

PROMOTION RECOMMENDATION
The University of Michigan
School of Nursing

Lynae A. Darbes, associate professor of nursing, with tenure, School of Nursing, is recommended for promotion to professor of nursing, with tenure, School of Nursing.

Academic Degrees:

PhD	2000	University of Colorado, Boulder, CO
MA	1996	University of Colorado, Boulder, CO
BA	1988	University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI

Professional Record:

2021 – Present	Vice Chair, Health Behavior and Biological Sciences, School of Nursing, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI.
2016 – Present	Associate Professor, Health Behavior and Biological Sciences, School of Nursing, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI.
2012 – 2016	Associate Professor, Center for AIDS Prevention Studies, Department of Medicine, School of Medicine, University of California, San Francisco, CA.
2004 – 2012	Assistant Professor, Center for AIDS Prevention Studies, Department of Medicine, School of Medicine, University of California, San Francisco, CA.

Summary of Evaluation:

Teaching: Professor Darbes' teaching ranges from classroom instruction with undergraduate and graduate psychology students, formal instruction of medical students and nursing students, to mentoring of graduate students, post-doctoral fellows, and junior faculty in both research and clinical settings. She teaches primarily in the PhD Program. She has been faculty of record on four unique courses since 2016. Professor Darbes also provides grant writing instruction to national cohorts of under-represented minority scholars in neuroscience.

Professor Darbes has provided research supervision and mentorship to eight post-doctoral fellows at the School of Nursing, the National Clinician Scholars Program (NCSP), the University of Denver, and the University of California. She has been an active member of the Department of Health Behavior and Biological Sciences, mentoring four junior faculty who have achieved their funding through her active mentorship. She has served as a member on four PhD dissertation committees within nursing and across campus. She is a mentor on three National Institutes of Health (NIH) funded K-awards for assistant professors, and mentored junior faculty connected to her research. She is involved in formal mentoring programs such as the International AIDS Society Mentorship Programme.

Research: Professor Darbes' research is anchored in the fields of health psychology and behavioral medicine. Specifically, her research examines how primary partners can influence health behaviors, which affects one's morbidity and mortality. She has significant funding from her active grants. Her materials show evidence that she has been an investigator on multiple federal and foundation-funded multidisciplinary research projects. She has three ongoing R01 grants, acting as the principal investigator (PI) on two and co-investigator (co-I) on one, and as co-I on an R34 grant. She is a mentor on a K08, a K99, and two K01 awards through NIH. Combined with her track record of

concluded grants she shows an outstanding ability to garner funding for her research and has plans for future submissions.

Professor Darbes regularly disseminates the results of her work in high-impact journals. She has had 64 peer-reviewed publications (16 of those are since 2022 when she was formally tenured), two as first author, and one book chapter. She has nine manuscripts under review. While the number of first-authored publications may appear low, Professor Darbes often mentors and assists students and junior faculty to secure authorship on 33 of the 64 publications she has produced since 2016. She also disseminates the results of her research through presentations at scientific meetings. Since 2016, she has had six international extramural invited presentations, five national, and three regional and has had 49 conference abstracts accepted for presentations.

Recent and Significant Publications:

- Gamarel, K., Darbes, L., Wall, K., Jones, J., Washington, C., Rosso, M., Felder Claude, K., Hightow-Weidman, L., Sullivan, P., and Stephenson, R. (2023). "A relationship-focused HIV prevention intervention for young sexual minority men in the United States: A pilot randomized controlled trial of the We Prevent intervention." *AIDS and Behavior*, 2023; Feb 12:1-17.doi: 10.1007/s10461-23-03994-5.
- Gamarel, K., Darbes, L., Kutsa, O., Hightow-Weidman, L., Sullivan, P. and Stephenson, R. (2021). "Perspectives from young, partnered gay, bisexual, and other men who have sex with men on the adaptation of Couples HIV Testing and Counseling." *AIDS and Behavior*, 2021 Mar; 25(3):836-846.
- Kwena, Z., Kimbo, L., Darbes, L., Hatcher, A., Helova, A., Owino, G., Thirumurthy, H., Bukusi, E., Braun, T., Kilgore, M., Pisu, M., Tamhane, A., Nghiem, V., Agot, K., Neilands, T. and Turan, J. (2021). "Testing strategies for couple engagement in prevention of mother-to-child transmission of HIV and family health in Kenya: A study protocol for a randomized controlled trial." *Trials*, 2021; 22(1):19.
- Darbes, L., McGrath, N., Hosegood, V., Johnson, M., Fritz, K., Ngubane, T., and van Rooyen, H. (2019). "Results of a couples-based randomized controlled trial aimed to increase testing for HIV." *JAIDS*, 2019; 80 (4):404-413.
- Gamarel, K., Chakravarty, D., Neilands, T., Hoff, C., Lykens, J., and Darbes, L. (2018). "Composite risk for HIV: A new approach towards integrating biomedical and behavioral strategies in couples-based HIV prevention research." *AIDS & Behavior*, 2018; 10.1007/s10461-018-2229-8.

Service: Professor Darbes has provided substantial service to the school, the university, and the scientific community. She is the acting vice chair for the Department of Health Behavior and Biological Sciences and in this role, she is actively supporting the research in the department. She has also served on the PhD curricular evaluation and the Admissions Committee, participated in the Appreciative Inquiry Committee, and co-chaired a working group conducting a needs assessment for mental health services and resources, with a focus on students. At the university level, she has been a member of the Liaison Committee of the Eisenberg Family Depression Center, and a member of grant review teams for the Interprofessional Exchange (IP-X) Research Stimulus Program, the Depression Center, and the Africa Studies Center. She acts as a coach for the R01 Boot Camp for the Institute for Health Policy and Innovation and the School of Medicine. She has also acted as a mentor through the Michigan Institute for Clinical Research Health K Writing Workshop and K club, providing support and guidance for junior faculty applying for K awards from NIH.

Professor Darbes has acted as an ad hoc member for 17 study sections for NIH, four of which were center grant reviews. She is a standing member of the study section for Population and Public Health Approaches to HIV/AIDS (PPAH), participating in three study sections per year, and is a consulting editor for *Psychology of Sexual Orientation and Gender Diversity*. She is a standing member of the Population and Public. In addition, she carries out numerous journal reviews yearly. She also contributes as a reviewer to several top-tier journals in her discipline, including the APA journal *Psychology of Sexual Orientation and Gender Diversity*.

External Reviewers:

Reviewer A: “[Professor Darbes is]...an outstanding, productive, and highly successful researcher.”

Reviewer B: “I would rank [Professor] Darbes in the top 50% of all researchers in the ...social/psychological factors impacting health. However, in...behavioral interventions for HIV/AIDS prevention and improvement of health outcomes, I would rank [her] in the top 20%.”

Reviewer C: “[Professor] Darbes has published in high-quality, interdisciplinary journals. The work is conceptually grounded and uses solid and appropriate quantitative and qualitative methods. Reflecting the research, the publications contribute to a deepened understanding of relationship dynamics and influence on sexual risk behavior and HIV risk prevention.”

Reviewer D: “I would rank her in reputation and reach equal to prominent scholars such as Professors Chris Beyrer, Jose Bauermeister, and Loretta Sweet Jemmott. Her work has great national and international impact on how gay and heterosexual couples can better deal with the continued threat of increasing HIV rates.”

Reviewer E: “As a fellow sex researcher, I can also comment on the prestige and reputation of many of the journals featuring [Professor] Darbes’ work. Rest assured, they are top-tier.”

Summary of Recommendation: Professor Darbes is a productive scholar who has made significant contributions to the field of how primary partners can influence health behaviors, which impacts one’s morbidity and mortality. She is an admirable teacher and mentor, and she is a leader who contributes in external and internal service. It is with the support of the School of Nursing Executive Committee that we recommend Lynae A. Darbes for promotion to professor of nursing, with tenure, School of Nursing.



Patricia D. Hurn
Dean and Professor
School of Nursing

May 2024