Elham Mahmoudi, Ph.D., assistant professor of family medicine, Department of Family Medicine, Medical School, is recommended for promotion to associate professor of family medicine, with tenure, Department of Family Medicine, Medical School.

Academic Degrees:
2012 Ph.D. Wayne State University
1995 M.S. University of Detroit Mercy
1994 M.B.A. University of Detroit Mercy
1988 B.A. University of Shahid Behesti, Tehran, Iran

Professional Record:
2017 - Present Assistant Professor of Family Medicine, University of Michigan
2014 – 2017 Research Assistant Professor of Surgery, University of Michigan

Summary of Evaluation:
Teaching: Dr. Mahmoudi has demonstrated excellence as a teacher through lectures, didactics and direct mentoring. She has taught in the Department of Surgery T32 workshop, for which she developed a curriculum on research skills delivered through a series of 12 seminars. This included multiple topics ranging from grant writing to dataset management to statistical analysis to mentorship. She also has served as an advisory board member for both the Department of Surgery and the Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation T32 training programs during her appointments in those departments. Dr. Mahmoudi has presented several seminars on research and disability related topics, with excellent scores. She has taught in the Mixed Methods Research Program. She has engaged in mentorship of numerous undergraduate, graduate and medical students, as well as residents and faculty members from several departments, in addition to serving on the dissertation committee of a graduate student. Dr. Mahmoudi has provided an impact on the education and professional development of mentees.

Research: Dr. Mahmoudi’s rigorous research training and experience has led to a high level of expertise in methods essential to studying health economics. This is a research area of considerable need and importance, which is rapidly growing nationally and internationally, and for which there are relatively few trained scholars. Her work has focused on topics of aging and cognitive decline, disability and disparities, and she collaborates widely and very successfully with faculty across multiple disciplines. Dr. Mahmoudi is currently a principal investigator on eight grants with $1.7 million in total funding, including a recently secured prestigious Department of Defense award to study the risk of dementia among individuals with spinal cord injury. She has published 58 peer reviewed articles, many in highly competitive journals. The trajectory of both her output and her grant funding indicate much more success to come.

Dr. Mahmoudi has received numerous invitations to speak nationally and internationally, and her work has been recognized by institutional, regional and national awards from Wayne State University, the University of Michigan, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan, the American Public Health Association, the Gerontological Association of America, and the National Institute on Aging.
Recent and Significant Publications:


Service: Dr. Mahmoudi provides substantial service to the institution and her field. She was the chair of the Aging Session for the International Health Economics Association in Switzerland. She provides committee service and leadership to multiple organizations, including those for the American Public Health Association, AcademyHealth, Alzheimer’s Association and the Gerontological Society of America. She has also been invited to serve on numerous study sections nationally and internationally and is an active reviewer for multiple journals. Institutionally, Dr. Mahmoudi has contributed her time and expertise in serving on the MDisability workgroup, the IHPI Workforce Diversity in Healthcare Research network, Committee on Economic and Social Well-Being of Faculty and the Anti-Racism Working Group.

External Reviewers:
Reviewer A: “In summary, Dr. Elham Mahmoudi has a regional and national reputation as an accomplished researcher, scholar, educator and leader. She has received a number of institutional awards and regional awards as well as six national awards including the Gerontological Society of America Senior Service America Junior Scholar Award and an honorable mention for the James G. Zimmer New Investigator Research Award. Undoubtedly, Dr. Mahmoudi would receive promotion and tenure at [my institution].”

Reviewer B: “She is an emerging scholar in the fields of health disparities, care for older adults and disabled populations, and cost-effectiveness analysis. Her publication and funding record are incredibly strong for an Assistant Professor and provide promising evidence of future growth and contributions to the field…In my institution, a health economist with 25 publications, 15 as first author, and at least 5 in high-impact journals would be promoted to Associate Professor with tenure. Dr. Mahmoudi’s published work as first author has also been placed in high-impact journals such as the *American Journal of Managed Care, Jama (OH&NS and Surgery)* and the *BMJ.*”
Reviewer C: “I find her articles in both JAMA and the journal of the American Geriatrics Society to be of excellent quality and having significant ramifications to the clinical practice of our more mature patient population…She has been quite prolific in her literature production and quite diversified…I don’t find many of her peers to have already published in well-respected journals as she has done.’

Reviewer D: “In addition to Dr. Mahmoud’s scholarly productivity, it is clear that she is also quite active in her service work. It is notable that Dr. Mahmoudi has served as a peer reviewer for a number of highly regarded health services journals, such as Medical Care, and conferences, such as Academy Health. It appears that Dr. Mahmoudi has also served as a grant reviewer for a number of competitions including two international competitions.”

Reviewer E: “She also conducted studies examining association between hearing aids and its impact on delaying cognitive decline, depression, and lowering risk of falls in older adults. In light of some of the proposed changes in reimbursement of these devices by Medicare, Dr. Mahmoudi [sic] contribution is very significant showing positive effect of provision of hearing aids for older adults in delaying onset of cognitive and other associated impairments.”

Reviewer F: “Based on her ability to obtain extramural funding for research, Dr. Mahmoudi is in the top 5% of the researchers in our field. Few investigators in health economics have obtained four concurrent research grants as Principal Investigator. The four grants combined total almost $1.75 million in concurrent research funding. She also has concurrent funding as a Co-Investigator and received multiple research grants in the past that she has completed. This record of research funding is extremely rare among health economists and demonstrates commitment and focus to research.”

Summary of Recommendation:
Dr. Mahmoudi is an outstanding academic researcher and teacher whose rigorous research training and methodologic expertise have led to significant success as an independent investigator in essential areas of aging and cognition, disabilities and disparities. She has been successful at obtaining independent funding for her research, and is an excellent educator and mentor. I am pleased to recommend Elham Mahmoudi, Ph.D., for promotion to associate professor, with tenure, Department of Family Medicine, Medical School.

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

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