

PUBLIC RESEARCH FELLOWS

HUMANITIES COLLABORATIVE • COLLEGE OF ARTS AND SCIENCES
UNIVERSITY OF PORTLAND

College of Arts & Sciences
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PUBLIC
RESEARCH
FELLOWS

2019-2020
Women's Suffrage Centennial



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PRF SYMPOSIUM TO BRING CAMPUS, COMMUNITY TOGETHER AROUND SUFFRAGE CENTENNIAL • FRIDAY, MARCH 13 •

The Public Research Fellows invite the UP and campus communities to join them for a day-long exploration of the U.S. suffrage centennial and its meaning for our own era. Attendees will have the opportunity to participate in an array of events, including:

- a kick-off featuring a pop-up performance by University Singers
- guided tours of student fellows' projects related to voting rights, political representation, and suffrage history
- a roundtable of local Oregon politicians, scholars, and activists who will discuss issues related to voting and political representation today
- a virtual keynote address by Dr. Brittney Cooper, titled "Trust Black Women: The Importance of Black Women in U.S. Politics"

The event is free and open to the public. [For more details and to register, click here.](#)

PUBLIC RESEARCH FELLOWS PROGRAM AWARDED THREE EXTERNAL GRANTS IN ITS FIRST YEAR

The Public Research Fellows have landed three grants to support their work in the public humanities. The **Juliet Ashby Hillman Foundation** has awarded \$14,582, the **Juan Young Trust** has granted \$10,000, and the **Jackson Foundation** has given \$7,500 to fund projects that explore the suffrage movement, voting rights and women's political voices in the modern era. The program has also received a \$2,500 sponsorship from **US Bank**.

[Read the full press release.](#)

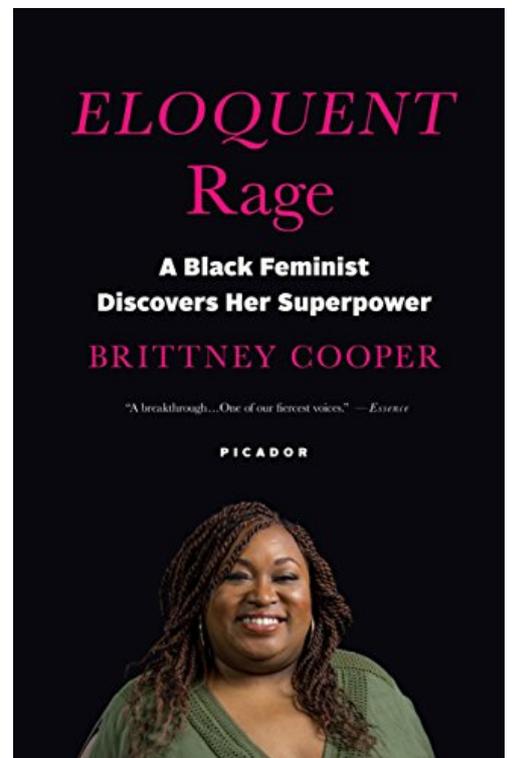
Dr. Brittney Cooper's *Eloquent Rage*: A Powerful Example of Public Scholarship

Author and Rutgers University Professor Brittney Cooper will give a virtual keynote address for the inaugural Public Research Fellows Symposium (Friday, March 13, Buckley Center Auditorium, 5:30-6:30pm). At a time when the term intersectionality frequently gets name-dropped without much specificity, Cooper's book, *Eloquent Rage*, provides an incisive and in-depth analysis of intersectional feminism and its uses for understanding the world around us. At turns sharply funny and deeply unsettling, the book blends personal anecdote with close readings of popular culture and feminist theory to offer a prime example of what public scholarship can do. Cooper provides a model for how to channel personal and political "rage" into productive analysis of the contemporary political moment.

“When I talk about owning eloquent rage as your superpower, it comes with the clear caveat that not everyone is worth your time or your rage.”



Dr. Brittney Cooper



Front Cover of *Eloquent Rage*

In addition to writing scholarship in her field of History, Cooper writes articles for several popular publications and is a frequent commentator for radio, podcasts, and television. For example, in a [recent article for *Time*](#) she analyzes the current presidential race in terms of its gender blindspots and argues that "our refusal to tell the truth about how gender matters" does grave harm to progressive politics. Cooper is the co-founder of the Crunk Feminist Collective blog and an avid social media user. For more of Cooper's analysis, check her out on Twitter: [@ProfessorCrunk](#).

Program Fellow Spotlight: Symposium Pop-Up Presentations

Student Fellows will unveil their research projects as interactive pop-up presentations at the PRF Symposium. What are they most excited for people to learn?

Jaden Anderson and Sage DeFreitas

"We are excited to highlight an invisible, yet often destructive, justice system and we feel lucky that we get to invite participants to see the world from the perspective of adults-in-custody."

Erick Berrelleza and Brian Phan

"We think people should want to come so that they can challenge their beliefs. We don't ever sit and ask ourselves, 'Why is the voting age 18?'"

Maggie Loft

"I hope that people will be inspired to reflect on how many still lacked the right to vote even after the 19th Amendment and continue to lack this right today."

Crystal Wallace and Sarah James

"We want attendees to consider the importance of the humanities through the lens of the suffrage movement, and to see the parallels between suffrage tactics and public humanities methods."

Athena Hills

"One of our goals is to draw attention to the way the vote both furthered and failed to complete women's liberation."

Gabriella Petrossi-Baughman and Grace Forston

"We are most excited for people to learn something new about their favorite (or not-so-favorite) candidates and start a conversation about noncitizen voting."

PUBLIC RESEARCH FELLOWS

The Inaugural Public Research Fellows Symposium

Women's Suffrage Centennial

MARCH 13 2020

1 1:00pm Event Kickoff Franz Lobby

1:30-3:00pm Pop-Up Presentations

- 2A** Teen Suffrage: Exploring Proposals to Lower the Voting Age to 16 Franz 120
- 2B** White to Vote? Racism and Xenophobia During and After the Woman Suffrage Movement Franz 120
- 2C** Images of Women's Suffrage in Germany, Austria, and Switzerland (1907-1971) Franz Lobby
- 2D** Literary Suffrage: Experiments in Taking Literature Public Franz Skyway
- 2E** Who's Your Candidate? Migration Edition Dundon-Berchtold Lobby
- 2F** Framing the Public Humanities: Lessons from the Suffrage Movement Library Patio
- 2G** Voting (In)Justice: Disenfranchising Adults-in-Custody Pilot House Patio

3 3:15-4:30pm Roundtable Discussion Brian Doyle Auditorium (Dundon-Berchtold 004)

4 4:30-5:30pm Coffee & Conversation Break Dundon-Berchtold 1st Floor Hall

5 5:30-6:30pm Dr. Brittney Cooper's Virtual Keynote Buckley Center Auditorium

6 6:30-8:00pm Reception Bauccio Commons Board Room

i Information Kiosk

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Suffrage Across the Globe: Exploring Women's Fight for the Vote Beyond the U.S. Context

As the centennial of the ratification of the 19th Amendment approaches, it can be all too easy to become so focused on the U.S. context that we forget that suffrage movements have played out across the rest of the world. While Americans often think of themselves as "early adopters" when it comes to democratic rights, placing women's suffrage in an international context tells a more complicated story.

For instance, it wasn't the U.S., but New Zealand that first granted women the vote on September 19th, 1893. One of the key figures who pushed for this movement, Kate Sheppard, persuaded lawmakers with petitions to pass a bill allowing all women—including indigenous women—to vote in elections.

In fact, another ten countries gave women the right to vote before America: Australia, Finland, Norway, Denmark, Canada, Austria, Germany, Poland, Russia, and the Netherlands. Most of these countries, however, limited this right in some way. For example, in Australia, white women could vote in 1907, but indigenous Australians were not allowed to vote until 1962, nearly 55 years later.



Members of the Australian Indigenous community holding a protest



1912 London suffragette demonstrators

Some countries allowed women to vote under very specific circumstances, such as the United Kingdom. They granted women the vote in 1918, but there was a catch—they needed to be 30 (and married) to exercise this right, whereas men only needed to be 21 and could be single, giving women rights without really giving them autonomy.

Middle Eastern and African cultural and religious beliefs influenced their women's suffrage laws. The passing of women's suffrage in Iran, Algeria, Zimbabwe, and Jordan happened in the 1960s and 1970s, while the United Arab Emirates granted women the vote in 2006 and Afghanistan did the same in 2014. Saudi Arabian women voted for the first time just 5 years ago, making it the most recent country to grant women suffrage.

Today, the struggle for women's voting rights continues, whether it be in a country like Vatican City where only ordained cardinals can vote in elections, or in the U.S. where many states have made voting more difficult through the purge of voter rolls and the restriction of early voting. Even though the U.S. is celebrating the suffrage centennial, the fight for the vote clearly goes on.

We're All Human: PRF Project Reveals Why UP Needs the Humanities Now More Than Ever



What do the humanities mean to UP, a campus famous for its Nursing and Engineering programs? That is a question PRF fellows Sarah James and Crystal Wallace, under the direction of Dr. Jen McDaneld, set out to answer last semester. The fellows took inspiration from the viral “Who Needs Feminism?” project created by Professor Rachel Seidman of Duke University and her students. The team placed a large whiteboard on the library patio, with the phrase “I need the Humanities Because....” written at the top. Passers-by were invited to finish the statement throughout the day. The results provided a window into attitudes toward the humanities, and education more broadly, on the UP campus.

While some responses were lighthearted, such as “I’m bad at math,” “I’m failing chem,” and “I like singing,” others were more poignant, including “intellect cannot replace soul” and “a world without civic awareness and participation leads to inequity.” Interestingly, when some participants were asked to complete the sentence, they responded, “but I’m a STEM major!” It wasn’t clear to them initially that they could still value and participate in the humanities even if it wasn’t their major field, and many were uncertain what the humanities exactly are. However, once these respondents were told all of the subjects that fall under the expansive umbrella of the humanities, everyone had something to add. This demonstrates that the humanities might have a public relations problem—how can people value what they can't define?

There is a false dichotomy apparent on most college campuses: you’re either a humanities person or a STEM person. The hidden truth is that you don’t have to choose and that everyone is impacted by every subject. The label of a major does not bar appreciation of and participation in other subjects. The students who participated showed that they find value in the humanities, whether they majored in Chemistry or Music. The project points to a potential solution to the “crisis” of the humanities: simply helping people understand what the humanities are, and asking them to think about why they matter, can encourage them to recognize the meaning of the humanities in their own lives.

PRF Curates: Women of Color in Psychology to be Featured on UP Campus

What: I Am Psyched! Exhibit

When: April 14-18

Where: Franz Hall



A selection of women to be featured in the I Am Psyched! exhibit.

The I Am Psyched! Exhibit is coming to UP's campus in April. Dr. Erin Currie, Psychology Sciences faculty, hopes the exhibit will "broaden ideas about who psychologists are and what they can do."

The exhibit consists of 9 large-format posters that showcase the stories of 25 women of color who are pioneers in the field. In addition to this display, Currie and her team of faculty and student collaborators are planning a mentoring event to be held on the evening of April 15 to help kick off the exhibit and connect students with leaders of color from the Portland metro area. The group is also planning a Symposium on Saturday, April 16 that will include instructive workshops for students interested in applying to graduate programs as well as conference-style panels of faculty and student pairs discussing research on psychological issues that impact communities of color in the Portland area.

Currie and her collaborators hope that the event will inspire students to see new possibilities in psychology and related fields, and she sees diversifying the discipline as crucial to this task. She wants the exhibit to demonstrate that at its best, psychology is about "not just coming up with theories, but coming up with ways to use those theories to make the world a better place."

[Click here for the exhibit flyer and more information.](#)



Currie hopes the exhibit will inspire students to "broaden their ideas about who psychologists are and what they can do"