PROMOTION RECOMMENDATION
The University of Michigan
College of Pharmacy

Barry E. Bleske, associate professor of pharmacy, with tenure, College of Pharmacy, is recommended for promotion to professor of pharmacy, with tenure, College of Pharmacy.

Academic Degrees:
Pharm.D. 1986 University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN
B.S. 1984 Wayne State University, Detroit, MI

Professional Record:
1995-present Associate Professor of Pharmacy (with tenure), Department of Clinical, Social, and Administrative Sciences, University of Michigan
1988-present Clinical Pharmacist, University of Michigan Health System
1988-1995 Assistant Professor of Pharmacy (without tenure), Department of Clinical, Social, and Administrative Sciences, University of Michigan
1986-1988 Post-doctoral Pharmacy Fellow in Cardiovascular Therapeutics, Hartford Hospital, Hartford, CT
1986-1988 Assistant Professor in Clinical Pharmacy, University of Connecticut, Storrs CT

Summary of Evaluation:
Teaching: Professor Bleske is an excellent teacher who is committed to providing outstanding education to our students through innovative techniques that challenge them and inspire critical thinking. He provides didactic instruction in addition to experiential education in the clinical setting, and he has provided mentorship in a variety of ways including serving as a mentor for over 50 Pharm.D. investigations projects, mentoring one to three students per year for Pharm.D. seminar, and advising a post-doctoral fellow. He also served as a research mentor for a colleague in a K30 program and has served on the dissertation committees for three doctoral students. Feedback from students has been positive, and he was awarded the college’s Teaching Excellence Award in 2012. Professor Bleske’s commitment to teaching is also demonstrated through his service over many years on the college’s Curriculum Committee, including a four-year appointment as chair, and his leadership role in a major curriculum revision and implementation of a shift in pedagogy (team based learning). He has been instrumental in providing resources to our faculty to assist them with this change. Professor Bleske has quickly established himself as an expert in this area and has been invited to provide national presentations on implementing team based learning. He was also recently appointed to the UM Provost’s Task Force on Engaged Learning and Digital Instruction.

Research: Professor Bleske has earned a national reputation as an expert in cardiovascular therapeutics with an emphasis on heart failure. He has made innovative and important contributions to the practice of pharmacy through translating his clinical service to community practice. He has a distinguished record of scholarship and has received over $1.5 million in grant funding as a principal investigator and an additional $1.45 million in his role as co-principal investigator or co-investigator. In addition to scholarship in cardiovascular pharmacotherapy, Professor Bleske has received funding for his research related to teaching, and he has been actively publishing his findings. This is an important area of work, which is critical for improving pharmacy education. Professor Bleske’s record of grant support and scholarly activity is impressive, especially given the level of teaching-related activities and clinical service responsibilities that he has maintained for the majority of his time as an associate professor.
Recent and Significant Publications:


Service: Professor Bleske has a distinguished record of professional service and commitment to the college, the university, and patient care. He has provided clinical service to the UMHS Cardiology Unit for three to five months every year from 1995 through 2010, which is remarkable given the national trend of lower patient care responsibilities for tenure-track faculty due to the significant time demands of conducting research. Professor Bleske is highly involved in national service and was awarded fellow status by the American College of Clinical Pharmacy (ACCP) in 1997. An example of one of his notable achievements was his involvement in implementing a successful heart failure traineeship through the ACCP for cardiovascular pharmacists (2002-2009). Professor Bleske serves as a reviewer for various scientific journals and is on the editorial boards for three. He is an excellent citizen of the college and the university, having served on over 40 committees at the college and several UMHS and university level committees. He has provided exemplary leadership for a major pedagogical shift to team based learning in the College and the implementation of our revised curriculum.

External Reviewers:
Reviewer A: “...the research that Dr. Bleske conducted/participated in, have made impact on our day-to-day therapeutic decision making...I believe the Dr. Bleske has made excellent contribution to pharmaceutical research...and is definitely among of top of others who work in the same field...Dr. Bleske has demonstrated a continuous record of innovation in teaching....This evidence-based approach in documenting teaching innovation will benefit the academic community immensely.”

Reviewer B: “I was very impressed by the quality, quantity, and scholarly impact of Dr. Bleske’s research, scientific presentations, published papers, and research grants....the quality and clinical influence of Dr. Bleske’s work has proven to stand the test of time. Dr. Bleske was certainly ahead of his time in terms of conducting translational research....Barry is extremely active and effective as a contributor to the professional committees relevant to his practice....He clearly is also a productive and effective mentor....”

Reviewer C: “To Dr. Bleske’s credit he is very well known in the United States cardiovascular clinical pharmacology community....He is applauded for using active learning techniques and most importantly for his Teaching Excellent Award in 2012....He is an outstanding service member of the Department....”

Reviewer D: “His ability to consistently acquire funding demonstrates that his peers recognize the quality of his work....his research findings have directly impacted patient care....This journal has a 5-year impact factor of nearly 15 and is one of the most prestigious journals in cardiovascular medicine. Few
pharmacists produce research of sufficient rigor to publish in this journal. Dr. Bleske was one of the pioneers in this research area.....his work provided the crucial basis for conducting this trial and subsequently led to improvements in patient care...."

Reviewer E: "In the area of teaching, Dr. Bleske excels...even though it appears he has a relatively heavy teaching load, his evaluations are very high....I consider him a true 'translational scientist' as he has incorporated aspects of basic science, animal models, normal volunteers and patients into his research interests, but always with a cardiovascular focus.....Both these service functions illustrate his passion for quality pharmacy education.....Dr. Bleske has also been highly visible in national organizations...."

Reviewer F: "Dr. Bleske has demonstrated high quality accomplishments in his research and scholarly program....Dr. Bleske’s grantmanship is highly impressive.....My impression is that Dr. Bleske’s scholarship is of excellent quality, high quantity, has a focus in more than one area, and that the scholarly impact of his writings is significant....I am highly impressed that he is engaging in an outstanding level of educational scholarship. Dr. Bleske has demonstrated commitment, ability and innovation.....He has an outstanding national reputation in clinical pharmacy, and is viewed as a prominent academician."

Reviewer G: "Dr. Bleske's scholarly work has been published in high quality, high impact journals....His work has made an impact, and has been cited in national guidelines for advanced cardiac life support....I consider his program of scholarship to be very strong and impactful.....I would rank Dr. Bleske to be among the best investigators in his peer group who are working in his field.....Dr. Bleske’s abilities and accomplishments as a teacher are impressive...."

Summary of Recommendation:
Professor Bleske is an outstanding scientist who is making a significant impact in the discipline of cardiovascular therapy. He is a very dedicated and innovative educator and an excellent citizen of his profession, college, and university. It is with the support of the College of Pharmacy Executive Committee that I recommend Barry E. Bleske for promotion to professor of pharmacy, with tenure, College of Pharmacy.

James J. Dalton
Dean, College of Pharmacy

May 2015