

PROMOTION RECOMMENDATION
The University of Michigan
School of Social Work

Matthew J. Smith, associate professor of social work, with tenure, School of Social Work, is recommended for promotion to professor of social work, with tenure, School of Social Work.

Academic Degrees:

M.P.E.	2008	Washington University in St. Louis School of Medicine, St. Louis, Missouri
Ph.D.	2006	University of Wisconsin, Madison, School of Social Work, Madison, Wisconsin
M.S.W.	2000	University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Urbana-Champaign, Illinois
B.S.	1998	University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Urbana-Champaign, Illinois

Professional Record:

2017 - present	Associate Professor, School of Social Work, University of Michigan
2016 - 2017	Associate Professor (Clinician Educator Track), Northwestern University
2015 - 2016	Assistant Professor (Clinician Educator Track), Northwestern University
2014 - 2017	Lecturer, School of Professional studies, Northwestern University
2009 - 2015	Assistant Professor (Clinician Educator Track), Northwestern University
2008 - 2009	Post-doctoral Fellow, Northwestern University
2006 - 2008	Post-doctoral Fellow, Washington University in St. Louis, St. Louis, MO.

Summary of Evaluation:

Teaching: Since joining UM, Professor Smith has made distinctive contributions to MSW and to PhD teaching and curriculums. Professor Smith has taught Interpersonal Practice with Adult Individuals, and Grant Writing for Extramural Research Funding. Professor Smith is also a dedicated student mentor. He has actively advised over 50 MSW and PhD students. He is also a valued mentor for SSW assistant professors and postdoctoral fellows. As the co-director of the Treatment Innovation and Dissemination Research Group, he has advised numerous faculty members on their grant submissions. Professor Smith is an excellent classroom instructor, and a generous and effective mentor in advancing students and faculty colleagues in their research careers.

Research: Professor Smith's research focuses on building skills for employment interviews for people with disabilities. His signature, deeply original research is his pioneering work in the use of artificial intelligence to assist people with disabling conditions, including mental illness, autism, other educational disabilities, and people who have involvement with the criminal justice system to improve job interviewing skills and performance. Professor Smith has expanded his research on the use of artificial intelligence by disseminating it and by modifying the intervention and the technology to other disabled populations who have low rates of employment. The results have included: 1) an important branching out of his research to these other disabled populations, 2) expanding the positive impact of the artificial intelligence based, virtual reality job interview skills training approach, and 3) better finances and more social inclusion and social skills for the people managing the disabilities.

Professor Smith has published 26 (of his total 68) peer-reviewed publications and is first or senior author on 17 of his publications. He has been awarded six major grants in the past five years, totaling \$7.6 million from funders such as the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH), the Kessler Foundation, the National Institute of Justice (NIJ), the National Institute on Disability, and Independent Living and Rehabilitation Research (NIDILRR). His h-index is 31, far exceeding that of the average h-index of full professors in social work and even

exceeding the h-index members of the American Academy of Social Work and Social Welfare (AASWSW). Professor Smith's scholarship record is extensive, important and has high social value.

Recent and Significant Publications:

- Smith MJ, Sherwood K, Ross B, Smith JD, Dawalt L, Bishop L, Humm L, Elkins J, & Steacy C. (2021). Virtual Interview Training for Transition-Age Autistic Youth: A randomized controlled feasibility and effectiveness trial. *Autism: International Journal of Research and Practice*, 25 (6), 1536-1552.
- Smith MJ, Smith JD, Jordan N, Sherwood K, McRobert E, Ross B, Oulvey EA, Atkins M (2021). Virtual Reality Job Interview Training in Transition Services: Results of a Single-Arm Non-Controlled Effectiveness-Implementation Hybrid Trial. *Journal of Special Education Technology*, 36(1) 3-17.
- Smith MJ, Pinto RM, Dawalt L, Smith JD, Sherwood K, Miles R, Taylor J, Hume K, Dawkins T, Baker-Ericzen M, Frazier T, Humm L, & Steacy C (2020). Using community-engaged methods to adapt virtual reality job interview training for transition-age youth on the autism spectrum. *Research in Autism Spectrum Disorder*, 71, 101498.
- Smith MJ, Bornheimer LA, Li J, Blajeski S, Hiltz B, Fischer D, Tucker K, & Ruffolo M. (2021). Computerized Clinical Training Simulations with Virtual Clients Abusing Alcohol: Initial Feasibility, Acceptability, and Effectiveness. *Clinical Social Work Journal*, 49, 184-196.
- Smith MJ, Smith JD, Fleming MF, Jordan N, Oulvey EA, Bell MD, Mueser KT, McGurk SR, Spencer E, Mailey K, & Razzano LA. (2019). Enhancing individual placement and support (IPS) - Supported employment: A Type 1 hybrid design randomized controlled trial to evaluate virtual reality job interview training among adults with severe mental illness. *Contemporary Clinical Trials*, 77, 86-97.
- Üstel P, Smith MJ, Blajeski S, Johnson JM, Butler VG, Nicolia-Adkins J, Ortquist MJ, Razzano LA, & Lapidis A. (2021). Acceptability and Feasibility of Peer Specialist-Delivered Virtual Reality Job Interview Training for Individuals with Serious Mental Illness: A Qualitative Study. *Journal of Technology in Human Services*, 39, 219-231.

Service: Professor Smith has played a major leadership role in his service at SSW. He played a central role in the major MSW curriculum redesign over the past four years. In winter 2020, Professor Smith became the chair of the SSW Curriculum Committee. His contributions in this role included completing the implementation of the new curriculum, creating an educational outcomes assessment approach that will be key in the school's next accreditation, and implementing sweeping changes to the foundation curriculum to base social work practice on anti-racism and anti-oppression.

In addition to his service at the school level, Professor Smith serves the profession and scholarship for the profession in several important ways. In his Level UP Lab, he manages student learning of skill-building that will benefit their clients seeking work. He engages with communities, having given over 100 community presentations on how to build job-seeking skills among people who are managing disabling conditions. He was an invited speaker on employment strategies for people with disabilities to the United Nations Global Science Collaboration, reviews grant applications for the National Institutes of Health, and serves as a peer reviewer for many journals.

External Reviewers:

Reviewer A: "Dr. Smith's scholarly accomplishments certainly warrant promotion to Professor with tenure. You are fortunate to have such a productive and engaged member of your faculty."

Reviewer B: “Based on the materials I have been given to review, I whole-heartily would not hesitate to support his promotion to professor at my university.”

Reviewer C: “Dr. Smith’s work exceeds the criteria for promotion to full professor at [my institution].”

Reviewer D: “I believe he reaches an ‘exceptional productivity’ status and he would certainly meet the requirements for someone being considered for promotion to the rank of Full Professor (with tenure) at [my institution].”

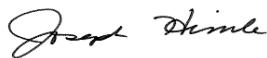
Reviewer E: “I have no doubt that he would be awarded promotion to full professor here at [my institution]. In summary, I highly and unreservedly recommend Dr. Smith for promotion to the rank of Professor at the University of Michigan.”

Reviewer F: “Yes”

Reviewer G: “Yes, without a doubt. Not just at [my institution], a Research-I institution, but also among the universities that might be considered peer programs to the UM SSW, e.g....”

Reviewer H: “I believe Dr. Smith would be granted Full Professor status at [my institution] on the basis of his contributions to the field, his commitment to teaching, his service to the profession, and his creative and competent quest to use technology to help improve the quality of life for people.”

Summary of Recommendation: Professor Smith is a very prominent and very productive faculty member who has made significant contributions to the school, the university, the profession, and the community. He is an excellent teacher and mentor; and he is a leader who contributes both in external and internal service. It is with the support of the School of Social Work Executive Committee that I recommend Matthew J. Smith for promotion to professor of social work, with tenure, School of Social Work.



Joseph Himle
Interim Dean, School of Social Work

May 2022