

PROMOTION RECOMMENDATION
The University of Michigan
School of Music, Theatre & Dance

Andrew Bishop, associate professor of music, with tenure, School of Music, Theatre & Dance, is recommended for promotion to professor of music, with tenure, School of Music, Theatre & Dance.

Academic Degrees:

D.M.A.	2001	University of Michigan, Composition
M.M.	1995	University of Michigan, Composition
M.M.	1995	University of Michigan, Improvisation
B.M.	1993	Wichita State University, Bachelor of Music, Theory-Composition
B.M.	1993	Wichita State University, Bachelor of Music, Saxophone Performance

Professional Record:

2014 - present	Associate Professor, Department of Jazz and Contemporary Improvisation, School of Music, Theatre & Dance, University of Michigan
2009 - 2014	Assistant Professor, Department of Jazz and Contemporary Improvisation, School of Music, Theatre & Dance, University of Michigan
2007 - 2009	Lecturer, Department of Jazz and Contemporary Improvisation, School of Music, Theatre & Dance, University of Michigan
2005 - 2009	Associate Professor of Music Theory, Composition, History, and Jazz, Albion College
2001 - 2005	Assistant Professor of Music Theory, Composition, History, and Jazz, Albion College
1999 - 2001	Instructor of Music Theory, Composition, History, and Jazz, Albion College

Summary of Evaluation:

Teaching: Professor Bishop has been teaching saxophone performance for over 30 years. In his current role in the Department of Jazz and Contemporary Improvisation, he teaches 15 to 18 private lessons, the associated group studio class, and, typically, one additional class for jazz majors. These courses include contemporary basic musicianship, jazz composition, jazz improvisation, and jazz ensembles of varying size; he has taught at least 10 different courses since 2014. While his specialization is jazz, he has a classical music background and is able to teach different styles to students with varying interests. He teaches and serves as a mentor for MM and DMA classical saxophone students, and his collaboration with Professor Timothy McAllister, who specializes in classical performance, makes Michigan one of the finest schools for saxophone performance in the world. His experience as a performer deeply enriches his teaching, as he draws on his vast technical and musical expertise to impart knowledge to students that increases their readiness for professional performance careers. He also teaches in the summer MA program for the Music Education Department, at summer festivals, and at the Interlochen Arts Academy (high school). Altogether, he reaches a wider than usual range of students, from high school age up through music education professionals who are already teaching in K-12 classrooms. On top of all this, he is highly sought after as a master teacher and clinician.

Professor Bishop is a dedicated teacher who believes in continual growth both in his own development and that of his students. He produces instructional materials full of useful technical details for students in all of his courses. He centers his philosophy around meeting students where they are, individualizing instruction to match the students' goals, teaching them foundational and healthy practices, and providing the support they need now but with an eye toward future development as well. His courses have detailed content with clear learning goals, and he adapts his material regularly. Professor Bishop was awarded the 2020 Harold Haugh Award, given annually to one SMTD faculty member for excellence in studio teaching.

Professional Activities: Professor Bishop has been prolifically active as a leader and collaborative musician (“sideman”) not only on saxophone, but also on clarinet and flute, and as a composer and arranger. Since tenure, his interests have shifted more toward new music and works that are not genre specific but that involve improvisation, though he remains committed to the jazz idiom. Indeed, he continues to lead a jazz trio named Bishop/Cleaver/Flood that has been reviewed positively in the *New York Times* and *Chicago Reader*, among other periodicals. The ensemble has performed at major jazz venues in New York, Chicago, and Washington D.C., and produced their latest album-length recording in 2015.

As a side performer, he appears on over 20 albums, and typically works in this capacity between 175 and 200 times each year. He has performed with top ensembles such as the Infrasound, Ensemble Kolossus, Resonator Sextet, Wallace Roney Large Ensemble, and others. These groups have played at the most important jazz festivals around the world, including the Winter Jazz Festival (NY), the Gent Jazz Festival (Belgium), the Autumn Jazz Festival (Poland), Washington D.C. Jazz Festival, among many others. Most recently, Professor Bishop performed in the pit orchestra for the Detroit Opera's heralded production of Anthony Davis' modern opera *X: The Life and Times of Malcolm X*. His improvised solos were singled out as among the strongest elements of the production in reviews in the *New York Times* and *San Diego Union Tribune*.

His highlights as a composer and arranger include a commissioned work for the Capital Saxophone Quartet, another for the Vancouver Youth Jazz Orchestra, and performances of his works by Duo Nyans (in a 2018 recording) and numerous others in a variety of university settings. He is also regularly invited to perform at the most important conferences in his discipline, including the International Society of Improvised Music Annual Conference, the International Association of Jazz Arrangers and Composers National Conference, and the Jazz Education Network National Conference. Professor Bishop was the featured guest artist at the North American Saxophone Alliance National Conference in 2018, the single largest and most important annual professional gathering of saxophonists in the world. In summary, Professor Bishop's record of creative work is remarkable for its quality, breadth, and professional significance.

Service: Professor Bishop has also been a prominent member of the SMTD and university community through his service. His administrative work includes acting as chair for his department since 2017. Within two years of starting that position, he steered his department through the creation of a new jazz DMA program, one of only about 15 in the country. During the pandemic, he guided the department through a re-working of the undergraduate curriculum with DEI as a prominent concern. He has also served as the SMTD Ombudsperson, on the Scholarship

Committee, as a faculty mentor on several LAUNCH committees, and most recently was elected by his peers to serve as a member of the schools' Executive Committee. Additionally, he served on the Dean's Search Advisory Committee in 2018, and three additional faculty searches since 2018.

Professor Bishop has also served his discipline and community in various ways. He has been a panelist for the National Endowment for the Arts in consecutive years, a paper reviewer for the International Society of Jazz Arrangers and Composers, and a judge for the Jazz Education Network Student Jazz Composition Showcase (twice in recent years), and the North American Saxophone Alliance (NASA) Jazz Saxophone Competition Finals. He has also served as an outside reviewer for eight tenure and promotion cases from several prominent universities and peer institutions. Professor Bishop's record of service is exemplary. He is admired in SMTD as one of the most generous and thoughtful contributors to the governance of the school, and is held in equally high regard in his profession.

External Reviewers:

Reviewer A: "I would recommend him for promotion without hesitation based on any one aspect of his musical personality: virtuosic multi-instrumentalist, genre-bending composer and arranger, or innovative pedagogue. Truly, the greatest challenge in writing for Dr. Bishop is choosing a few outstanding items to foreground from such a vast and rich body of work...He is one of the outstanding saxophonists/multi-instrumentalists of his generation, easily moving between the jazz tradition and the avant-garde with a personal sound and language"

Reviewer B: "Most outstanding of his professional accomplishments is his obvious passion and dedication for teaching... His teaching at the University of Michigan is exceptional in the quantity and breadth of subject having taught 14 different course topics. This is in addition to his studio teaching of saxophone and having directed 5 different ensembles. To have such flexibility, organization and knowledge is a testament again to his passion and professionalism as a teacher...In my estimation, Dr. Bishop has the highest standing in relationship to others in his peer group...In sum, Dr. Bishop has an exemplary record as a scholar and artist, is a model teacher, and is engaged fully in service in his field."

Reviewer C: "At twenty-two albums, Andrew Bishop's cumulative recorded output...is both impressive and a testament to his musicianship. Clearly, those who hire him trust and appreciate his abilities. To his credit, this speaks volumes!... Bishop's accomplishments in the area of curricular development and revision are exemplary. I enthusiastically applaud all he has accomplished administratively as chair of the Department of Jazz and Contemporary Improvisation... Bishop's external service work as an adjudicator, clinician and NEA panelist are equally impressive"

Reviewer D: "Dr. Bishop has acquired masterful technique of his instrument and is well known in the jazz and world as a prolific recording/ performing artist, and a jazz educator possessing some of the finest skills in the field...I have found the level of ensembles under his direction to be quite impressive. This is an obvious direct reflection of not only his talents as an educator, but also as a recruiter with keen intuition of young aptitude."

Reviewer E: “Andrew obviously loves to teach. His teaching philosophy is focused on a deep knowledge of, commitment to, and respect for his students. He is humble and succinct in his description of his teaching process and philosophy, and it is clear to me that he continues to grow and expand as a teacher over the years...He is a devoted and influential educator, an experienced, effective, and imaginative leader and administrator. He has an impressively large and excellent catalog of recordings and live performances as a leader and sideman, and has composed and arranged original work for a wide variety of musical productions at the highest level. And above all, he seems to be a compassionate, dedicated, and thoughtful human being who brings integrity to everything that he does.”

Reviewer F: “Dr. Bishop has a well-earned and fully deserved national and international reputation as a highly accomplished educator, saxophonist, improviser, and composer... Dr. Bishop continually engages aspects of jazz and classical traditions through a lens of relentlessly creative inquiry. As a result, he has become a sought-after contributor to the ensembles and projects of many internationally recognized artists working in the nexus of contemporary improvisation and composition... Dr. Bishop’s work clearly demonstrates a continuous trajectory of artistic exploration that provides one with ample confidence for continued commitment and success as a creative musician, composer and bandleader (in addition to his continued excellence as a teacher).”

Summary of Recommendation:

Professor Bishop is a devoted, creative, and effective teacher who has made innovative, lasting contributions to the curriculum. He is a versatile and innovative performer, composer, and arranger, with an ever-evolving body of work that is admirable both in breadth and in artistic merit. Professor Bishop’s colleagues find collaborating with him to be professionally fulfilling, and he provides leadership and service to SMTD, the university, and his profession in visible and influential ways. With the unanimous support of the school’s Executive Committee, I enthusiastically recommend Andrew Bishop for promotion to the professor of music, with tenure, School of Music, Theatre & Dance.



David Gier
Paul Boylan Collegiate Professor of Music
and Dean, School of Music, Theatre & Dance

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