

PROMOTION RECOMMENDATION
The University of Michigan
College of Literature, Science, and the Arts

Elizabeth Popp Berman, associate professor of organizational studies, with tenure, and associate professor of sociology, without tenure, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts, is recommended for promotion to professor of organizational studies, with tenure, and professor of sociology, without tenure, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts.

Academic Degrees:

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| Ph.D. | 2007 | University of California, Berkeley |
| M.A. | 2000 | University of California, Berkeley |
| B.A. | 1995 | University of Pennsylvania |

Professional Record:

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| 2019–present | Associate Professor, Department of Organizational Studies and Sociology, University of Michigan |
| 2013–2019 | Associate Professor, Department of Sociology, University of Albany, SUNY |
| 2007–2013 | Assistant Professor, Department of Sociology, University of Albany, SUNY |

Summary of Evaluation:

Teaching: In her brief period at Michigan, Professor Popp Berman has proven to be a dedicated and effective classroom teacher and a superb mentor to both undergraduate and graduate students. She has received excellent ratings in her course evaluations. She has revamped her courses to take into account the differences between her former students at SUNY-Albany and her current students at Michigan. She has supervised two honors theses, as well as several internships. She has played a major role in advancing the diversity, equity, and inclusion mission within the Organizational Studies Program by incorporating DEI issues into her courses, serving as the co-chair of the program's new DEI Committee, and co-leading a day-long department retreat on the topic. Professor Popp Berman has a detailed set of plans for expanding her array of courses, including occasional graduate teaching in the Department of Sociology. She also expects to teach the required Organizational Studies course in macro-organizational theory.

Research: Professor Popp Berman's research spans the areas of organizational, economic, and historical sociology, as well as the sociology of education, science, and knowledge. Since receiving tenure in 2013, Professor Popp Berman has published nine refereed journal articles, a co-edited book, and her second sole-authored book, Thinking Like an Economist: How Efficiency Replaced Equality in U.S. Public Policy (in production with Princeton University Press). Her first book, Creating the Market University: How Academic Science Became an Economic Engine (Princeton, 2012), which won three best book awards, had already established her as a major figure in historical sociology and the sociology of science. Her new book, which provides an original, counterintuitive account of the increasing conservatism of U.S. government policy over the past half-century, promises to have an even greater impact. Professor Popp Berman is currently building on this work, with a study of the changing nature of antitrust policy, as well as a comparison in the student experience in two very different universities. Her work is likely to make further inroads beyond the academy; Professor Popp Berman has already authored op-ed articles in the *Washington Post* and maintains a highly popular Twitter account, with nearly 11,000 followers.

Recent and Significant Publications:

Thinking Like an Economist: How Efficiency Replaced Equality in U.S. Public Policy. Princeton: Princeton University Press. In press.

Chen, Kenneth Han and Elizabeth Popp Berman. "Buying into the Meritocracy: Taiwanese Students and the Market for College Admissions Services." *Sociology of Education* 95, no. 1 (2022): 23-42.

"From Economic to Social Regulation: How the Deregulatory Moment Strengthened Economists' Policy Position." *History of Political Economy* 49, Issue Supplement (2017): 187-212.

Hirschman, Daniel and Elizabeth Popp Berman. "Do Economists Make Policies?" *Socio-Economic Review* 12, no. 4 (2014): 779-881.

Service: Professor Popp Berman's service record, both inside and outside the university, has been exemplary. Since arriving at Michigan, she has served on eight committees in Organizational Studies—including chairing a search committee, a third-year review committee, and the above-mentioned DEI Committee—as well as serving on the Admissions Committee, a tenure review panel, a grade grievance committee, the program's Advisory Committee, and a Launch Committee for a first-year faculty member. Within the university, she has affiliated with the Ford School's Science, Technology, and Public Policy program, and is on the advisory board of the university-wide Science and Technology Studies program. Outside the university, she is currently the chair-elect of the Organizations, Occupations, and Work section of the American Sociological Association, has served on committees in three other ASA sections as well as in the Social Science History Association, and is a member of the founding steering committee of SocArXiv, an open access preprint server in the social sciences under the umbrella of the Center for Open Science.

External Reviewers:

Reviewer (A): "I have very high regard for Elizabeth Popp Berman, as she is one of the most creative minds in sociology today. She is agile: she writes in the areas of organizations, higher education, economic sociology, culture, politics, policymaking, and the sociology of knowledge and science. Her academic work is internationally acclaimed. She writes as a public sociologist in a variety of venues—an activity that is always called for in our discipline but not often heeded. Her teaching looks powerful and life-changing for her students."

Reviewer (B): "While I will refrain from reciting Berman's C.V., the list of fellowships, grants, and service to the discipline at many levels clearly marks a scholar who has met the expectations for promotion to the rank of full professor. The combination of an active, influential research agenda with the willingness to do the work that keeps academic institutions in motion is not easy to maintain. I have absolutely no doubt that Elizabeth Popp Berman both has and will continue to contribute in all the ways that we expect of senior scholars at major research universities. She was an outstanding hire for Organization Studies at the University of Michigan and unquestionably merits promotion to the rank of full professor."

Reviewer (C): "In my assessment, [Professor Berman's] second book...will become THE major statement in the sociology of economic and policy knowledge for years to come, and will cement her status as the leader of this field. To my mind, the combination of the distinction won by her earlier work, the significant achievement represented by the present manuscript, and the gradually growing body of work with students and other collaborators, should merit promotion to full Professor at the University of Michigan."

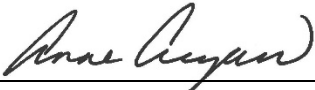
Reviewer (D): “Professor Berman is doing high-quality widely read work on a topic of interest to several large subfields within Sociology and also to parts of the disciplines of History and Economics. Her first book established itself as a central text on its subject. Her second is (appropriately) more ambitious, of interest to an even wider audience, and is very good. I fully expect it will be more influential than its predecessor.”

Reviewer (E): “I consider Dr. Popp Berman to be one of the most interesting organization studies scholars today...”

Reviewer (F): “Berman also is a very active citizen of the discipline, serving on multiple editorial boards and contributing important service on award and program committees.”

Summary of Recommendation:

Professor Popp Berman has, since her arrival at Michigan, made an immediate impact on the Organizational Studies Program, playing a crucial leadership role for the unit. She has authored two major books and published a steady stream of articles on multiple topics. At Michigan, she has proven to be an extremely conscientious and highly effective classroom instructor. She has been active on a broad range of committees, and has played a significant and increasingly important role in her discipline. She has demonstrated a strong commitment to the diversity, equity, and inclusion efforts in Organizational Studies. The Executive Committee of the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts and I recommend that Associate Professor Elizabeth Popp Berman be promoted to the rank of professor of organizational studies, with tenure, and professor of sociology, without tenure, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts.



Anne Curzan, Dean

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

Arthur F. Thurnau Professor
College of Literature, Science, and the Arts

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