

PROMOTION RECOMMENDATION
The University of Michigan
College of Literature, Science, and the Arts

Marjorie Weber, assistant professor of ecology and evolutionary biology, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts, is recommended for promotion to associate professor of ecology and evolutionary biology, with tenure, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts.

Academic Degrees:

Ph.D. 2014 Cornell University, Ithaca, NY
B.A. 2007 Lewis & Clark College, Portland, OR

Professional Record:

2022-present Assistant Professor, Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology,
University of Michigan
2016-2022 Assistant Professor, Department of Plant Biology, Michigan State
University
2014-2016 Post-doctoral Fellow, Center of Population Biology, University of
California at Davis

Summary of Evaluation:

Teaching: Professor Weber teaches BIOL171 (“Introduction to Biology: Ecology and Evolution”), a flipped 600+ person course. She also teaches EEB410 (EEB Capstone course), a seminar-style course for graduating seniors. At Michigan State, Professor Weber taught a variety of courses and won several awards. Student and peer evaluations of Professor Weber are outstanding. She has advised five post-doctoral fellows, six Ph.D. students, two master’s students, and twenty-one undergraduate trainees. Three of the undergraduates have co-authored papers with Professor Weber.

Research: Professor Weber has developed a highly integrative research program that examines the impact of ecological interactions on diversification, phenotypic evolution, and coexistence across different scales. She uses a combination of experiments and phylogenetic methods to examine the interactions between plants and arthropods and to connect ecological mechanisms to macroevolutionary patterns. She has published more than twenty-five papers as an assistant professor. She oversees a well-funded research program (she is currently the PI on three NSF grants, including a CAREER grant), and she has been invited to present her work at leading conferences and institutions around the world.

Recent and Significant Publications:

Chomicki, G., Beinart, R., Prada, C., Ritchie, K.B., and M.G. Weber. (2022). Symbiotic relationships as shapers of biodiversity. *Frontiers in Ecology and Evolution*, 10, 850572.
Martin, B.S., Bradburd, G. S., Harmon, L.J. and Weber M.G. (2022). Modeling the evolution of rates of continuous trait evolution. *Systematic Biology*, 72(3), 590-605.

Zemenick, A. T., Turney, S., S. C. Jones, Webster, A.J., and M. G. Weber. (2022). Six principles for embracing gender and sexual diversity in post-secondary biology classrooms. *Bioscience*, 72(5): 481-492.

Hembry, D. H. and Weber, M.G. (2020). Ecological interactions and macroevolution: a new field with old roots. *Annual Review of Ecology, Evolution, and Systematics*, 51, 215-243.

Service: Professor Weber is a co-leader of Project Biodiversify, an impressive endeavor that is garnering broad appreciation in the field, as well as enhancing learning and retention of typically marginalized groups in STEM fields. She has been an active departmental citizen and serves on several committees. In addition, she is an associate editor for a prominent journal, *The American Naturalist*.

External Reviewers:

Reviewer (A): “Marjorie Weber is one of the brightest, most creative, and enthusiastic scientists I have ever encountered. As an Assistant Professor at UM EEB, she is at the forefront of integrating comparative and experimental work in evolutionary ecology.”

Reviewer (B): “Dr. Weber has firmly established herself as an emerging leader in the field of evolutionary ecology, and more broadly, in being a bridge builder between disciplines. She stands apart to me as a very independent, self-propelling, and inspiring scientist.”

Reviewer (C): “One notable strength of Dr. Weber’s research program is her integration of phylogenetic comparative methods with ecological research on species interactions in contemporary communities; Dr. Weber is a world leader in this area.”

Reviewer (D): “By combining short-term experimental manipulations with deep time phylogenetic comparative analyses and an impressive understanding of natural history, Dr. Weber takes the classic ideas developed by giants in our field both past and present (e.g., Ehrlich, Simpson, Losos) and pushes them to new heights.”

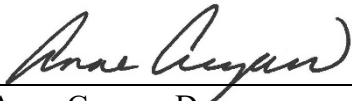
Reviewer (E): “I would place Dr. Webber as one of the very top scholars within the narrower field of plant-herbivore interactions, as well as the broader field of evolutionary ecology... I can think of only a handful of scholars who have accomplished as much as Dr. Webber as an Assistant Professor.”

Reviewer (F): “I have no hesitation in giving an enthusiastic recommendation for Dr. Weber’s promotion. Her publication record, and her impact, are unusually strong for her stage. I see this as a very easy promotion case based on all criteria, including research accomplishments, future promise, and contributions in service and mentorship, particularly efforts to nurture diversity and inclusion in her field.”

Summary of Recommendation:

Professor Weber is a world-class evolutionary ecologist, combining experiments with phylogenetic approaches to advance our understanding of how ecological interactions drive macroevolutionary processes. She is a dedicated and committed teacher in the classroom, and an excellent and supportive mentor to trainees in her group. Her work with Project Biodiversify and

research on increasing inclusion and retention in STEM will have long lasting effects. The Executive Committee of the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts and I recommend that Assistant Professor Marjorie Weber be promoted to the rank of associate professor of ecology and evolutionary biology, with tenure, College of Literature, Science, and the Arts.



Anne Curzan, Dean

Geneva Smitherman Collegiate Professor of
English Language and Literature, Linguistics,
and Education

Arthur F. Thurnau Professor

College of Literature, Science, and the Arts

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