

PROMOTION RECOMMENDATION
The University of Michigan
School of Public Health
Department of Nutritional Sciences

Kendrin Sonnevile, assistant professor of nutritional sciences, Department of Nutritional Sciences, School of Public Health, is recommended for promotion to associate professor of nutritional sciences, with tenure, Department of Nutritional Sciences, School of Public Health.

Academic Degrees:

Sc.D.	2010	Harvard University
M.S.	2002	Tufts University
B.S.	2000	Michigan State University

Professional Record:

2014-Present	Assistant Professor, Department of Nutritional Sciences, University of Michigan School of Public Health
2014-Present	Adjunct Instructor, Harvard Medical School, Harvard University
2012-2012	Post-doctoral Fellowship in Obesity and Eating Disorder Epidemiology, Division of Adolescent Medicine, Boston Children's Hospital
2010-2014	Instructor, Harvard Medical School, Harvard University
2010-2014	Faculty, Division of Adolescent Medicine, Boston Children's Hospital
2002-2002	Material and Child Health Bureau Leadership Education in Adolescent Health Nutrition Fellowship, Division of Adolescent Medicine, Boston Children's Hospital
2002-2002	Dietetic Internship, Frances Stern Nutrition Center, Tufts New England Medical Center

Summary of Evaluation:

Teaching – Professor Sonnevile has created three of the four courses she teaches in the Department of Nutritional Sciences. These include two that are the only courses on eating disorders and weight bias offered in any school of public health nationwide, despite the growing prevalence and significant morbidity and mortality associated with eating disorders. Professor Sonnevile has consistently garnered outstanding teaching evaluations, averaging 4.82 for Q1 and 4.96 for Q2. Her courses NUTR 646: Approaches in Nutrition Counseling and NUTR 621: Eating Disorders Prevention and Treatment in the master's program have all garnered solid enrollment, averaging around 30 students per course. Professor Sonnevile has served as a primary doctoral advisor to two Ph.D. students, as a co-primary advisor to two Ph.D. students, and has served as a committee member on five Ph.D. dissertation committees. Her Ph.D. mentees have published a total of seven first-author manuscripts and they have secured prestigious National Institutes of Health (NIH)-funded post-doctoral fellowships in eating disorders research. Professor Sonnevile has also served as academic advisor to multiple masters students in nutritional sciences.

Research – Professor Sonnevile has established a research program centered on eating disorders prevention. She has shown that recognition of elevated weight status predicts greater future weight gain and is associated with higher risk of eating disorders and depression, and she has shown that weight-focused conversations with health providers do not reflect youth preferences and ultimately may contribute to weight stigma. Professor Sonnevile also has advanced highly novel intervention

approaches, including engaging youth in health-related research using MyVoice to conduct a first-of-its-kind, national mixed methods longitudinal open-ended text message study of more than 1,200 adolescents and young adults ages 14-24 in the United States. Her research uses a wide array of study populations and methods including observational studies, mixed-methods research and randomized control trials. Her work has been showcased by the University of Michigan Office of the President and Provost as an exemplar in high-impact, policy-relevant research, and community engagement, highlighting Professor Sonnevile's ability to translate small research investments into innovative, impactful, and sustainable research operations.

Professor Sonnevile has received \$1.2 million in funding including a completed award as the principal investigator (PI) from the American Heart Association. She is a co-investigator on three active R01s from the NIH. She is also the PI for a R01 and a R21 award that were submitted to NIH for which she is preparing for resubmission. Professor Sonnevile has demonstrated remarkable productivity, publishing 83 peer-reviewed papers relevant to clinical and public health practice in high impact journals including *Journal of the American Medical Association Pediatrics*, *American Journal of Public Health*, and *American Journal of Preventive Medicine*. Since joining the faculty of the University of Michigan School of Public Health in 2014, she has published 61 peer-reviewed papers (14 first-authored by trainees), and an additional four book chapters. Of these 61 papers, Professor Sonnevile was the first author for 11 and the last author for 18. In 2019, she was appointed as a fellow of the Academy of Eating Disorders and in 2018, she was awarded the Ruth Pike Award by the Department of Nutritional Sciences, Pennsylvania State University, a distinction bestowed upon an outstanding junior scientist. Professor Sonnevile has delivered 10 invited national presentations since 2014 and has consistently been committed to translating her research to lay audiences. She has been featured in the University of Michigan School of Public Health Population Healthy podcast and the highly rated Food Psych® podcast, and has been quoted in numerous articles in the popular press, including *Medium* and the *New York Times*.

Recent and Significant Publications:

- Sonneville, K.R., Thurston, I.B., Milliren, C.E., Kamody, R.C., Gooding, H.C., Richmond, T.K. (2016) Helpful or harmful? Prospective association between weight misperception and weight gain among overweight and obese adolescents and young adults. *Int J Obes (Lond)*. 40(2):328-32.
- Sonneville, K.R., Thurston, I.B., Milliren, C.E., Gooding, H.C., Richmond, T.K. (2016) Weight misperception among young adults with overweight/obesity associated with disordered eating behaviors. *Int J Eat Disord*, 49(10):937-946.
- Sonneville, K.R., Mulpuri, L., Khreizat, I., Nichols, L.P., Plegue, M.A., Chang, T. (2019) Youth Preferences for Weight-Related Conversations. *Health Commun*. 10:1-6
- Sonneville, K.R., Lipson, S.K. (2018) Disparities in eating disorder diagnosis and treatment according to weight status, race/ethnicity, socioeconomic background, and sex among college students. *Int J Eat Disord*, 51(6):518-526.
- Hazzard, V.M., Bauer, K.W., Mukherjee, B., Miller, A.L., Sonnevile, K.R. (2019) Associations between childhood maltreatment latent classes and eating disorder symptoms in a nationally representative sample of young adults in the United States. *Child Abuse Negl*. 98:104171.

Service – Professor Sonnevile has demonstrated outstanding service in her role as an assistant professor. Within the department, she served on the admissions committee and has taken on a leadership role in overseeing internal selection into the school's very competitive post-graduate Accreditation Council for Education in Nutrition (ACEND) accredited dietetic internship. At the school level, Professor Sonnevile represented nutritional sciences on the Committee on

Undergraduate Education, and is the faculty advisor to the School of Public Health Maternal and Child Health Association. Her service at the national and international levels includes serving as a member of the Eating Disorders Research Society, the leading research society in the field, with membership limited to 250 researchers worldwide and serving on the editorial boards for *Eating Behaviors*, a journal which publishes original research related to both obesity and eating disorders, and the *International Journal of Eating Disorders*, the premier journal in this field. In 2016, she founded the Academy for Eating Disorders' Epidemiology and Public Health Practice Special Interest Group and served on the group for two years. She was also a member of the Conference Program Committee for the 2017 International Conference on Eating Disorders and on the Academy for Eating Disorders' Awards and Scientific Review Committee from 2017-2020.

External Reviewers:

Reviewer A: "Relative to her peers, Dr. Sonnevile is a strong and very well-established leader in her area of work. Her research is widely known and highly regarded... Moreover, Dr. Sonnevile is on the Editorial Board of the International Journal of Eating Disorders. This is the preeminent journal in the field, and membership on the Board is typically viewed as a recognition of leadership status within the field... As the Director of a Postdoctoral T32 in eating disorders research, I can attest that her former doctoral students are outstanding and are the kind of trainees we seek for our program... I am certain Dr. Sonnevile would receive promotion and tenure in my Department here at [my institution] and clearly should at Michigan as well."

Reviewer B: "Based on my knowledge of Dr. Sonnevile's work and the review materials, I believe that Dr. Sonnevile exceeds the standards for promotion to Associate Professor... The rate of productivity (10 pubs/year) is outstanding and far exceeds expectations for assistant professors who are promoted in my department (e.g., 2-3 publications/year)... Her Web of Science h-index is 28, which is excellent for an assistant professor and exceeds typical h-index values for assistant professors in my department... I have written several evaluation letters over the past five years, and her h-index and publication record are better than 90% of those I have evaluated thus far. Overall, I find her work to be exceptionally thoughtful and rigorous, with a strong emphasis on multi-method approaches and an integration of quantitative and qualitative research designs that is rare in the eating disorder field... Dr. Sonnevile has served as Co-I on several federal grants, and she is PI on an AHA grant and several institutional grants. She has an impressive number of grants under review, and several of them received initial priority scores/percentiles that indicate a likelihood of funding. At [my institution], it is expected that assistant professors are submitting extramural grants and ideally, have secured at least one extramural grant prior to tenure. Dr. Sonnevile's grant activity meets this expectation and exceeds it in many respects (in terms of the large number of major grants currently submitted)."

Reviewer C: "In 2019, Dr. Sonnevile was honored as a Fellow of the Academy for Eating Disorders... In the past 10 years- and in fact during the nearly 30 years I've been a member... – I cannot recall another tenure track assistant professor who was accorded the honor of Fellow... I am very confident that, based on her scholarship, Dr. Kendrin Sonnevile is an outstanding scholar-researcher-innovator-mentor whose work to date as a University of Michigan assistant professor in Public Health is deserving of tenure and promotion to associate professor."

Reviewer D: "In reviewing Dr. Sonnevile's portfolio, it is readily apparent that she has been a highly productive scholar who has consistently and successfully published her research in top-tier peer-reviewed journals... For example, her studies reflect both cross-sectional and longitudinal research, using diverse methods (e.g., observational, mixed-methods, randomized control trials),

diverse samples (e.g., clinical populations, nationally representative samples of adolescents and young adults, families, athletes), and diverse age groups (e.g., youth, adolescents, young adults, parents/families)... As a national expert in the topic of weight stigma, I can attest to the significance of Dr. Sonnevile's studies... Dr. Sonnevile has obtained more than \$1.2 million in research funding through NIH grants and other foundations. At the time of this evaluation, her CV indicates another 6 grants under review, including several R01 submissions totaling more than \$10 million... Based on her accomplishments to date, Dr. Sonnevile would be promoted at my institution to the rank of Associate Professor with tenure, and I would support her promotion if she were a faculty member at my institution."

Reviewer E: "Dr. Sonnevile has been extremely productive during her relatively brief time in the field of eating disorders. Not only is she obviously talented, but her stellar training background appears to have provided a solid grounding that has prepared her to carry out impactful research as an independent investigator... Her high citation rate (>3,000 citations) and h-index are similarly remarkable give her early career stage... I believe Dr. Sonnevile's work on weight misperception among youth with overweight and obesity is outstanding... Dr. Sonnevile's publication record illustrates her productive, interdisciplinary collaborations with numerous public health research luminaries in the eating disorders field. I have no doubt whatsoever that Dr. Sonnevile's record of work would exceed the requirements for someone being considered for promotion to associate professor and tenure at my institution... Dr. Sonnevile has far surpassed the threshold for promotion to associate professor and tenure across all three domains of research, teaching, and service."

Summary of Recommendation:

Professor Sonnevile's research into eating disorder prevention has been nationally and internationally recognized as highly innovative and impactful. She has advanced highly novel intervention approaches, including engaging youth in health-related research, using a wide array of study populations and methods. She is an excellent teacher and mentor and has made outstanding contributions in service to the department, school, university and nutritional science professional community. It is with the support of the School of Public Health Executive Committee that we recommend Kendrin Sonnevile for promotion to professor of nutritional sciences, with tenure, Department of Nutritional Sciences, School of Public Health.



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

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