

PROMOTION RECOMMENDATION  
The University of Michigan  
School of Nursing

Lynae A. Darbes, associate professor of nursing, without tenure, School of Nursing, is recommended for the granting of tenure to be held with her title of associate professor of nursing, with tenure, School of Nursing.

Academic Degrees:

PhD	2000	University of Colorado, Boulder, CO
MA	1996	University of Colorado, Boulder, CO
BA	1988	University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI

Professional Record:

2016 – Present	Associate Professor, Health Behavior and Biological Sciences, School of Nursing, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI.
2012 – 2016	Associate Professor, Center for AIDS Prevention Studies, Department of Medicine, School of Medicine, University of California, San Francisco, CA.
2004 – 2012	Assistant Professor, Center for AIDS Prevention Studies, Department of Medicine, School of Medicine, University of California, San Francisco, CA.
2001 – 2004	Specialist, Step II, Department of Medicine, School of Medicine, University of California, San Francisco, CA.
2000 – 2001	Senior Public Administrative Analyst, Department of Epidemiology and Biostatistics, School of Medicine, University of California, San Francisco, CA
1993 – 1998	Instructor, Department of Psychology, University of Colorado, Boulder, CO

Summary of Evaluation:

Teaching: Professor Darbes' teaching ranges from classroom instruction with undergraduate and graduate psychology students, formal instruction of medical students and nursing students, to mentoring of graduate students, post-doctoral fellows and junior faculty in both research and clinical settings. What is consistent in these experiences is that Professor Darbes strives to support students in achieving their goals in the classroom and in practical experiences.

Professor Darbes teaches primarily in the PhD Program. She was a fully engaged participant in the appreciative inquiry process that was used to revise the PhD Program. She has been faculty of record on four unique courses since 2016. Student feedback on the quality of her teaching has been positive. Since 2016, Professor Darbes has provided research supervision and mentorship to five post-doctoral fellows at the School of Nursing, the National Clinician Scholars Program (NCSP), the University of Denver and the University of California. Additionally, she has mentored nine junior-level faculty at the University of California, and the UM School of Nursing and Medical School. She served as a member of four dissertation committees, one at the School of Nursing, two at the College of Literature, Sciences, and the Arts (LSA), one at the University of Alabama, Birmingham, and one for an international student from Karolinska Institute in

Sweden. Professor Darbes' individual mentoring has occurred across disciplines (Nursing, Medicine, Psychology and Public Health).

Research: Professor Darbes' research is anchored in the fields of health psychology and behavioral medicine. Specifically, her research examines how primary partners can influence health behaviors, which affects one's morbidity and mortality. She has conducted longitudinal investigations of relationship dynamics on sexual risk behavior and HIV testing, utilizing qualitative and quantitative methodologies, among heterosexual and gay male couples both domestically and internationally. Her work utilizes theoretically grounded approaches, incorporating social psychology, as well as classic concepts of health behavior change. Her goals include understanding how to leverage the power of relationships to intervene to improve mental and physical health outcomes.

Professor Darbes has established a program of research that focuses on HIV prevention, domestically and internationally. She works with a productive interdisciplinary research team and has been heavily supported by the National Institutes of Health (NIH), the highest level of peer review, and this speaks to the high quality of her work. She is collaborative and in demand as a co-investigator (co-I), but in recent years she has also assumed the principal investigator (PI) role on multiple grants. Since her appointment in 2016, Professor Darbes has completed work on three grants, all in the role of co-I, one National Institutes of Health (NIH), one Center for Disease Control (CDC), and one from the Department of International Development. She currently has six active NIH funded grants, three as the corresponding M-PI and three as co-I.

Professor Darbes regularly disseminates the results of her work in high-impact journals. She has 42 publications, with one as first-author, six papers in-press, 12 papers under review, and one book chapter. Professor Darbes' Scopus *h*-index is 29 and her work has been cited 1,885 times. She publishes in respected journals including *JAIDS* (Impact Factor (IF)=3.48), *Archives of Sexual Behavior* (IF=4.51), *AIDS & Behavior* (IF=3.31), and *Journal of the International AIDS Society* (IF=5.40). She regularly presents the results of her research at national and international scientific meetings.

#### Recent and Significant Publications:

- Gamarel, K., Darbes, L., Kutsa, O., Hightow-Weidman, L., Sullivan, P. and Stephenson, R. (2021). "Perspectives from young, partnered gay, bisexual, and other men who have sex with men on the adaptation of Couples HIV Testing and Counseling." *AIDS and Behavior*, 2021 Mar; 25(3):836-846.
- Kwena, Z., Kimbo, L., Darbes, L., Hatcher, A., Helova, A., Owino, G., Thirumurthy, H., Bukusi, E., Braun, T., Kilgore, M., Pisu, M., Tamhane, A., Nghiem, V., Agot, K., Neilands, T. and Turan, J. (2021). "Testing strategies for couple engagement in prevention of mother-to-child transmission of HIV and family health in Kenya: A study protocol for a randomized controlled trial." *Trials*, 2021; 22.
- Darbes, L., McGrath, N., Hosegood, V., Johnson, M., Fritz, K., Ngubane, T., and van Rooyen, H. (2019). "Results of a couples-based randomized controlled trial aimed to increase testing for HIV." *JAIDS*, 2019; 80 (4):404-413.
- Gamarel, K., Chakravarty, D., Neilands, T., Hoff, C., Lykens, J., and Darbes, L. (2018). "Composite risk for HIV: A new approach towards integrating biomedical and behavioral

strategies in couples-based HIV prevention research.” *AIDS & Behavior*, 2018; 10.1007/s10461-018-2229-8.

Conroy, A., Leddy, A., Johnson, M., Ngubane, T., van Rooyen, H., and Darbes, L. (2017). “I told her this is your life: relationship dynamics, partner support, and adherence to antiretroviral therapy among South African couples.” *Culture, Health & Sexuality*, 2017; 19(11): 1239-1253.

Service: Professor Darbes has provided substantial service to the school, university, and the scientific community. She has been actively engaged in academic life, regularly attending, and participating in faculty meetings for the school and the department. Professor Darbes has served on the PhD admissions committee and participated in the Appreciative Inquiry process to evaluate and revise our PhD program. She was a member of the School of Nursing Research Council 2017-2018. She took on a leadership role as the vice chair for research in her department beginning September 2021. At the university level, Professor Darbes has been a reviewer for the IP-X Research Stimulus Grants and is currently co-chairing a working group to conduct a needs assessment regarding mental health services and recourses for students in the School of Nursing and serves as a member of the UM Depression Center Liaison Committee. Professor Darbes regularly mentor’s junior faculty, 11 in total. She is also mentoring two junior faculty external to UM at the University of Denver and at the University of San Francisco (UCSF). Professor Darbes is regularly invited to review grants across campus and serves as a coach to the R01 Boot Camp operated by UM Institute for Healthcare Policy and Innovation (IHPI). Professor Darbes provides a substantial amount of service to the scientific community through peer review.

External Reviewers:

Reviewer A: “[Professor] Darbes’ research is directly influencing the work of others in the field.”

Reviewer B: “[Professor] Darbes’ research as tremendously cutting edge in her unique focus on couples and developing intervention strategies to be applied at the dyadic level. Even today, couples research remains a niche (dyadic research is difficult to do, dyadic data are difficult to analyze, thus few people can do the type of work [Professor] Darbes does), which is unfortunate, but also speaks volumes as to the high levels of innovation and significance of her work.”

Reviewer C: “...it [is] clear that her work is focused on interventions targeting sexual behavior in couples and HIV prevention in the U.S.A. and international settings; the quality of her work is outstanding, and the impact of her work is high.”

Reviewer D: “Her teaching and mentoring record is outstanding. In particular, her mentoring of post-doctoral and junior faculty is very strong. I was impressed how many of her trainees have pursued and successfully received funding for follow-up research to the trials that [Professor] Darbes has led.”

Reviewer E: “[Professor] Darbes has been productive in disseminating her research findings, and the overall quantity of her scholarly work, whether first-authored or co-authored, is ample.”

Summary of Recommendation: Professor Darbes is a productive scholar who has made significant contributions to the field of how primary partners can influence health behaviors, which impacts one's morbidity and mortality. She is an admirable teacher and mentor; and she is a leader who contributes in external and internal service. It is with the support of the School of Nursing Executive Committee that we recommend Lynae A. Darbes for promotion to associate professor of nursing, with tenure, School of Nursing.



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Patricia D. Hurn  
Dean and Professor  
School of Nursing

May 2022