

# Megan Poole

Department of English  
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## EDUCATION

Ph.D. English, Penn State University, 2020

M.A. English, Texas Christian University, 2016

*Graduate Certificate:* New Media Composing and Teaching

B.A. English, *summa cum laude*, McNeese State University, 2014

## ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS

Assistant Professor (2020-present), Department of English, University of Louisville (UofL)

Affiliate Faculty (2021-present), Anne Braden Institute for Social Justice Research, UofL

Affiliate Faculty (2021-present), Kentucky Climate Consortium

Affiliate Faculty (2023-present), Center for Environmental Policy and Management, UofL

## PUBLICATIONS

### Articles

Poole, Megan. "Witnessing the Open Semiosis: A Method for Rhetorical Listening Beyond the Human." *Rhetoric Society Quarterly*, vol. 53, no. 1, 2023, pp. 30-44.  
[doi:10.1080/02773945.2022.2078870](https://doi.org/10.1080/02773945.2022.2078870)

Poole, Megan. "Neuroaesthetics of Visual Invention: The Drawings of Santiago Ramón y Cajal in *The Beautiful Brain*." *Visual Communication Quarterly*, vol. 29, no. 2, 2022, pp. 75-86. [doi:10.1080/15551393.2022.2059761](https://doi.org/10.1080/15551393.2022.2059761)

Poole, Megan. "A Woman's Optics: Margaret Cavendish, Sensory Mimesis, and Early Modern Rhetorics of Science." *Journal for the History of Rhetoric*, vol. 24, no. 2, 2021, pp. 195-222.  
[doi:10.1080/26878003.2021.1929246](https://doi.org/10.1080/26878003.2021.1929246)

Poole, Megan. "Orientation: Seeing and Sensing Rhetorically." *Western Journal of Communication*, vol. 84, no. 5, 2020, pp. 604-622. [doi:10.1080/10570314.2020.1760341](https://doi.org/10.1080/10570314.2020.1760341)

Hawhee, Debra, and Megan Poole. "Kenneth Burke at the MoMA: A Viewer's Theory." *Quarterly Journal of Speech*, vol. 105, no. 4, 2019, pp. 418-440. [doi:10.1080/00335630.2019.1657237](https://doi.org/10.1080/00335630.2019.1657237)

## Shorter Refereed Pieces and Reviews

Poole, Megan. "Perseverance." *Keywords in Making*. Parlor Press, forthcoming.

Poole, Megan, and Kristi McClary King. "Technical Writing for the Health and Fitness Professional." *American College of Sport Medicine's (ACSM) Health & Fitness Journal*, vol. 26, no. 2, 2022.

## Manuscripts in Progress

Poole, Megan. *Listening to Beauty: How Aesthetics Changes Science's Rhetoric*. Under advance contract at The University of Chicago Press. Full manuscript submitted Aug. 10, 2023.

Poole, Megan, and Shavonnie Carthens, Eboni Cochran, and Abigail Koenig. "'Getting the Listening' in Louisville: Why Health Literacy Requires Coalition." 9,426 words, accepted with revision, *Rhetoric of Health and Medicine*.

Poole, Megan, and Kathleen Criner, Jessica Julian, Catherine Schanie, and MarLee Yow. "Why Teach Feminist Rhetorical New Materialisms." 8,609 words, accepted with revision, *Peitho*.

## AWARDS, HONORS, AND GRANTS

2023    Community Engagement Award, UofL College of Arts and Sciences.

Private Donation to Department of English (\$25,000), secured to fund UofL Writing, Editing, and Publishing Lab, co-created with Sarah Ann Strickley.

RISE Partnership, Research Innovations using Sensory Technology in Environmental Justice Communities with Rubbertown Emergency Action (REACT), Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center Division of Bioacoustics and Epidemiology and the University of Cincinnati Department of Family and Community Medicine.

Project Mentor to B. Trotter (\$2,000 award to student), Internship, Post Landfill Action Network.

Project Mentor to R. Paily (\$1,500 award to student), SciComms STEM Communication Grant, Boston University College of Communication.

2022    Health Equity Grant (\$100,000), PI with Shavonnie Carthens, UofL Health Equity Innovation Hub.

- Gheens Foundation Mini Grant (\$3,000)**, PI with Scott Gunter, UofL Office of Community Engagement.
- 2021 Community Partners Grant (\$250,000)**, PI with Keisha Dorsey, Eboni Cochran, Angela Renfro, Abigail Koenig, and Shavonnie Carthens, The Humana Foundation.
- Judy Segal Top Paper Award**, “Getting the Listening in Louisville: Environmental Justice in and Around Rubbertown,” with Abigail Koenig and Shavonnie Carthens, Rhetoric of Health and Medicine Symposium.
- RSA Dissertation Award**, Rhetoric Society of America.
- Faculty Fellowship**, Commonwealth Center for the Humanities and Society, University of Louisville.
- 2020 Harold K. Schilling Dean’s Graduate Scholarship**, The Graduate School, Penn State University.
- PhD Excellence in Teaching Award**, Department of English, Penn State.
- 2019 Predoctoral Fellowship**, Center for Humanities and Information, Penn State.
- 2018 Superior Teaching and Research Award**, College of the Liberal Arts, Penn State.

## ENGAGED SCHOLARSHIP & PUBLIC WRITING

**RISE Communities Program**, 2023-present. Awarded PurpleAir particulate matter sensors and access to multi-year training program on community-led air quality monitoring—in coordination with Eboni Neal Cochran of Rubbertown Emergency Action (REACT).

**Environmental Health Literacy Project**, [AirJusticeLou.org](http://AirJusticeLou.org), 2021-present. Community and student-led literacy project designed to make the science of air pollution more accessible to citizens—in coordination with Councilwoman Keisha Dorsey (Metro Council District 3), Rubbertown Emergency Action (REACT), Dr. Abigail Koenig (College of Business), Shavonnie Carthens, J.D. (Brandeis School of Law), and William Scott Gunter (Geographic and Environmental Sciences).

**Media Coverage:** [WLKY](http://WLKY), [WHAS](http://WHAS), [WDRB](http://WDRB), [UofL News](http://UofL News)

**Author**, “[Pillars of Salt in the Marsh](#).” *64 Parishes*, 2023. Cover story on how climate change alters coastal marsh environments for wildlife in Cameron Parish, Louisiana.

**Author**, “[A City Worth Saving](#).” *64 Parishes*, 2021. Cover story on net-out migration in Southwest Louisiana following the 2020 hurricane season.

**Author**, “[The Limits of Grit](#).” *64 Parishes*, 2020. Editorial on the impact of the 2020 hurricane season on Southwest Louisiana residents.

# PRESENTATIONS

## Conferences

- “An Environmental Justice Approach to Scientific Research: Bridging Gaps and Building Trust Between Community Members and Researchers through Engagement about Environmental Contaminants in Louisville, KY” with N. Paliewicz, J. L. Hart, L. Della, S. E. Smith-Jones, L. Heberle, K. L. Walker, D. Seay, A. Futrell, & B. Wahlang. Conference on Communication and Environment. Harrisonburg, VA. 2023.
- “Classroom + Community: UofL Students Serve as ‘Air Justice’ Change Agents.” North American Association for Environmental Education (NAAEE). Virtual. 2022.
- “The Role of Aesthetics in ‘New Science.’” The Association for Rhetoric of Science, Technology, and Medicine (ARSTM) Pre-Conference. New Orleans, Louisiana. 2022.
- “Francis Bacon, Suzanne Langer, and the “Idols” of Science.” Conference of the International Society for the History of Rhetoric (ISHR). Nijmegen, Netherlands. 2022.
- “The Problem of ‘Beauty’ in Evolutionary Biology” on “Pedagogies of Sight: A Pan-Historiographic Look at Science’s Shifting Vision” Panel. Rhetoric Society of America (RSA). Baltimore, MA. 2022.
- “‘Getting the Listening’ in Louisville: Public Health Literacy and Environmental Justice in and around Rubbertown.” Rhetoric of Health and Medicine Symposium. Virtual. 2021.
- “The Need for Humble Beginnings: Supporting an Anti-Racist Agenda as a White Woman.” Conference on Community Writing. Virtual. 2021.
- “The Haptics of Making: Multiple Literacies in the Technical Writing Classroom.” Association of Teachers of Technical Writing Conference (ATTW). Virtual. 2021.
- “Mentoring as Welcoming, Wanting, and Working: A Roundtable.” Rhetoric Society of America (RSA). Portland, OR. 2020 (conference cancelled).
- “Tinkering with Technical Communication.” Conference on College Composition and Communication (CCCC). Pittsburgh, PA. 2019.
- “Visual/Verbal Counteraction: An Approach to Images in Tech. Comm.” Association of Teachers of Technical Writing Conference (ATTW). Pittsburgh, PA. 2019.
- “Complex Communication: DIY Feminism Meets WPA Work.” Feminisms and Rhetorics Conference. Harrisonburg, VA. 2019.
- “A Woman’s Optics: Margaret Cavendish and the Rhetorical Work of Re-Envisioning Objectivity.” ISHR. New Orleans, LA. 2019.
- “Diffraction as a Methodological Intervention.” Rhetoric Society of America Conference. Minneapolis, MN. 2018.
- “Learning to Feel Time: Using *Kairos* as Disruption of the Digital.” Conference on College Composition and Communication (CCCC). Kansas City, MO. 2018.

- “Neurobiology, Introspection, and the Recurrence of the Platonic Ideas.” Society of Literature, Society, and the Arts (SLSA). Tempe, AZ. 2017.
- “The Science of P.D. Ouspensky and Burke’s Notion of the Universe.” Kenneth Burke Society Conference. East Stroudsburg, PA. 2017.
- “Augmented, Virtual, and Visual Reality Through a Feminist Lens.” Learning to See Systems Graduate STS Workshop. Urbana-Champaign, IL. 2017.
- “A Second Look at Merleau-Ponty: Refocusing Ong’s Rhetorical Theory Through the Science of Sight.” The Western States Rhetoric and Literacy Conference. Tempe, AZ. 2015.

## Invited Talks

- “Why Air Justice Requires Coalition.” UofL Superfund Center, Louisville, KY. 2023.
- “A Grassroots Approach to Air Justice” with Shavonnie Carthens. Jesse L. Jackson Center for Racial Justice, Simmons College, Louisville, KY. 2023.
- “Air Justice and Environmental Health Equity in West Louisville” with Shavonnie Carthens. Symposium for the *Journal of Animal and Environmental Law*, University of Louisville, Louisville, KY. 2023.
- “What Air Justice Means to Communities in West and Southwest Louisville” with Shavonnie Carthens. Bluegrass Greensource Sustainability Summit, Lexington, KY. 2023.
- “Doing Science Otherwise” with Scott Gunter. REDTalks, Louisville, KY. 2023.
- “What Is Community-Engaged Scholarship?” Jones Scholar Program, Louisville, KY. 2023.
- “Why Environmental Health Needs Coalition” with Shavonnie Carthens. Health Care Ethics Speaker Series, University of Louisville, Louisville, KY. 2022.
- “Law Students as Air Justice Investigators” with Shavonnie Carthens, Taylor Reese, Jackson Doughty, and Gabriella Wirasakti. Kentucky Climate Consortium, virtual. 2022.
- “Classroom + Community: The Work of Air Justice” with Shavonnie Carthens. Geographic and Environmental Sciences Symposium, University of Louisville, Louisville, KY. 2022.
- “Defining Air Justice” with Keisha Dorsey. Louisville Sierra Club, virtual. 2022.
- “Why Is It So Hard to Talk about Climate Change?” with Claude Stephens, Eco-Reps Sustainability Roundtable, University of Louisville, Louisville, KY. 2022.
- “Sensing the Field: Engaging Affect in Rhetorical Fieldwork.” Commonwealth Center for Humanities and Society Symposium, University of Louisville, Louisville, KY. 2022.
- “What’s at Stake? A Conversation on Culture and the Changing Coast.” Louisiana Endowment for the Humanities, virtual. 2022.
- “Context & Coalition.” Community Engagement Symposium, University of Louisville, Louisville, KY. 2022.

- “How Nature’s Beauty Changes Science.” Library U Fast Class, Louisville Free Public Library, Louisville, KY. 2022.
- “Listening to Whale Songs: Rhetorics and Aesthetics of Science.” Composition Conversations, Weber State University, virtual, 2022.
- “Okay, I have my degree, now what?: Advice for Navigating the Humanities Job Market,” with Katie Kleinkopf. Department of Comparative Humanities, University of Louisville, virtual, 2021.
- “Taking a Rhetorical Approach to Social Media,” with Frank Kelderman. Social Media Coaching Circle, University of Louisville, virtual, 2021.
- “Approaches to Teaching Technical and Professional Communication.” Technical and Professional Communication Graduate Course, Old Dominion University, 2021.

## **WORKSHOPS & INSTITUTES**

- Rhetoric Society of America Seminar:** “Poiesies of the Future: The Transdisciplinarity of Climate Change, Migration, and Land-Based Ethics” (Ralph Cintron, Michelle Hall Kells, and Donnie J. Sackey), State College, PA. May 2023.
- Rhetoric Society of America Workshop:** “The Art and Practice of Grant Writing” (S. Scott Graham, Debra Hawhee, and Dave Tell), State College, PA. May 2023.
- Rhetoric Society of America Workshop:** “The Futures of New Materialism” (Byron Hawk, Diane Keeling, and Thomas Rickert), virtual. June 2021.
- Rhetoric Society of America Mini-Institute:** “Future Directions of Visual Rhetoric” (Cara Finnegan and Laurie Gries), Portland, OR. May 2020 (conference cancelled).
- Seminar on Teaching for New Faculty.** Office of the Provost and the Delphi Center for Teaching and Learning, University of Louisville, August 2020-May 2021.
- Authoritative Texts and Their Reception Interdisciplinary Research School:** “Rhetorical Practices and Analysis” (Line Cecilie Engh and Hugo Lundhaug), The Norwegian Institute, Athens. March 2019.
- Rhetoric Society of America Summer Institute:** “Rhetoric and Civic Life” Workshop (Debra Hawhee), University of Indiana, Bloomington. June 2017.
- Rhetoric Society of America Summer Institute:** “Rhetoric and New Materialisms” Seminar (Diane Davis and Thomas Rickert), University of Indiana, Bloomington. June 2017.
- Digital Humanities Summer Institute:** “Palpability and Wearable Computing” (Jessica Rajko, Eileen Standley, and Stjepan Rajko), University of Victoria. June 2016.

# TEACHING EXPERIENCE

## University of Louisville

Honors 436/446: Talking to Animals, Listening to Nature

*Community Partners:* Bernheim Arboretum and Research Forest, Idlewild Butterfly Farm, Louisville Nature Center.

English 480: Digital Storytelling

*Community Partners:* Louisville Metro Council District 3, REACT

English 407: Writing for Social Change

*Community Partners:* Louisville Metro Council District 3

English 405: Edit, Design, Advocate

*Community Partners:* Louisville Metro Council District 3, REACT, Our Good River Collective

*Student Publications:* "[Rubbertown: Let's Clear the Air](#)" Zine

English 310: Public and Professional Writing

*Community Partners:* American Printing House for the Blind, Bernheim Arboretum and Research Forest, Collaboration for Teaching and Learning, I Would Rather Be Reading, OneWest

*Student Publications:* "[Why Data Matters to Me as an English Major](#)" by Michaela Brinker, *Courier-Journal (CJ)*; "[Cultural Identity Key on Campus](#)" by Nadia Pratt, *CJ*

English 303: Science and Technical Writing

*Community Partners:* Bernheim Arboretum and Research Forest, *Courier-Journal*

*Student Publications:* "[Keep it in the Ground!](#)" by Isaac Mackin, *Courier-Journal*

## Penn State University

English 602: Composition Pedagogy Practicum

English 418: Advanced Technical Writing and Editing

*Community Partners:* Optical Heritage Museum

English 202C: Technical Writing

English 15: Introduction to Rhetoric and Composition

## **ADVISING & THESIS COMMITTEES**

Liz Soule, Secondary Literature Area Exam Committee Member (2022)

Aubrie Cox, Secondary Literature Area Exam Committee Member (2021)

Tristan DeWitt, MA Thesis Reader (2021)

Allison LaRoy, Undergraduate Honors Thesis Reader (2020-2021)

## **ADMINISTRATIVE EXPERIENCE**

### **University of Louisville**

Grant Administrator, Department of English, 2021-present.

Manage grant applications, fund allocation, project management, and IRB-research study for three grants valuing over \$353,000. Supervise undergraduate and graduate research team of 17 students to work in partnership with community team.

Community Partnership Coordinator, Department of English, 2020-present.

Maintain and grow partnerships with community organizations for Public and Professional writing courses. Identify internship opportunities for students in the Public and Professional writing track of the English major.

### **Penn State University**

Administrative Assistant, Program in Writing and Rhetoric, Dept. of English, 2018-2019.

Organized and co-facilitated a five-day orientation to provide training and support for new writing teachers. Created curriculum, syllabi, and practicum course for new writing teachers. Designed and co-led workshops on composition pedagogy. Developed and implemented resources for teaching in contentious environments.

“Rhetoric and Civic Life” Course Assistant, Schreyer Honors College, 2017.

Co-facilitated the program committee to assess and redesign the core curriculum for a year-long, English/Communication Arts & Sciences honors course that offers comprehensive training in oral, written, visual, and digital communication.

## **SERVICE**

### **University of Louisville**

#### **Department**

Teaching Technical/Professional Writing Practicum & Interest Group, 2020-present.



Technology & Social Media Committee, Committee Chair, 2021-present.

Supervisor, Social Media Internship, 2022-present.

Job Placement Committee, 2020-present.

## University

Scholarship Interviewer, Browns Fellow Program, Honors College, 2022-2023.

Showcase of Engaged Scholarship at UofL: Graduate School Community Engagement Academy, October 2022.

Web Improvement Project: Content Focus Group with Information Technology Services, August 2022.

Social Justice Series Speaking Event Organizer: "Trauma Awareness in Data Visualization" co-sponsored by the Commonwealth Center for the Humanities and Society, Technical/Professional Writing Interest Group, Department of English, and Department of Geographic and Environmental Sciences, March 2022.

Faculty Advisor, HerCampus (Recognized Student Organization), 2021-2022.

Social Justice Series Speaking Event Organizer: "Anti-Racist Practices in Corporate Settings," co-sponsored by the Anne Braden Institute for Social Justice Research, Black and Brown Honors Society, Commonwealth Center for the Humanities and Society, Technical/Professional Writing Interest Group, and WGST Social Justice Series, February 2021.

## Profession

Manuscript Reviewer, *RSA Proceedings*, *Philosophies*, Rhetoric Society of America Conference.

Consultant, Environmental Advisory Group, Kentucky Resources Council.

## Penn State University

### Department

Program Coordinator, Teaching Mentor Program, Program in Writing and Rhetoric, designed for new writing teachers in their first year of teaching college composition, 2018-2019.

Teaching Mentor, Teaching Mentor Program, Program in Writing and Rhetoric, 2018-2020.

Mentor Coordinator and Graduate Student Mentor, English Department Mentoring Program, 2017-2020.

### University

Program Coordinator, [Public Writing Initiative](#), Penn State Learning, 2017-2019.

## **AFFILIATIONS**

Association of Teachers of Technical Writing  
International Society for the History of Rhetoric  
National Council of Teachers of English  
Rhetoric Society of America  
Women in Technical Communication