professor of internal medicine, with tenure, Department of Internal Medicine, professor of obstetrics and gynecology, without tenure, Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, Medical School, and professor of environmental health sciences, without tenure, Department of Environmental Health Sciences, School of Public Health.

Academic Degrees:

Ph.D.	2006	London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, United Kingdom
Sc.M.	1999	Johns Hopkins University
B.S.	1997	University of Michigan

Professional Record:

2014-present	Associate Professor of Internal Medicine, with tenure, University of Michigan
2014-present	Associate Professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology, without tenure, University of Michigan
2014-present	Associate Professor of Environmental Health Sciences, without tenure, University of Michigan
2012-2014	Assistant Professor of Obstetrics and Gynecology, University of Michigan
2011-2014	Assistant Professor of Environmental Health Sciences, University of Michigan
2009-2014	Assistant Professor of Internal Medicine, University of Michigan
2007-2009	Research Assistant Professor of Internal Medicine, University of Michigan
2004-2007	Lecturer of Internal Medicine, University of Michigan

Summary of Evaluation:

Teaching: Dr. Somers is engaged in a broad range of teaching activities, and is committed to training the next generation of scientists and health professionals from a variety of disciplines and career stages. She mentors post-baccalaureate trainees seeking research experience, as well as graduate students from the School of Public Health, post-doctoral fellows, and junior faculty. Through her role on the Research Development Core of the Michigan Institute for Clinical and Health Research, Dr. Somers works with faculty across campus on the development and conduct of grants and projects, and leads a new Interdisciplinary Research Initiatives program, aimed at increasing the success of faculty in competing for large-scale, complex, multi-component research projects. This has included conducting workshops and seminars, and the development of an

Accelerating Synergy Award, an internal funding mechanism to train and support teams developing such projects. Dr. Somers has also participated in continuing medical education, lecturing in forums such as the Autoimmunity Symposium at Northern Michigan University where she was a keynote speaker, and developing and reviewing CME materials that include strategic plans and clinical guidelines. Additionally, she participates in a variety of activities related to patient and community education, including self-management education and nutritional aspects of chronic disease management.

Research: Dr. Somers' research focuses on immune-mediated conditions and women's health, with a major emphasis on systemic lupus erythematosus. In addition to her work on lupus epidemiology, she has been involved in the development of clinical research infrastructure and patient cohorts to address a wide array of issues related to the etiology, prognosis, treatment and outcomes of lupus and autoimmune conditions. She has an excellent track record of funding from the Centers for Disease Control and the National Institutes of Health, including as the principal investigator of the CDC-funded Michigan Lupus Epidemiology and Surveillance Program, and is an author of 62 peer-reviewed publications, and numerous invited national and international presentations. Dr. Somers' reputation in her field is evidenced by her service on study sections for the American College of Rheumatology, the NIH, and the U.S. Food and Drug Administration Immunology Devices Panel.

Recent and Significant Publications:

Somers EC, Eschenauer GA, Troost JP, Golob JL, Gandhi TN, Wang L, Zhou N, Petty LA, Baang JH, Dillman NO, Frame D, Gregg KS, Kaul DR, Nagel J, Patel TS, Zhou S, Lauring AS, Hanauer DA, Martin E, Sharma P, Fung CM, Pogue JM: Tocilizumab for treatment of mechanically ventilated patients with COVID-19. *Clin Infect Dis*. Jul 11:ciaa954, 2020.

Minhas D, Marder W, Harlow S, Hassett A, Zick SM, Gordon C, Barbour KE, Helmick CG, Wang L, Lee J, Padda A, McCune WJ, Somers EC: Access and cost-related non-adherence to prescription medications among lupus cases and controls: the Michigan Lupus Epidemiology and Surveillance (MILES) Program. *Arthritis Care Res*. 2020; in press.

Charoenwoodhipong P, Harlow SD, Marder W, Hassett AL, McCune WJ, Gordon C, Helmick CG, Barbour KE, Wang L, Mancuso P, Somers EC, Zick SM: Dietary omega polyunsaturated fatty acid intake and patient-reported outcomes in systemic lupus erythematosus: The Michigan Lupus Epidemiology and Surveillance Program. *Arthritis Care Res*. Jul;72(7):874-881, 2020.

Somers EC, Lee J, Hassett AL, Zick SM, Harlow SD, Helmick CG, Barbour KE, Gordon C, Brummett CM, Minhas D, Padda A, Wang L, McCune WJ, Marder W: Prescription opioid use in patients with and without systemic lupus erythematosus – Michigan Lupus Epidemiology and Surveillance Program, 2014-2015. *MMWR Morb Mortal Wkly Rep*. Sep 27;68(38):819-824, 2019.

Somers EC, Ganser MA, Warren JS, Basu N, Wang L, Zick SM, Park SK: Mercury exposure and antinuclear antibodies among females of reproductive age in the United States: NHANES. *Environ Health Perspect*. Aug;123(8):792-798, 2015.

Service: Institutionally, Dr. Somers serves on the oversight committees for the Michigan Lupus Cohort and the Michigan Connective Tissue Disease Cohort, and is a member of the MICHHR Advisory Board and the MICHHR Mentor Council. At the national level, she is very active in the American College of Rheumatology, serving on several committees including the Research Agenda Public Awareness and Advocacy Subcommittee, the Abstract Oversight Committee, and the ACR Collaborative Initiatives CDC Advisory Committee. Regionally, she has provided expert advice as an epidemiologist to the Plymouth-Canton School District COVID-19 Health and Safety Committee. She was also instrumental in the formation of the Michigan Medicine COVID-19 Rapid Response Registry.

External Reviewers:

Reviewer A: “[Dr. Somers] is clearly a strong academic epidemiologist who has a wide breadth of knowledge, a stellar funding track record, impressive writing skills and productivity. She has made many important contributions to the fields of epidemiology and rheumatology, especially related to systemic lupus erythematosus...I think Dr. Somers has achieved outstanding levels of performance in health services research scholarship and should be promoted to Professor with tenure at the University of Michigan.”

Reviewer B: “...[Dr. Somers] has focused on the epidemiology of systemic lupus and rheumatic autoimmune diseases. Over the past several years, she has received several awards for her work. She has presented internationally at various meetings including American College of Rheumatology and the International Congress on Autoimmunity. Her recent study was the first to show that the dietary intake ratio of omega-6 to omega-3 fatty acids is associated with patient-reported outcomes in lupus, including lupus activity and sleep quality...Dr. Somers work is on par or exceeds contributions made by others who are active in the research area of autoimmune diseases in pregnancy and who are currently in Professor academic titles.”

Reviewer C: “I believe Dr. Emily Somers contributes in all the areas important to scholarship: research, education, and service to the academic community. She is a productive researcher who has made major contributions in clinical researcher, as well as an engaging speaker, teacher, and mentor. It is my belief that Dr. Somers is fully qualified for promotion to Professor in the Medical School at the University of Michigan, and indeed she would also have received such a promotion at my institution. I have followed her work with great interest and look forward to many more insights over her career. I recommend Dr. Somers to you with my highest enthusiasm and deeply held respect for her work.”

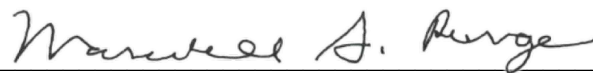
Reviewer D: “Dr. Somer’s [sic] work on the epidemiology of Lupus has been outstanding...I was also impressed with her contribution to the current COVID-19 pandemic; rapidly organizing an inter-disciplinary team for an observational study of intubated patients treated with tocilizumab. ...Dr. Somers is an outstanding academician who is recognized nationally and internationally for her work on the epidemiology of rheumatic diseases. I have no doubt that she will continue to be very productive and that her stature will continue to increase over the years. She would certainly be promoted [at my institution]. Thus, I strongly recommend her promotion to Professor with Tenure in the Department of Internal Medicine, University of Michigan.”

Reviewer E: “The scope of Emily’s research interests is as broad as it is profound, and she has offered her perspective as both a reviewer and a prolific author. She has designed and conducted landmark clinical trials that have helped elucidate the incompletely understood etiopathogenesis of lupus and other autoimmune diseases. There are several insights of hers on this topic which I consider to be exceptional...Emily has been recognized internationally, and the merit of her initiatives is clearly reflected in the funding support she has received...I feel strongly that Emily would be eligible for promotion at our institution, and I fully support her candidacy for Professorship with tenure.”

Reviewer F: “...it is clear to me that Dr. Somers’ richly deserves promotion at your institution based on the rigor, breadth, and productivity of her research and the quality of her teaching. The important studies she has done in the UK, first, and now in MILES, alone should suffice to make the case for this promotion. Based on my experience handling promotions at [my institution], she would easily garner advancement to Professor at our institution as well.”

Summary of Recommendation:

Dr. Somers is recognized as a leader in the area of lupus epidemiology, and has made substantial contributions to the field through her research, teaching and service. I am pleased to recommend Emily C. Somers, Ph.D., Sc.M. for promotion to professor of internal medicine, with tenure, Department of Internal Medicine, professor of obstetrics and gynecology, without tenure, Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology, Medical School, and professor of environmental health sciences, without tenure, Department of Environmental Health Sciences, School of Public Health.



Marschall S. Runge, M.D., Ph.D.
Executive Vice President for Medical Affairs
Dean, Medical School



F. DuBois Bowman, Ph.D.
Dean, School of Public Health

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