

## **SABRINA EVANS**

430 Burrowes Building  
Penn State University  
State College, Pennsylvania 16801  
[sle33@psu.edu](mailto:sle33@psu.edu)

### **EDUCATION**

- 2019-Present    Ph.D. Candidate in English and African American and Diaspora Studies  
Penn State University, University Park, PA  
Committee: Shirley Moody-Turner (chair), P. Gabrielle Foreman, Aldon Nielsen,  
and Annemarie Mingo
- 2019            M.A. in English: Nineteenth-Century African American Literature and Print Culture  
Penn State University, University Park, PA  
Advisor: Shirley Moody-Turner
- 2016            B.A. in Literatures in English  
University of California, San Diego, La Jolla, CA

### **RESEARCH INTERESTS**

Nineteenth-Century African American Literature; Nineteenth-Century African American  
Print Culture; Black Digital Humanities; Black Digital Archives; Black Feminism

### **GRANTS AND FELLOWSHIPS**

- The Graduate Alliance for Diversity and Inclusion (GADI) Service Award (\$250), 2022
- Price Grad Scholarship (\$900) (travel grant), 2022
- The Center for American Literary Studies (CALS) Summer Graduate Fellowship, 2022
- African American Studies Mini-Grant (\$500), 2021
- Center for Black Digital Research (CBDR) Fellow (year-long teaching release), 2021
- Center for Black Digital Research (CBDR) Fellow (year-long teaching release), 2020
- Bunton-Waller Grad Award (\$3000), 2020
- Bunton-Waller Grad Award (\$3000), 2019
- Price Grad Scholarship (\$1400) (travel grant), 2019
- Bunton-Waller Grad Award (\$3000), 2018

2018 Price Grad Scholarship (\$1000) (travel grant)

## PUBLICATIONS

### WORKS UNDER REVIEW

2022 “‘Undisputed Dignity’: Anna Julia Cooper and the Intersections of Black Publishing and Nineteenth Century Discourses of Dignity,” *Legacy*

### BOOK REVIEWS

#### *Solicited*

2022 Review of *Riding Jane Crow: African American Women on the American Railroad* by Miriam Thaggett. *Hypatia: A Journal of Feminist Philosophy*, forthcoming

### EDITORIAL WORK

2021-22 Contributing editor, Black Women’s Organizing Archive website, [bwoaproject.org](http://bwoaproject.org)

## TEACHING EXPERIENCE

Penn State University

- Rhetoric and Composition (9 sections, 3 online)
  - Introductory undergraduate writing course
- Composition Pedagogy (1 section, co-taught graduate course)
  - Teaching seminar instructing first-time instructors of introductory rhetoric and composition undergraduate writing course
- Introduction to African American Literature (2 sections in English and African American Studies)
  - African American Literature survey course encompassing African American literature and writing in the period between the eighteenth century and the present
- The Print Culture of Early African American Literature (Honors Seminar; guest lecture)
  - Guest lectured for an upper-level undergraduate course, teaching students about Black digital archives on nineteenth-century African American women writers

## CONFERENCE TALKS AND PRESENTATIONS

### TALKS

2021 “‘We Are All Bound Up Together’”: Preserving the Archives of Nineteenth-Century Black Women Organizers

UC Irvine's Digital Humanities Exchange (DHX), Theme: "To Form a More Perfect Union"

Talk Given with Denise Burgher and Samantha De Vera

Irvine, CA

- 2021 "Let Us Confer": Building the Archives of 19<sup>th</sup> Century Black Women's Archives Together  
Lunchtime Talk Given with Dr. Shirley Moody-Turner  
Brown University, RI
- 2020 Douglass Day 2020: Transcribe Cooper Webinar  
As Project Manager of Douglass Day 2020 (a crowdsourcing transcription event), I, along with the team leader for the crowdsourcing transcription site, provided an overview of our crowdsourcing project to university libraries across the United States.

#### CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- 2023 (Forthcoming) "Exile and the Perils of Travel: 19<sup>th</sup>-C Black Women Organizers' Fight for Dignity" (Paper)  
Panel Title: Conditions of Exile in the Nineteenth-Century and Beyond  
MLA Convention, San Francisco, CA
- 2022 "Dignified Agitation: The Perils of Ida B. Wells's Crusade for Justice (Paper)  
Panel Title: Political Writing in the Black Literary Tradition  
ALA Conference, Chicago, Illinois
- 2022 "The Black (Other)Mother: Anna Julia Cooper's Exploration of Black Motherhood in Her Archives" (Paper)  
Roundtable: Motherhood in African American Literature  
NeMLA Conference, Baltimore, Maryland
- 2021 "'As Ever, Annie': Anna Julia Cooper's Personal Correspondences and Black Feminist Networks of Care" (Paper)  
SSAWW Triennial Conference, Baltimore, Maryland
- 2021 "Undisputed Dignity: Recovering Anna Julia Cooper's Poetry and Her Reimagination of Black Cultural History" (Paper)  
American Literature Association (Digitized Panel with the African American Literature and Culture Society (AALCS))
- 2021 "From Crowdsourced Transcription to Print Publication: Expanding the Legacy of Anna Julia Cooper" (Paper)  
"Undisputed Dignity: Preserving Anna Julia Cooper's Legacy Through Her Archives" (Panel)  
In Her Own Right Symposium: A Century of Women's Activism, 1820-1920

The Philadelphia Area Consortium for Special Collections Libraries (PACSCL)

- 2020 “Douglass Day: Centering Community in Black Digital Projects” (Roundtable)  
Keystone DH 2020 Conference, Temple University  
[Cancelled due to COVID]
- 2019 “The Gender Politics Behind the Reception of Anna Julia Cooper’s PhD and Legacy”  
(Roundtable)  
*Anna Julia Cooper and the Digital Archives: A Roundtable on the Interdisciplinary Research  
and Pedagogy Project at Penn State University*  
American Literature Association Conference, Boston, MA
- 2019 “Passing and Editing: How *The Bondswoman’s Narrative* Resists Genre Constrictions” (Paper)  
Black Bibliographia: Print/Culture/Art Conference, University of Delaware

#### PANELS ORGANIZED

- 2022 “Beyond Protest Writing: Activism and the African American Canon”  
ALA Conference, Chicago, Illinois
- 2021 “The (In)Visibility of Race”  
SSAWW Triennial Conference, Baltimore, Maryland
- 2021 “Undisputed Dignity: Preserving Anna Julia Cooper’s Legacy Through Her Archives”  
In Her Own Right Symposium, A Century of Women’s Activism, 1820-1920  
The Philadelphia Area Consortium for Special Collections Libraries (PACSCL)
- 2020 “Douglass Day: Centering Community in Black Digital Projects” (Roundtable)  
Keystone DH 2020 Conference, Temple University  
[Cancelled due to COVID]
- 2017 “Student Panel on PhD in English and African American Studies at Penn State”  
Cooper Du-Bois Mentoring Program at Penn State University

#### DIGITAL AND ARCHIVAL RESEARCH PROJECTS

- 2021-2022 Black Women’s Organizing Archive (BWOA)  
Project Coordinator  
Oversaw the creation of a list of print and digital archives of 19<sup>th</sup> and early 20<sup>th</sup>  
century Black women intellectuals and organizers as well as a bibliography of  
research and projects related to Black women’s organizing during this time period.  
Served as one of the digital editors for the Black Women’s Organizing Archive  
website: [bwoaproject.org](http://bwoaproject.org).
- 2020-2021 Women’s National Democratic Club Educational Foundation’s 2021 Calendar  
“Women of Color and The Fight for the Vote”  
Consulted for the calendar, providing research and editorial assistance.

- 2020-2021     *Penguin Portable Anna Julia Cooper* edited by Shirley Moody-Turner  
 Publication Date: Fall 2022  
 Helped prepare primary writings drawn from Douglass Day 2020 Collaboration for edited collection, reviewed and reconciled transcriptions, provided assistance with commentary and annotations, and reviewed copyedits for the edited volume.
- 2019            *African American Literature in Transition, 1900-1910* edited by Shirley Moody-Turner  
 Publication Date: April 2021  
 Assisted with copyediting work on the volume.
- 2019-2020     Project Manager of Douglass Day 2020  
 Douglass Day 2020: Transcribe Cooper  
 Served as the project manager for the annual Douglass Day transcription event, which celebrates Frederick Douglass's birthday by inviting universities, libraries, institutions, and community members to transcribe the papers/archives of nineteenth-century Black women. This year's focus was on Anna Julia Cooper's papers which are housed at the Moorland-Spingarn Research Center at Howard University. My role involved coordinating with various teams to plan the day-of event, co-hosting the event, managing deadlines for teams, and learning and developing the transcription platform for participating transcribers (Zooniverse platform).
- 2018-2021     Research Assistant for Dr. Shirley Moody-Turner  
 Conducted research related to the Anna Julia Cooper Digital Project, which involved the digitization and transcription of Anna Julia Cooper's papers, making them accessible to scholars, researchers, students, and community members.

## ADMINISTRATIVE EXPERIENCE

Penn State University

- Graduate Student Representative on the Graduate Studies Committee, 2021-2022
  - Helped update the graduate student handbook and address graduate student program policies
  - Helped plan graduate student recruitment events
  - Helped select graduate student awards.
- Program in Writing and Rhetoric Graduate Assistant, 2019-2020
  - Organized and led fall orientation for English graduate students
  - Co-taught semester-long course on pedagogic instruction for the introductory rhetoric and composition course for undergraduate students
  - Assisted with editing an annual compilation of student writing used in every first-year writing course
  - Organized annual book fair for textbook publishers
- Douglass Day 2020: Transcribe Cooper

- Served as the project manager for the annual Douglass Day transcription event, which focused on transcribing Anna Julia Cooper's papers housed at the Moorland-Spingarn Research Center (MSRC) at Howard University
    - This included coordinating with various teams for planning the day-of event, managing deadlines for teams, and learning and developing the transcription platform for participating transcribers (Zooniverse platform)
- The Graduate Alliance for Diversity and Inclusion (GADI)
  - Head of the Steering Committee for this graduate student organization devoted to the principles of diversity and inclusion in The College of Liberal Arts, providing community, support, and resources for underrepresented students.
  - Helped organize events, set priorities for the organization, communicated with college administration on member's behalf, and coordinated with other committees focusing on education and training, public affairs, and social events
- The English Graduate Organization (EGO)
  - Served as president, communicating with department administration about graduate student concerns, setting priorities for the organization, and organizing meetings and town halls as needed.
- Penn State English Mentoring Program
  - Coordinated mentoring groups for incoming English graduate students and led a mentoring group, facilitating group conversation between new students, advanced graduate students, and faculty members
- Cooper-Du Bois Mentoring Program
  - As Program Coordinator in 2019 and 2020, I organized program content geared towards recruiting and providing mentorship for underrepresented students interested in English and African American graduate studies, evaluated student applications, and contacted faculty, staff, and graduate student participants.

## PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Penn State Anti-racism and Equity Committee Workshop  
 English and Equity (Rich Purcell, Jason England, sourav guha)  
 Penn State University, 2021

Penn State English Mentoring Program  
 Anti-Racism: Activism and Pedagogy (Tina Chen and Simmy Makhijani)  
 Penn State University, 2020

Zooniverse Workshop  
 Learned how to use the Zooniverse transcription platform and how to develop it for Douglass Day 2020: Transcribe Cooper, remaining attentive to accessibility.  
 Howard University, 2019

## SERVICE

PSU English Graduate Student Representative for the Anti-Racism and Equity Committee (2022-Present)  
 Second Vice President for the African American Literature and Culture Society (AALCS) (2022-Present)  
 PSU English Mentoring Program Mentor 2021-2022  
 PSU English Teaching Mentor for the Program in Writing and Rhetoric, 2021-2022  
 PSU Graduate Student Representative on the English Graduate Studies Committee, 2021-2022  
 PSU Graduate Alliance for Diversity and Inclusion (Steering Committee Chair), 2018-2022  
 PSU English Mentoring Program Graduate Student Coordinator 2018, 2021  
 PSU English Graduate Organization President (2020-2021), PhD Representative (2019-2020), and Internal Liaison (2018-2019)  
 Communications Officer for the African American Literature and Culture Society (AALCS) (2019-2021)

## **PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

The African American Literature and Culture Society (AALCS)  
 The Society for the Study of American Women Writers (SSAWW)  
 Modern Language Association (MLA)  
 Northeast Modern Language Association (NeMLA)

## **RELEVANT GRADUATE COURSEWORK**

African American Rhetoric (Keith Gilyard)  
 Readings in the Black Digital Humanities (Shirley Moody-Turner)  
 19<sup>th</sup> Century Black Women Writers (Shirley Moody-Turner)  
 Recovering the Black Past: Writers, Artists, and the Archive (P. Gabrielle Foreman)  
 Intro to African American Studies (Michael West)  
 Blacks and the African Diaspora (Cynthia Young)  
 Sexual and Gender Politics in the African Diaspora (Maha Marouan)  
 Black Feminist Thought (Annemarie Mingo)  
 Critical Philosophy of Race (David Marriott)  
 Caribbean Literature (Aldon Nielsen)  
 Remapping the Time/Space of American Literature: Regionalism, Modernism, and Transnationalism (Sean Goudie)  
 Whither Postcolonialism (Sean Goudie)  
 Archipelagic American Studies (Hester Blum)

## **REFERENCES**

Shirley Moody-Turner  
 Associate Professor of English and African American Studies  
 Co-Director of the Center for Black Digital Research  
 Penn State University  
 430 Burrowes Building  
 University Park, PA 16801

[scm10@psu.edu](mailto:scm10@psu.edu) | (301)-704-6604

P. Gabrielle Foreman  
Professor of English, African American Studies and History  
The Paterno Family Chair of Liberal Arts  
Co-Director of the Center for Black Digital Research  
Founding Director, The Colored Conventions Project  
Penn State University  
430 Burrowes Building  
University Park, PA 16801  
[gforeman@psu.edu](mailto:gforeman@psu.edu) | (323)-974-6404

Aldon Nielsen  
Kelly Professor of American Literature  
Penn State University  
430 Burrowes Building  
University Park, PA 16801  
[aln10@psu.edu](mailto:aln10@psu.edu)

Annemarie Mingo  
Assistant Professor of African American Studies  
And Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies  
Penn State University  
Greenberg Building  
University Park, PA 16802  
[axm583@psu.edu](mailto:axm583@psu.edu)