

PROMOTION RECOMMENDATION  
THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN  
MEDICAL SCHOOL  
DEPARTMENT OF PHARMACOLOGY  
DEPARTMENT OF PSYCHIATRY

Paul M. Jenkins, Ph.D., assistant professor of pharmacology, Department of Pharmacology, and assistant professor of psychiatry, Department of Psychiatry, Medical School, is recommended for promotion to associate professor of pharmacology, with tenure, Department of Pharmacology, and associate professor of psychiatry, without tenure, Department of Psychiatry, Medical School.

Academic Degrees

Ph.D.	2010	University of Michigan Medical School, Ann Arbor MI
B.S.	2001	University of Michigan, Ann Arbor MI

Professional Record

2015 - Present	Assistant Professor, Department of Pharmacology, University of Michigan
2015 - Present	Assistant Professor, Department of Psychiatry, University of Michigan

Summary of Evaluation:

Teaching: Dr. Jenkins has an outstanding teaching record. He instructs learners through both research mentorship and didactic teaching. Learners include post-doctoral fellows, doctoral students, rotating graduate students (some of whom joined his laboratory), master's students, post-baccalaureate students, and undergraduates. Many of his students have subsequently been successful in advancing their careers. Teaching evaluations are very good to excellent, with many comments indicating that his teaching was inspiring and that he is an outstanding professor who presents material in engaging and effective ways. Didactically, he directs two Pharmacology courses (604 and 646) and has provided numerous lectures in other teaching settings (many repeated yearly) including Neuroscience 616, 623, and 700, Pharmacology 310 and 601, and Dentistry 640, to name a few. In 2023, he was awarded the UM Endowment for Basic Sciences Teaching Award.

Research: Dr. Jenkins studies basic mechanisms underlying ankyrin proteins in brain diseases, including bipolar disorder and autism spectrum disorders, and his work has leveraged mouse models connected with mutations and examined the human molecular and cellular consequences of these perturbations. Dr. Jenkins' work has been well-funded by the National Institutes of Health (NIH) as well as by private foundations including the Simons Foundation Autism Research Initiative. This track record speaks to the quality and relevance of his work. He has authored 41 peer reviewed manuscripts in impactful journals such as the *Journal of Alzheimer's Disease*, *International Journal of Epidemiology*, and *Journal of Biological Chemistry*. Dr. Jenkins has been invited on 31 occasions to present his work nationally and internationally including in Germany, the United Kingdom, Canada, Israel, and Chile. He has received two national awards for research excellence, the Rising Star Bipolar Disorder Translational Research Award from One Mind in 2018, and the National Alliance for Research on Schizophrenia and Depression Young Investigator Award from the Brain and Behavior Research Foundation in 2019.

Recent and Significant Publications:

Liu H, Caballero-Florán RN, Yang T, Hull JM, Pan G, Li R, Veling MW, Isom LL, Kwan KY, Huang ZJ, Fuerst PG, Jenkins PM, and Ye B, "Dscam gene triplication causes neocortical overinhibition in Down syndrome," *PLOS Biol.* 2023 Apr;21(4):e3002078. PMID: PMC10118173

Gupta JP, Jenkins PM, “Ankyrin-B is lipid-modified by S-palmitoylation to promote dendritic membrane scaffolding of voltage-gated sodium channel Nav1.2 in neurons,” *Front Physiol.* 2023 Mar 30;14:959660. PMID=PMC10098127

Caballero-Florán RN, Bendahmane M, Gupta JP, Chen X, Wu X, Morales A, Anantharam A, Jenkins PM, “Synaptotagmin-7 facilitates acetylcholine release in splanchnic nerve-chromaffin cell synapses during nerve activity,” *Neurosci Lett.* 2023 Mar 13;800:137129. PMID: PMC10145958

Nelson AD, Caballero-Florán RN, Rodríguez Díaz JC, Li J, Chen K, Walder KK, Bennett V, Lopez-Santiago LF, McInnis MG, Isom LL, Wang C, Zhang M, Jones KS, Jenkins PM, “AnkyrinG regulates forebrain connectivity and network synchronization via interaction with GABARAP,” *Mol Psychiatry.* 2020 Nov;25(11):2800-2817. PMID: PMC6542726

Wang Y, Ji T, Nelson AD, Glanowska K, Murphy GG, Jenkins PM, Parent JM, “Critical roles of  $\alpha$ II spectrin in brain development and epileptic encephalopathy,” *J Clin Inv.* 2018 Feb 1;128(2):760-773

Service: Dr. Jenkins has an excellent service record at all levels. Internationally, he has served on study sections for the Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council in the United Kingdom, the Natural Sciences and Engineering Research Council of Canada, and the National Science Center in Poland. He has been a co-organizer of the Collaborative Research Consortium in Germany. Nationally, he is on the editorial board of *Molecular Neuropsychiatry* and has provided ad hoc peer-reviews for numerous scientific journals. He participated in the NIH Early Career Reviewer Program and was an ad hoc member for three different NIH study sections. He has played an active leadership role as the vice-chair or co-chair in organizing the Federation of American Societies in Experimental Biology (FASEB) Summer Research Conference on several occasions. Regionally, he has served as a judge for the Annual Michigan Chapter of the Society for Neuroscience meeting for several years. Institutionally, he is the associate director for biological sciences for the Heinz C. Prechter Bipolar Research Program and was recently appointed as the associate director of the Program in Biomedical Sciences (PIBS) and was co-chair of Ph.D. Admissions for his department through (PIBS). He also contributed significantly to the Neuroscience Bootcamp program, is a faculty facilitator for the Neuroscience Graduate Program Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Education Task Force, and is the chair of the UMMS Laboratory Safety Executive Committee. He also sat on many preliminary examination committees, and dissertation committees, several of which he chaired or co-chaired. Dr. Jenkins participates in the Wolverine Express program, which is a high school visitation program in which a diverse team of UM faculty, staff, and students travel to high schools located across the state of Michigan to promote college access, readiness, and success.

External Reviewers:

Reviewer A: “...his research program has attracted extramural funding from the NIH and the Simons Foundations. This speaks to the quality and relevance of his work, its alignment to the mission of the NIH, and peer assessment of his science and research program at study section. Paul has also served as an ad hoc reviewer for a variety of NIH and international grant program study sections as well as many journal reviews.”

Reviewer B: “Dr. Jenkins has proven to be a valuable member of the scientific community and has extensive service contributions on campus at The University of Michigan and nationally. In particular, he has served as an ad hoc member on NIH Study Sections SYN, MDCN, and NDPR. He has served on the Editorial Board of the journal *Molecular Neuropsychiatry* since 2017.”

Reviewer C: “There is ample evidence that Dr. Jenkins is highly regarded as a scientist and teacher. His research has garnered extramural awards from NARSAD and One Mind. He has reviewed for many journals and is on the editorial board of one. He’s participated in study sections as an early career reviewer and several ad hoc panels. These activities are indicators that his scientific acumen and judgement are recognized and respected.”

Reviewer D: “In addition to solid scholarship, Dr. Jenkins has excelled in both areas of teaching and service. Importantly for his appointment, Dr. Jenkins is actively involved in teaching, and has mentored a host of graduate students, undergraduate students, and fellows during his time as a faculty member. He actively reviews for national grant agencies and has been invited to give a number of lectures in both national and international venues. In summary, Dr. Jenkins receives high marks for his service to the field.”

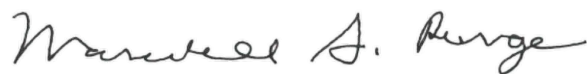
Reviewer E: “Dr. Jenkins’s [sic] outstanding contribution is evidenced by his impressive number of high quality publications, with many high-impact and highly-cited papers in top-tier journals, including the Journal of Biological Chemistry, Neuron, PLOS Biology, and Molecular Psychiatry. Dr. Jenkins’s [sic] current funding and past funding history are also very impressive, and it testifies that he will continue to successfully obtain funding from governmental and non-governmental agencies in the future.”

Reviewer F: “He is among a small group of investigators who are advancing our understanding of the molecular basis of neurobehavioral disorders. His emerging publications, research productivity, recent funding and plans for the future indicate his program will continue on a strong trajectory going forward.”

Reviewer G: “As testimony to the scholarly quality and significance of the work that he performs, Dr. Jenkins has been quite successful in garnering funding from the NIH and numerous foundations throughout his career... Thus, he has been successful in garnering external funding to support the research in his lab and to begin to train the next generation of neuroscientists and pharmacologists.”

Summary of Recommendations:

Dr. Jenkins is an outstanding and productive scientist with a stellar reputation for scientific rigor, innovation, collegiality, and expertise in graduate training and mentorship. He is a productive scientist, an excellent teacher, and a strong institutional citizen. I am pleased to recommend Paul M. Jenkins, Ph.D. for promotion to associate professor of pharmacology, with tenure, Department of Pharmacology, and associate professor of psychiatry, without tenure, Department of Psychiatry, Medical School.



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Marschall S. Runge, M.D., Ph.D.  
Executive Vice President for Medical Affairs  
Dean, Medical School

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