

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES
UNIVERSITY OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
UDC RESOLUTION NO. - 2025 - 25**

**SUBJECT: TENURE APPROVAL FOR DHYMSY VIXAMAR-OWENS, PH.D.,
COLLEGE OF ARTS & SCIENCES**

WHEREAS, pursuant to D.C. Official Code § 38-1202.06(3), the Board of Trustees is authorized to establish or approve policies and procedures governing admissions, curricula, programs, graduation, the awarding of degrees, and general policy for the components of the University; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Dhymsey Vixamar-Owens, Assistant Professor of Psychology in the Division of Social & Behavioral Sciences, of the College of Arts and Sciences (CAS) of the University of the District of Columbia (UDC), has petitioned the University to be granted tenure in the department in which she is qualified; and

WHEREAS, Dr. Jeffery Fleming, Dean of CAS, in conjunction with the Division Chair and the Department and College Promotion and Tenure Committees, have conducted a thorough review of Dr. Vixamar-Owens's academic background and records of achievement in teaching, scholarship, and university and community service and have promoted Dr. Vixamar-Owens to Associate Professor effective October 1, 2025 and recommended her for tenure; and

WHEREAS, they judged Dr. Vixamar-Owens to be an excellent professor in the Psychology Program with distinguished skills and expertise in her field who meets the criteria by which University of the District of Columbia faculty are evaluated, based on the 8th Master Agreement, noting her rankings as distinguished in her teaching effectiveness; research and scholarly works (including research on community health psychology and the establishment of the Health Within Measure lab, where she has overseen multiple research projects addressing critical health issues such as substance use, sexual health, and Type 2 Diabetes risk among marginalized populations); and substantial community engagement that has strengthened UDC's connections with the surrounding region and enhanced the university's reputation as a leader in community health, all of which make her an asset to UDC; and

WHEREAS, the Chief Academic Officer and the President have affirmed the recommendation of tenure for Dr. Vixamar-Owens from Dean Fleming and the appropriate committees, and the President has forwarded the recommendation for tenure to the Board of Trustees.

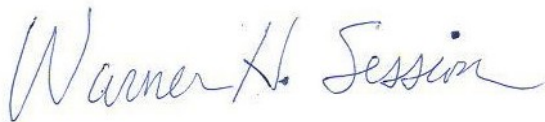
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Trustees of the University of the District of Columbia approves the award of tenure to Dr. Dhymsey Vixamar-Owens, College of Arts and Sciences, at the rank of Associate Professor effective October 1, 2025.

Submitted by the Executive Committee:

June 17, 2025

Ratified by the Board of Trustees:

June 24, 2025



Warner H. Session
Chairperson of the Board

UNIVERSITY OF THE
DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF ACADEMIC OFFICER

APRIL MASSEY, PH.D.
CHIEF ACADEMIC OFFICER

May 12, 2025

Dr. Dhymsey Vixamar-Owens
College of Arts and Sciences
University of the District of Columbia

Dear Dr. Vixamar-Owens,

This letter is to inform you that I have reviewed and am recommending approval of your application for promotion for to associate professor with tenure.

Having thoroughly evaluated your record of accomplishments in the domains of teaching, scholarship, and service, and having concurred with the recommendations of the Chair, Dean, and relevant promotion review committee(s), my recommendation will now go to President Edington for final approval of the promotion—and to both the president and the Board of Trustees for final decisions regarding tenure.

Regarding your application for tenure, after receiving presidential approval, your application will be reviewed and voted on at the next meeting of the Board's Academic and Student Affairs Committee, scheduled for June 17, 2025. Applicants approved in Committee will be voted on during the subsequent full Board meeting, scheduled for June 24, 2025. Board-approved tenures will be effective on October 1, 2025.


All approved promotions and associated salary increases will be effective on October 1, 2025, subject to final budget approval by the government of the District of Columbia.

Congratulations on reaching this stage of the review process and thank you for your sustained commitment to student success and professional excellence. You are to be commended for submitting a strong narrative and supporting evidence of your achievements as a faculty member at the University of the District of Columbia.

Sincerely,



Approved:



President Maurice D. Edington

Date:

6/13/25

DEAN'S REVIEW OF APPLICATION FOR PROMOTION AND TENURE

Applicant's Name: Dhymy Vixamar-Owens For the Rank of Associate Professor with Tenure

| Category | Observations |
|------------------------------------|---|
| II. Performance Evaluations | Dr. Vixamar-Owens satisfies the minimum eligibility requirements for applying for promotion in rank for assistant to associate professor. She has completed the requisite years at the lower rank, and she has earned the required performance evaluation scores — at least one Distinguished-4 and none less than Outstanding-3 — across the previous three consecutive years. |
| III. A. Continuing Education | Across the period of review, Dr. Vixamar-Owens documents more than 20 workshops that are both local and national, 18 local and national conferences where she was a presenter at 13 of them. |
| B. Authorships | Dr. Vixamar-Owens has co-authored books and book chapters, including "From Challenges to Opportunities: Navigating the Pandemic as Black Women Early Career Faculty" and an upcoming publication in The Caribbean Writer on women STEM students' experiences. Her published papers cover diverse topics such as leadership development among Black women faculty and the interaction of drugs and relationships. Additionally, she has several completed but unpublished works under review, focusing on educational strategies, diabetes risk awareness, and the impact of acculturation on sexual behavior. |
| C. Research | Dr. Vixamar-Owens' proposals include a pending \$6,000,000 grant for the Transformative Center for Childhood Obesity Prevention and several smaller awards for projects such as developing the Teaching from the Middle model and establishing the Health Within Measure Research Lab. Ongoing research focuses on diabetes prevention, leadership development, and validating educational models. These efforts are supported by various grants from institutions like the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation and the American Association of University Women. |
| D. Works, Shows, Exhibits, Patents | NA |
| E. Other Professional Activities | From 2021 to 2024, Dr. Vixamar-Owens' professional activities included roles such as an Invited Visiting Researcher at the Center for the Advancement of STEM Leadership (CASL) and delivering consultations on mixed-methods program assessments for various institutions. Additionally, she has been an invited speaker and trainer at multiple events, showcasing expertise in statistical analysis, college-level teaching, and community psychology. |

| | |
|-----------------------|--|
| F. University Service | Dr. Vixamar-Owens' university service includes leading and facilitating various departmental initiatives such as the Psych Life Series and Senior Exit Interviews, as well as serving as the Lead Academic Advisor and Psychology Program Coordinator. College-wide contributions involve co-organizing the 2024 CAS Research Day and participating in multiple hiring and assessment committees. University-wide roles include serving as a Faculty Senate member, participating in the UDC-Internal Research Council, and mentoring DAWN Scholars. |
| G. Community Service | Dr. Vixamar-Owens has actively contributed to the community through various roles, including serving as a post-hoc journal peer reviewer for multiple journals and presenting at significant events like the National Women's Health Research Day Symposium and the AAUW Annual Meeting. She has also engaged with local schools and organizations, providing career exploration talks and discussions on health psychology and emotional well-being. Additionally, she has been involved in academic service as a dissertation committee external member and a journal article reviewer for conference proceedings. |

Strongly Recommended

Recommended

Not Recommended

Ranked Number 4 OF 6

I am writing to offer my strongest recommendation for Dr. Dhymsy Vixamar-Owens's promotion to the rank of Associate Professor of Psychology with tenure. Dr. Vixamar-Owens has been an exemplary member of our faculty since joining the University of the District of Columbia (UDC). Her unwavering dedication to advancing community health psychology and her significant contributions to the field make her an outstanding candidate for this promotion.

Dr. Vixamar-Owens's commitment to research excellence is evident through her leadership in establishing the Health Within Measure lab, where she has overseen multiple research projects addressing critical health issues such as substance use, sexual health, and Type 2 Diabetes risk among marginalized populations. Her work has resulted in numerous peer-reviewed publications, conference presentations, and invited speaking engagements, showcasing her ability to translate research into actionable community health interventions.

One of Dr. Vixamar-Owens's most notable achievements is her recent \$6 million grant proposal to the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation for a partnered initiative to eradicate systemic contributors to childhood obesity in the DC metropolitan area. Although the proposal was not funded, her determination to address this pressing health issue remains unwavering. The proposed center would provide interdisciplinary research opportunities, community action efforts, and sociopolitical advocacy, aligning with UDC's mission to serve the community and address health disparities.

Dr. Vixamar-Owens's dedication to teaching and mentorship is equally commendable. She has consistently received excellent student evaluations and has developed innovative teaching models, such as Teaching from the Middle (TFM), which have been recognized for their effectiveness in engaging diverse learners. Her efforts to support students extend beyond the classroom through initiatives like the Psych Life Series, which prepares students for graduate school and career opportunities in psychology.

In addition to her research and teaching, Dr. Vixamar-Owens has made significant service contributions to the university and the broader community. She has served on various committees, advised student organizations, and established partnerships with community organizations to promote health and well-being. Her efforts have strengthened UDC's connections with the surrounding region and enhanced the university's reputation as a leader in community health.

In summary, Dr. Vixamar-Owens's achievements in research, teaching, and service make her an outstanding candidate for promotion to Associate Professor of Psychology with tenure. Her unwavering dedication to advancing UDC's academic and community health standing is commendable, and I am confident that she will continue to make significant contributions to our institution and the broader academic community.

I wholeheartedly endorse Dr. Dhymy Vixamar-Owens for promotion to Associate Professor with tenure. Thank you for your consideration.

Date: 02/27/2025

Signed: _____


Dean, College of Arts and Sciences

DHYMSY Z. VIXAMAR-OWENS

Dhymsey.vixamarowens@udc.edu

www.healthwithinmeasure.com

[linkedin.com/in/dhymsey-owens-76a994221](https://www.linkedin.com/in/dhymsey-owens-76a994221)



Dhymsey Vixamar-Owens is a scholar, educator, and practitioner-activist with three main research foci: (1) promoting health and preventing risk in marginalized populations from a sociocultural and community context, (2) fostering supportive learning environments and active construction of knowledge in higher education, and (3) understanding the ecological context of academia. Dr. Owens has served at various outreach events and has contributed to the development and implementation of city-wide, community-based health campaigns, interventions and outreach events targeting various outcomes. Also critical to her self-identity are her Christian faith and Haitian heritage. Dr. Owens grew up in Spring Valley, New York and Irvington, New Jersey. Together with her college sweetheart, she is joyfully raising four young Black men in development.

EDUCATION

| | |
|---|-------------|
| <i>Virginia State University, Petersburg, VA</i> Ph.D., Health Psychology: Behavioral and Community Health Sciences | 2013 |
| Dissertation: "How Acculturation Impacts Sexual Health in Immigrant and Non-Immigrant Minority Populations" | |
| <i>Virginia State University, Petersburg, VA</i> M.S., Psychology | 2010 |
| Thesis: "The Moderating Effect of Self-Appraisal in the Relationship between Socioeconomic Status and Risky Sexual Behavior" | |
| <i>Virginia State University, Petersburg, VA</i> B.S., Psychology | 2008 |
| Minor: Spanish | |
| Honors: Summa Cum Laude | |

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

| | |
|---|-----------------------|
| University of the District of Columbia, Washington, D.C. <i>Assistant Professor; Program Coordinator (2021-2023)</i> | 2019 – Present |
| Virginia State University, Petersburg, VA <i>Visiting Assistant Professor</i> | 2014 – 2019 |
| Richard Bland College, Petersburg, VA <i>Adjunct Faculty</i> | 2014 – 2019 |
| Virginia State University, Petersburg, VA <i>Adjunct Faculty</i> | 2009 – 2014 |

COURSES TAUGHT

- Statistics/Quantitative Methods in Psychology
 - Experimental Psychology/Research Methods
 - General/Introductory Psychology
 - Problems in Psychology
 - Psychology of Relationships
 - Health Psychology
 - Community Psychology
 - Social Psychology
 - Critical Skills Development in Psychology (Writing intensive)
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RESEARCH EXPERIENCE

University of the District of Columbia, Washington, DC **09/2019 – Present**

Director & Lead Researcher

Health Within Measure Lab

Research Topics: Health disparities; Importance of culture, community engagement, social adjustment and resilience to health & well-being; Sexual and reproductive health; Metabolic health & nutrition; Substance Use.

Populations: Underserved populations; Immigrants; Minorities

Foster & Associates, LLC., Houston, TX

2016 – 2020

Research Specialist

Responsibilities: Help researchers to increase efficiency and maximize productivity, as contracted. Manage participant recruitment, development and coordination of assessment plans specific to individual projects, data collection and analysis data, and program evaluation.

Virginia State University, Petersburg, VA

2017 – 2019

Co-Director & Lead Researcher

Research on Education and Cultural/Community Health (REACH) Lab

Research Topics: Health disparities; Healthy initiatives for college students; Education-based interventions; Community-based initiatives and outreach; Diabetes risk & prevention

Populations: Underserved populations; Minorities; Young adults

Virginia State University, Petersburg, VA

2013 – 2014

Managing Research Specialist

Center for Health Equity; Department of Psychology

Responsibilities: Led in the planning and implementation of interventions; trained graduate and undergraduate staff to develop and implement intervention; supervised the recruitment and data collection efforts of research staff; developed and maintained relationships with community organizations, advisory board members, and key stakeholders; oversaw the fiscal responsibilities of the grant; served as a liaison between the PI and community partners; organized functioning properties of the research facility.

Research topics: HIV/AIDS awareness and prevention

Population: Late Adolescence; Older Adults (50+)

Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond, VA

Project Coordinator

2013 – 2014

Institute for Drug and Alcohol Studies

Responsibilities: Co-led, along with PI, preparation, implementation, and analysis phases of interventions; monitored intervention participation; orchestrated conduction of research protocol; facilitated communications between research staff and community partners, analyzed data; oversaw the efforts of undergraduate staff.

Research Topics: Tobacco prevention; childhood obesity prevention

Population: School-aged Children

Virginia State University, Petersburg, VA

Project Coordinator

2012 – 2013

Center for Health Equity, Department of Psychology

Responsibilities: Contributed to the development and evaluation of interventions; established cooperation and communication efforts between various stakeholders; directed research and presentation efforts of undergraduate and graduate staff.

Research Topics: HIV/AIDS knowledge and prevention; healthy initiatives for college students

Department of Social Services, Petersburg, VA

Intern

2011 – 2012

Office of the Director

Responsibilities: Contributed to the development and implementation of the City of Petersburg Wellness Initiative; shadowed the director in all aspects of business; assisted in developing the Comprehensive Resource Center.

Virginia State University, Petersburg, VA

Graduate Research Assistant

2009 – 2012

Developmental Psychology Lab, Department of Psychology

Responsibilities: Supervised participants; facilitated day-to-day program events; managed data collection properties; administered surveys and implemented interventions; analyzed data, compiled and presented reports; trained researchers on data collection and statistical analysis methods and software; coordinated tasks and schedules of undergraduate staff.

Research topics: Support services for displaced youth; psychosocial impacts on learning

Population: School-aged Children

Virginia State University, Petersburg, VA

Graduate Research Assistant

2009 – 2012

Center for Innovations in Cognitive Enhancement, Dept. of Psychology

Responsibilities: Supervised participants; facilitated day-to-day program events; managed data collection properties; administered surveys and implemented interventions; analyzed data, compiled and presented reports; trained researchers on data collection and statistical analysis methods and software; coordinated tasks and schedules of undergraduate staff.

Research topics: Cognitive training; teaching and learning

Population: Middle School, High School, Entry-level College

PUBLICATIONS & PRESENTATIONS

See www.healthwithinmeasure.com

SELECT ENGAGEMENTS

| | |
|---|-----------|
| Statistical Analysis Training Facilitator | 2022-2023 |
| Advisor for Psi-Chi, the International Honor Society in Psychology, UDC Chapter | 2019-2023 |
| AAUW, American Fellow | 2021-2022 |
| Post-HOC journal article peer reviewer | 2019-2024 |
| Co-chair for the developmental committee of the Virginia State University- VGRI Annual Graduate Student Research Conference | 2016-2019 |
| Reviewer for the Proceedings of the National Conferences on Undergraduate Research | 2019 |

RELEVANT TECHNICAL SKILLS

- Online Course Management Software: Blackboard, Canvas, Moodle
 - Statistical Software: SPSS, MINITAB, AMOS, SAS, R-Studio
 - Survey Software: Qualtrics Research Suite, Sona Experiment Management System, SurveyMonkey, REDCap
 - Qualitative Analysis Software: Concept Systems, NVivo
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LANGUAGES

- English – native language
 - Creole (native language of Haiti) – speak fluently; read with high proficiency
 - Spanish –read and write with high proficiency; and speak with basic competence.
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Memorandum

To: The Board of Trustees

From: Managing Director of Finance *David A. Franklin*

Date: June 17, 2025

Subject: Tenure Approval – Dr. Dhymsey Vixamar-Owens, Division of Academic Affairs, College of Arts and Sciences

Conclusion

It is concluded that there is no fiscal impact associated with the granting of tenure to Dr. Dhymsey Vixamar-Owens, Associate Professor of Psychology, College of Arts and Sciences of the University of the District of Columbia (UDC). The proposed resolution is for the approval of tenure for Dr. Dhymsey Vixamar-Owens.

It has been recommended that Dr. Dhymsey Vixamar-Owens, who joined the University as an Assistant Professor of Psychology, be approved for tenure. The College/School Promotion and Tenure Committee, Division chair for Social and Behavioral Sciences, Departmental Evaluation and Promotion Committee (DEPC), and College Promotion and Tenure Committee (CPTC) conducted thorough independent reviews and prepared independent reports to the dean regarding tenure for Dr. Dhymsey Vixamar-Owens.

Background

The DEPC conducted a review of Dr. Dhymsey Vixamar-Owens' tenure application in concert with her application for promotion to associate professor. Examinations of Dr. Dhymsey Vixamar-Owens' performance in the areas teaching, scholarship, and service were completed for the period 2019–2024. Vetting of all dossier content was completed at the levels of the program, Division, and College. All reviews endorse the strengths of Dr. Vixamar-Owens' tenure and promotion dossier and conclude that she is a strong teacher-scholar and competitive tenure candidate. Her documented faculty performance exceeds University and broader higher education expectations for excellence and impact in Psychology with particular focus on the cultural determinants of mental and physical health outcomes and the importance of approaching teaching from “the middle” perspective. Dr. Vixamar-Owens' contributions are validated by her student outcomes, publications, acceptances and awards, and sustained contributions to excellence in teaching and learning on campus and nationally.

The recommendation of tenure for Dr. Vixamar-Owens has been affirmed by the Dean, Chief Academic Officer, and President. The President has forwarded the recommendation for tenure to the Board of Trustees.

Financial Impact

There are no anticipated risks at this time.