

Approved by the Regents
May 15, 2008

PROMOTION RECOMMENDATION

The University of Michigan-Dearborn
College of Arts, Sciences, and Letters
Department of Humanities

Stéphane J. Spoiden, associate professor of French, with tenure, Department of Humanities, College of Arts, Sciences and Letters, is recommended for promotion to professor of French, with tenure, Department of Humanities, College of Arts, Sciences, and Letters.

Academic Degrees:

Ph.D.	1996	Ohio State University
M.A.	1991	Ohio State University
B.A.	1989	Ohio State University

Professional Record:

2002 to present	Associate Professor of French, University of Michigan-Dearborn
1996 to 2002	Assistant Professor of French, University of Michigan-Dearborn

Summary of Evaluation:

Teaching: Professor Stéphane Spoiden's teaching is rated as excellent. Since his promotion to associate professor in 2002, he has continued to teach the core French courses and upper level courses in French culture, which is his area of specialization. In these upper level courses, Professor Spoiden routinely utilizes anthropological and sociological models, conventional literary and cultural studies theories, internet materials, films and other artistic productions to deliver thoroughly grounded courses in contemporary French culture. Professor Spoiden has also developed several Liberal Studies courses for the CASL Master of Arts in Liberal Studies program. Both peer and student teaching evaluations attest to the quality and success of his teaching. Students repeatedly comment on his knowledge of the material, his ability to make difficult material accessible to them, his availability, and his concern that students succeed in his courses.

Research: Professor Stéphane Spoiden's research is rated as excellent. Since his promotion to associate professor in 2002, he has published ten scholarly articles in top journals in his field, a book with a highly regarded press, and an edited collection of essays for which he authored the introduction, one of its chapters, and for which he translated two additional chapters. He has also published three book reviews and two encyclopedia entries during this period of time. His recent publications tend to focus on work on Régis Debray and mediology, the visual culture of cinema, and representations of the human body and sexuality in ways related to his earlier research on AIDS. One thread of his work (the subject of his recent book) concerns informing a French/European audience of an important voice of dissent in leftist American politics that was overshadowed in the immediate post 9/11 period. One reviewer noted that this book demonstrates that Professor Spoiden is truly a unique intellectual who combines his thorough knowledge of recent French political and cultural history and command of modern and current American politics and ideology with broad knowledge of such fields as cultural studies,

sociology, and philosophy ground his important and informative perspective. Since the publication of that book, he has focused his research on the cultural construction of the European Union. He plans to continue researching Euro-American relations and the cultural aspects of the European Union over the next several years, and has applied grants to help support this project.

Recent and Significant Publications:

Stéphane Spoiden, Régis Debray et la médiologie. *CRIN-Rodopi Press*, Amsterdam/New York, 2007.

Stéphane Spoiden, "Médio-Média. Introduction." In S. Spoiden (ed.) *Régis Debray et la médiologie*. *CRIN-Rodopi Press*, Amsterdam/New York, 2007, pp.7-11.

Stéphane Spoiden, "Rendez-vous manqués : de la médiologie en Amérique." In S. Spoiden (ed.), *Régis Debray et la médiologie*. *CRIN-Rodopi Press*, Amsterdam/New York, 2007, pp.89-100.

Stéphane Spoiden, "Trans-Atlantic Relations: Before and After 9/11." *Contemporary French Civilization* 29.2 (2005): 51-70.

Service: Professor Stéphane Spoiden's service is rated as significantly capable. He has served in important service capacities to the University, the College, the Humanities Department, and the French discipline since his last promotion. Specifically, Professor Spoiden has been a member of the International Office Faculty Advisory Committee since 2004, the CASL Distance Learning Advisory Committee since 2006, and the MALS Curriculum Planning Committee since 2004. Professor Spoiden was also a member of the University Orientation Coordinating and Review Committee in 1998-1999, and he is currently serving as the Modern and Classical Languages discipline representative to the Humanities Department Executive Committee for the 2007-08 academic year.

External Reviewers:

Reviewer A: "Professor Spoiden's keen sense of media trends is one of the strengths of his analysis. The book (*Étonnante Amérique*) is quite successful in providing a comprehensible entry into recent American political culture for an audience whose political experiences are radically different from what is encountered in the American scene."

Reviewer B: "I find Professor Spoiden's scholarship impressive in terms of quantity, quality, variety, and breadth. His scholarly interests embrace literature, philosophy, cultural theory, and the cultural development of the European Union; all of which he deftly weaves together in a creative and highly original manner."

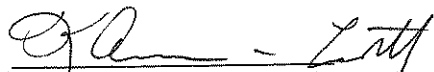
Reviewer C: "His edited volume on *médiologie*, published by Rodopi ... is an important contribution to media studies. French mediology offers an alternative to dominant Anglo-American paradigms in the field, and Spoiden has been instrumental in introducing works by Debray and his students to European and American audiences."

Reviewer D: "Spoiden displays what I feel confident in qualifying as a talent for clear and rather jargon-free presentation. Beyond Debray's own books...there is relatively little compare with Spoiden's *CRIN* volume. ...for anyone – including advanced undergraduates – curious about Debray's arguments, *Régis Debray et la médiologie* is a lively and reliable source."

Reviewer E: "What I find particularly interesting and original is Professor Spoiden's transcultural – and more specifically transatlantic – approach, which bespeaks his acute understanding of French and American intellectual preferences, compatibilities and incompatibilities."

Summary of Recommendation:

Professor Stéphane Spoiden has demonstrated excellence in teaching and scholarship, and has contributed in numerous ways to the college, department, and the Modern and Classical Languages program. We are very pleased to recommend, with strong support of the College of Arts, Sciences, and Letters Executive Committee, Stéphane J. Spoiden for promotion to professor of French, with tenure, Department of Humanities, College of Arts, Sciences, and Letters



Kathryn Anderson-Levitt
Dean
College of Arts, Sciences, and Letters



Daniel Little
Chancellor
University of Michigan-Dearborn

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