

PROMOTION RECOMMENDATION
The University of Michigan-Dearborn
College of Arts, Sciences, and Letters

Anna Muller, associate professor of history, with tenure, Department of Social Sciences, College of Arts, Sciences, and Letters, is recommended for promotion to professor of history with tenure, Department of Social Sciences, College of Arts, Sciences, and Letters.

Academic Degrees:

Ph.D.	2013	History, Indiana University, Bloomington, IN
M.A./B.A.	1999	Departments of History and Political Science, University of Gdańsk, Poland

Professional Record:

2019-present	Associate Professor, University of Michigan-Dearborn
2013-2019	Assistant Professor, University of Michigan, Dearborn
2011-2013	Lecturer at the Center for European Studies, University of Florida, Gainesville, FL

Summary of Evaluation:

Teaching: Professor Muller is rated as excellent in teaching. Since being promoted to associate professor, she has taught nine unique courses, including courses on Polish, Russian, and European history, women's history, and historical methods. She has been active in curriculum development, creating a Foundations seminar for transfer students new to campus (FNDS 3301, Restless Women). She also teaches in the Honors curriculum as well as an Inside Out Prison Exchange course, which is taught inside a correctional facility to both incarcerated ("inside") and UM-Dearborn ("outside") students. Professor Muller consistently receives high student evaluation ratings, with a mean score of 4.80 (out of 5.0) on instructor knowledge and a mean score of 4.56 overall. She has demonstrated innovation in her pedagogy (including pivoting to online and hybrid teaching) and versatility in her offerings in History, Honors, and Foundations, as well as providing generous support for the Dearborn Discovery Core Abroad program (in Poland) that debuted in Summer 2022.

Research: Professor Muller is rated excellent in research. Since receiving tenure, she has published two books, six articles (including one co-authored piece) and one book chapter in an edited volume). Professor Muller's research is primarily focused on modern Polish and Eastern European history since 1945, making use of oral history and archival research undertaken in Poland, Israel, France, Switzerland, and Michigan. She has several new projects underway, including another book under contract with Oxford University Press and an initiative to collect rape stories from survivors of the Russian invasion of Ukraine (funded by a significant external grant). She also is an important contributor to public history projects at museums in Poland and local archives here in southeast Michigan. External reviewers view her work as path-breaking in its approach, eloquent in its presentation, and substantial in its impact on the field.

Recent and Significant Publications:

Muller, A. *An Ordinary Life? The Journeys of Tonia Lechtman, 1918-1996* (Ohio University Press, 2022).

Muller, A. *Przetrwać. Życie Dalej. Rozmowy z więźniarkami z Europy Środkowej 1945-1956* (Warsaw:Instytut Badań Literackich, PAN, 2022).

Muller, A. "A Pole, a Jew, a Mother, a Communist: Tonia Lechtman's Biography between Home and Exile," *East European Politics & Societies and Cultures*, (Fall 2022). DOI: <https://0-doi-org.wizard.umd.umich.edu/10.1177/0888325420972476>

Muller, A. "Writing Władysław Gomułka's Life: Historiography of Władysław Gomułka's Biographies," *East European Politics & Societies and Cultures* (online Spring 2022; print Spring 2023). DOI: <https://0-doi-org.wizard.umd.umich.edu/10.1177/08883254211018784>

Muller, A. and Marta Cieslak, "Husbands Who Do Not Beat," in *The Polish American Studies* (an introduction to a special issue on gender and sexuality, eds. Muller, A., & Cieslak, M), *Polish American Studies*, (Spring 2021): 7-20.

Muller, A. "Neighbors and Ghosts" as part of a forum: "Is There a History of Poland Beyond the Holocaust?" *The Polish Review*, 66 (2021): 60-68.

Muller, A. "The Return: The Long Road Home of Female Concentration Camp Inmates," *The Polish Review*, 65(Fall 2020): 3-29.

Muller, A. "Gender, Generational Conflict, and Communism: Tonia Lechtman's Story," in *Gender, Generations and Communism in Central and Eastern Europe and Beyond* (Routledge, 2020): 263-282.

Service: Professor Muller is rated excellent in service. Since receiving tenure, Professor Muller has taken on numerous leadership roles on campus, including serving as the director of the Women in Learning and Leadership program, discipline representative for the history discipline, and, most recently, the director of the university Honors Program. She serves on the College of Arts, Sciences, and Letters Project-Based Learning Committee, the Commission for Women and the Prison Working Group. As part of her professional service, she completed a term as the president of the Polish American Historical Association in 2020 and is currently serving as their treasurer.

External Reviewers:

Reviewer A: "In terms of the volume of research, its quality, and the venues where it has been published, there can be little doubt that Dr. Muller belongs to an emerging group of mid-career scholars who are now defining and redefining the field of modern Polish history.... Already among the most original and prolific of her peers, Muller has clearly earned her entry into the ranks of senior scholar whose work will shape the field of Polish historical studies for years to come."

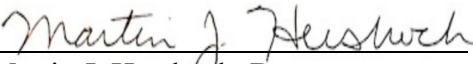
Reviewer B: "I consider Dr. Muller's research truly outstanding... It is with confidence that I can state that Anna Muller belongs to the most creative and thoughtful historians of her generation. Her research stands on its own in comparison with other scholars working in her discipline. Her productivity is impressive, especially considering that her topics are difficult and challenging, and her methodological approaches allow her to locate new frameworks of inquiry."


Reviewer C: “My already high regard is for her originality and creativity of Polish style and analysis, teaching and leadership... Her strong writing, translation, and ability to publish is evident in two languages... Anna Muller belongs to the most creative and thoughtful historians of her generation. Her research stands on its own in comparison with other scholars working in her discipline. Her productivity is impressive, especially considering that her topics are difficult and challenging, and her methodological approaches allow her to locate new frameworks of inquiry.”

Reviewer D: “Professor Muller has accomplished a great deal in the very short time since the publication of her first book... [She] has carved out for herself a unique specialization in wartime and postwar Polish early communism... Dr. Muller has contributed to important scholarly conversations about agency, memory, the communist past, and the centrality of Jewish history in understanding the overall Polish story. Her distinctive voice on all these questions has marked her as a singular historian of mid-century Poland, whose innovative use of source materials and remarkable narrative capabilities are unsurpassed in the field.”

Reviewer E: “[Dr. Muller] is among the best early-mid career historians of Poland in North America today; indeed, her research has had consistent support from important granting agencies.... Dr. Müller is an innovative and intelligent scholar. She has produced a body of work that contributes to modern Polish history, modern European history, history of wartime violence, and women and gender.”

Summary of Recommendation: Professor Muller has published outstanding research and clearly demonstrates promise for continued scholarly productivity. She is an excellent teacher who is highly respected and rated by students and peers. Professor Muller is a committed department, college, university, and community citizen who has made significant contributions wherever she has served. It is with the support of the College of Arts, Sciences, and Letters Executive Committee that I recommend Anna Muller for promotion to professor of history, with tenure, Department of Social Sciences, College of Arts, Sciences, and Letters.


Martin J. Herschok, Dean
College of Arts, Sciences, and Letters


Domenico Grasso, Chancellor
University of Michigan-Dearborn

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