

**VITAE**  
**Cheryl N. Grills, Ph.D.**  
**(Maiden Name: Wright)**

**EDUCATION**

1985 Ph. D. University of California, Los Angeles      1980 B. A. Yale University, New Haven, CT  
(1. Psychology 2. Afro-American Studies)

**DEGREE/CERTIFICATIONS**

Clinical Psychology  
Certified Traditional Medicine Practitioner  
Ghana National Association of Traditional Healers, Accra, Ghana,

**HONORS/ AWARDS/ GRANTS**

2008      *Inducted: Alpha Sigma Nu, National Jesuit Honor Society*  
2007      *Appreciation Award, United Coalition East Prevention Project*  
2006      *Faculty Recognition Award, Kente Graduation, Loyola Marymount University*  
2006      *Appreciation Award, Black Probation Officers Association*  
2005      *Barbara Avery Community First Award, The learning Community, Loyola Marymount University*  
  
2004      *Distinguished Psychologist Award, The National Association of Black Psychologists*  
2003      *The Villager Award, Loyola Marymount University Black Alumni Association*  
2001      *Appreciation Award, Southern California Association of Black Psychologists*  
2000      *Service Award, The National Association of Black Psychologists*  
1999      *Center for Consciousness Studies Grant, Principle Investigator, Consciousness Research*  
1996      *Dr. Ruth Temple Award For Distinguished Public Health Service in Los Angeles County*  
1996      *Certificate of Appreciation from Senator Barbara Boxer for service to the County of Los Angeles in the area of drug prevention.*  
1995      *Commendation (By Resolution No. 908) from The Board of Fire Commissioners of the Los Angeles City Fire Department*  
1995      *County Alcohol and Drug Program Administrators Association of California Award in Research and in Public Policy, for her contributions to these areas in the state of California.*  
  
1991      *The National Institute on Drug Abuse, Co-Investigator, Drug Research Grant.*  
1990      *Supplemental Minority Research Grant, National Institute of Drug Abuse*  
1989      *High Visibility Education Grant, California State Department of Alcohol and Drug Programs.*  
  
1983      *Wilfred C. Celestine Memorial Fellowship, Association of Black Psychologists*  
1980-1983      *Minority Fellowship and Fellow, American Psychological Association*

**COMMUNITY-BASED RESEARCH GRANTS**

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| Hewlett Foundation                               | <i>Teacher Quality/School Finance Education Reform Project</i><br>Study of the effective of collaborative effort of 4 community organizing and legal advocacy groups to decrease disproportionate number of unqualified teachers in low income neighborhood schools and to increase parent involvement in state school policy and funding decisions. |
| APALC, MALDEF, & LAUL<br>(for the BP Foundation) | <i>Los Angeles Multicultural Education Collaborative (LAMEC)</i><br>Parent and youth leadership and education program to promote leadership and interethnic collaboration for school advocacy and reform   |
| The Marguerite Casey Foundation                  | <i>The Learning Cluster</i><br>National project focused on organizing poor families  |
| The Mertz Gilmore Foundation                     | <i>The Community Asset Development Re-defining Education (CADRE)</i><br>Organizing using a human rights framework to bring policy change related to school suspensions and pushout in LAUSD  |
| Strategic Actions for A Just Economy (SAJE)      | <i>Better Neighborhoods, Same Neighborhoods</i><br>Collaboration of SAJE, LACAN, Esperanza, and St John's Well Child Center to address health consequences and policy related to slum housing in LA  |
| Girls and Gangs Project                          | <i>Mentor Program</i><br>Intervention to reduce female juvenile offender recidivism  |
| The California Endowment                         | <i>Environmental Justice Initiative</i><br>Collaboration among CBE, Occidental, and Liberty Hill Foundation to track and address environmental injustice in poor communities<br><i>Coordinated School Health Program</i><br>Statewide pipeline and cultural competency promotion in medical schools, hospitals and clinics in CA                     |
| Praxis   | <i>National Policy Advocacy on Tobacco and Health (PATH)</i><br>Tobacco prevention using public policy and community organizing  |
| The James Irvine Foundation                      | <i>The Multicultural Collaborative (MCC) and Asian Pacific American Legal Center's (APALC) Leadership Development in Interethnic Relations</i><br>Collaboration between the MCC and APALC on interethnic conflict resolution and leadership development  |
| The California Wellness Foundation               | <i>Children Youth &amp; Community Health Initiative (CYCHI)</i><br>Community driven health promotion at the individual, community and policy level using community organizing and culturally based definitions of health   |
| The Community Coalition                          | <i>Land Use, A-G Campaign, First 5, Liquor Store Campaign, Community Drug Prevention, Youth Development, Welfare Reform, Prop BB, Tobacco Billboard Campaign, &amp; Other Projects</i><br>Community organizing, policy change, leadership development program evaluation studies and action research   |
| The Welfare Reform Coalition                     | <i>Assessment of Cal-WORKs &amp; welfare reform in L A County</i><br>Action research to inform policy change   |
| The Center for Community Change                  | <i>Reflective Self-evaluation of Their Model of Organizing &amp; Technical Assistance to Community Based Organizations</i>   |

## **PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

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| 1987<br>to<br>Present | <u>Chair and Professor</u> , <i>Loyola Marymount University, Department of Psychology Los Angeles, California.</i><br>Responsible for department management and visioning, teaching undergraduate & graduate courses in alcohol & drug studies, community psychology, counseling psychology, general psychology, African psychology, cross cultural issues in psychology. |
| 1994<br>to<br>Present | <u>Founder</u> of <i>The Imoyase Group, Inc.</i> and <i>Imoyase Community Support Services, Los Angeles, CA.</i><br>Non-profit, community based research and evaluation organizations providing technical assistance to community organizations and groups engaged in community development and social change efforts.  |
| 1990<br>to<br>1998    | <u>Research Associate</u> , <i>University of California, Los Angeles.</i><br>Co-investigator of a culturally congruent treatment engagement research project working with African American and Latino drug abusers.   |
| 1990<br>to<br>2005    | <u>Clinical Psychologist</u> , <i>Los Angeles, CA</i><br>Individual and couples psychotherapy with adults and adolescents.<br>Treating clinician for the Western Region of the National Football League.  |

## **UNIVERSITY SERVICE**

Service, to the LMU community, past and present, includes several administrative functions requiring the supervision of sizeable numbers of staff, management of budgets, training, and program development. Service includes the following:

- Member, WASC Accreditation Mission Subcommittee, (2007)
- Member, Loyola Marymount University Faculty Workload and Merit Task Force (Representing the College of Liberal Arts) (2007)
- African American Studies Department Search Committee, Chair (2005/2006; Member 2006/2007)
- Chair, University Bellarmine Forum for 2005 (Shared with a co-chair 2<sup>nd</sup> half of the year)
- Coordinator, The American Cultures Program (1999-2001) Managed team of over 30 faculty.
- Director, Ghana Study Abroad Program (Founder and Faculty Sponsor) (1996- present)
- Irvine Faculty Committee (1999-2000)
- Graduate Program Committee, Psychology Department (1999-2000)
- Psychology Department Assessment Committee (Chaired, 1998-99; 2003, 2004 - present)
- American Cultures Committee (Chair) (1999-2000)
- Office of Continuing Education, Teaching About Africa Program (1999)
- Asian Pacific American Program Faculty Search Committee (1999)
- Sankofa Society (Faculty Sponsor) (1999 to present)
- Irvine Assessment Committee (Co-chaired) (1998-99)
- LMU Kente Scholars Program and Kente Graduation Program (Founder) (1991) (Convener – 1991-present)
- Diversity Committee (Chair) 1996

## **PUBLICATIONS**

Grills, C. (Accepted for Publication 2008). African Psychology: Reflections and Refinements. In: Mkize, N. (Ed) African Psychology. Pretoria, South Africa: Van Schaik.

Grills, C. (2006). Afterward. In W. Nobles (Ed). *Seeking the sakh: Foundational writings for an African psychology*. Chicago: Third World Press.

Grills, C. (2004). African psychology. In R. Jones (Ed). *African psychology*. Hampton, VA: Cobb and Henry.

- Grills, C. (2004). African psychology. A rejoinder. In R. Jones (Ed.), *African psychology*. Hampton, VA: Cobb and Henry.
- Grills, C. (2004). To be an African psychologist: A pilgrimage to Iwa Pele. *Psych Discourse*, 36 (2), 5-7.
- Grills, C. (2003). Substance Abuse and African Americans. In D. Gilbert & E. Wright (Eds.), *African American women living with HIV: The need for critical responses*. Praeger Press.
- Grills, C. (2002). African psychology. In T. Parham (Ed.), *Counseling persons of African descent*. Woodland Hills: Sage Publications.
- Grills, C & Ajei, M. (2002). African-centered conceptualizations of self and consciousness: The Akan model. In T. Parham (Ed.), *Counseling persons of African descent*. Woodland Hills: Sage Publications.
- Grills, C. and Bass, K. (2001). African Americans and The Prison Industrial Complex.. Community Psychologist - News Journal of Division 27 of the American Psychological Association.
- Ajei, M. and Grills, C. (2000). Sunsum as Conscious Energy. *Psych Discourse*, (20) 12-15.
- Longshore, D. & Grills, C. (2000). Motivating recovery from illegal drug use: Evidence for a culturally congruent intervention. *Journal of Black Psychology* 26(3), 288-301.
- Longshore, D. & Grills, C, & Annon, K. (1999). Effects of a culturally congruent intervention on cognitive factors related to drug-use recovery. *Substance Use and Misuse*, 34 (9), 1223-1241.
- Grills, C. & Rowe, D. (1998). African traditional medicine: Implications for African-centered approaches to healing. In R. Jones (Ed.), *African American Mental Health*, Hampton, VA: Cobb & Henry.
- Grills, C. & Rowe, D. (1998). Research teams in ethnic communities. *Drugs and Society*, 14(1-2), 247-268. Co-published simultaneously in M.R. De La Rosa, B. Segal, & R. Lopez (Eds.), *Conducting Drug Abuse Research with Minority Populations*, Haworth Press, New York.
- Longshore, D., Grills, C., Anglin, M.D., & Annon, K. (1998) Treatment motivation among African American drug-using arrestees. *Journal of Black Psychology*, 24 (2) 126-144.
- Longshore, D., Grills, C., (1998). Drug problem recognition among African American drug-using arrestees. *Addictive Behaviors*, 23( 2), 275-279.
- Longshore, D., Grills, C., Annon, K. & Grady, R., (1998). Promoting recovery from drug abuse: An Africentric intervention. *Journal of Black Studies*, 28(3), 319-333.
- Grills, C. & Longshore, D. (1996). Africentrism: Psychometric analysis of a self-report measure. *Journal of Black Psychology*, 22 (1), 86-106.
- Grills, C. & Nobles, W. (1995). A covenant with destiny: The ABPsi African healers project; *Psych Discourse*, 26 (6), 8-9.
- Grills, C. (1995). The African traditional healers project: A covenant. *Psych Discourse*, 26 (6), 11-12.
- Grills, C., Bass, K., Brown, D, & Akers, A. (1995). Empowerment evaluation: Building upon a tradition of activism in the African American community. In D. Fetterman, A. Wandersman, & S. Kafterian (Eds.), *Empowerment Evaluation: Knowledge and Tools for Self-Assessment and Accountability*, 123-140, Sage, CA.
- Rowe, D. & Grills, C. (1993). African-centered drug treatment: An alternative conceptual paradigm for counseling African-American clients. *Journal of Psychoactive Drugs*. 25(1), 21-32.

Grills, C. (1991). The high visibility education project (Contract No. D-0059-8). Sacramento, CA: *State Department of Alcohol and Drug Programs-Report*.

Fairchild, H.H., & Wright, C. (1984). A social-ecological assessment and feedback intervention of an adolescent treatment agency. *Adolescence*, XIX (74), 263-275.

### **PROFESSIONAL PRESENTATIONS/REPORTS**

Grills, C. and Parham, T. (Feb, 2008). *Raising the Bar on What Passes for Cultural Competence*. Presented at The American Psychological Association Winter Roundtable on Cultural Psychology and Education. Teachers College, Columbia University, NY.

Grills, C. and Parham, T. (August, 2007). *Raising the Bar on What Passes for Cultural Competence*. Paper presented at The 39th Annual National Convention of the Association of Black Psychologist, Houston, TX.

Grills, C. (July, 2007). Foster Care and The Prison Industrial Complex: Intersections. Paper presented to the Department of Social Services, LA County Conference, Compton, CA.

Grills, C. (May, 2007). *African Centered Psychology: Principles and Concepts*. Paper presented at The Tavistock Centre and Portman NHS Trust Conference, London, England.

Grills, C. (February, 2007). *Plenary Session: Coming Trends in program Evaluation & Community Capacity*. Presented at the 2007 Asian Pacific American Community Research Roundtable Conference: Building Community Capacity for Program Evaluation, University of Southern California, Los Angeles, CA.

Grills, C. (November, 2006). *Program Evaluation with Community Based Organizations in Communities of Color*. Presented at the Fifth Annual Anti-Gang Violence Conference: Evidenced-Based Responses to Gangs and Violence, Los Angeles, CA.

Grills, C. (October, 2006). *21<sup>st</sup> Century Enslavement & the US Criminal Justice System*. Paper presented to the Black Probation Officers Association Community Action and Intervention Conference, Los Angeles, CA.

Grills, C. (April, 2006). *Understanding Context & Applying Tools for Psychological and Community Liberation*. Paper presented at Pattigift African Centered Mental Health Care Conference, Birmingham, England.

Grills, C. (April, 2006). *African Centered Psychology: Strategies for Psychological Survival and Wellness*. Paper presented at The Tavistock Centre and Portman NHS Trust Conference, London, England.

Grills, C. (January, 2006). *The Prison Industrial Complex and the American System of Enslavement - A Comparison*. Presented at Dreaming of Justice, Living A Nightmare Film Festival on Incarceration. Los Angeles, CA.

Grills, C. (June, 2005). *African Psychology and Mental Liberation*. Paper presented at Distinguished Black Scholar Mbongi Lecture Series of The Institute for the Advanced Study of Black Family Life and Culture, Oakland, CA.

Grills, C. (January, 2005). *The Peace Dividend Initiative: A Development Model of Conflict Resolution in the Mano River Basin Countries*. Paper presented at the United Nations Youth Peace and Development Forum for the Mano River Union Countries and Cote D'Ivoire. Conakry, Guinee,.

Grills, C. (June ,2005) Cultural Competence and the Strategic Framework Planning Step. Paper presented at the Texas State Incentive Program Meeting of the Texas State Department Drug Office. Austin,

Texas.

- Grills, C. (November, 2005). *Significance of LA Homeless Youth Survey*. Public Policy and Media Convening Hosted by The United Coalition East Prevention Project., Los Angeles, CA.
- Grills, C. (August, 2004). *Distinguished Psychologist Address*. Paper presented at The 36th Annual National Convention of the Association of Black Psychologist, Washington, DC.
- Grills, C., Becton, E., Livingston, A. (March, 2003). *The Imoyase Model of Evaluation*. Paper presented at the National Council of Black Studies Conference, Atlanta GA.
- Grills, C., Rooks, T., Rivera, S., & Abe-Kim, J. (June, 2003). *The Children, Youth and Community Health Initiative: Participatory and Empowerment Evaluation*. Paper presented at the Society for Community Research and Action (Division 27, APA) Conference, Las Vegas New Mexico.
- Grills, C. (June, 2003). *Conducting Research in Africa*. Paper presented at the Society for Community Research and Action (Division 27, APA) Conference, Las Vegas New Mexico.
- Grills, C. (March, 2002). *African concepts of altruism and compassion*. Paper presented at the National Council of Black Studies Conference, San Diego, CA .
- Grills, C. (June, 2001). *African Americans and the Prison Industrial Complex*. Presented at the Black Probation Officers Association Meeting, Los Angeles, CA
- Grills, C. (September, 2000). *African centered drug treatment: A culturally congruent approach*. Paper presented at the 10<sup>th</sup> International Conference on the Treatment of Addictive Behaviors, Cape Town, South Africa.
- Grills, C. (August, 2000). *Akan traditional medicine*. Paper presented at The 32<sup>nd</sup> Annual National Convention of the Association of Black Psychologist, Kumasi, Ghana.
- Grills, C. (May, 2000). *The African concepts of consciousness project*. Paper presented at The Annual Convention of the National Council of Black Studies, Atlanta, GA.
- Grills, C. (February, 2000). *African methods of knowing: The role of divination in assessment and diagnosis, healing and intervention*. Paper presented at the African Consciousness Quarter lecture Series of The Ohio State University, College of Humanities, Columbus, OH.
- Grills, C. (August, 1999). *African traditional medicine*. Paper presented at the 31st Annual National Convention of the Association of Black Psychologist, Charleston, SC.
- Grills, C., Harrell, S., Rivera, S. & Norrington (June, 1999). *Panel presentation on the Imoyase approach to community research and evaluation*. Presentation at the 7<sup>th</sup> Biennial Conference of the Society for Community Research and Action, Division 27 of the American Psychological Association, Yale University, Hartford, CT.
- Grills, C. (May, 1999). *African psychology*. Paper presented at Central Connecticut State University, New Britain, CT.
- Grills, C. Harrell, S., Harris, M., Bueno, A., Becton, E. (1999). *Monitoring CalWORKs in Los Angeles County: Participant Perspectives*. Report Presented to the Welfare Reform Coalition, the Los Angeles County Board of Supervisors and the Los Angeles County Department of Public Social Services.
- Grills, C. (November, 1998). *African conceptualization of human beingness: An African centered paradigm for*

- African psychology*. Paper presented at, the Fourth Annual Conference of the African Studies Committee, Central Connecticut state University & African Americans in Higher Education, New Britain, CT.
- Grills, C. (December, 1998). *Motivational intervention with clients suffering from drug dependence*. Paper presented at SECAD/98: An International Conference for Alcohol & Drug Addiction Professionals, Atlanta, GA..
- Grills, C. (October,1998). *Techniques in motivational intervention: Application to Substance Abuse Treatment*. Presented to, the National Football League Conference for Substance Abuse Treatment, Essex, VT.
- Grills, C. (August,1998). *The African Psychology Institute*. Paper presented at the 30<sup>th</sup> Annual National Convention of the Association of Black Psychologist, Atlanta, GA.
- Grills, C. (October,1997). *African Concept of Self*. Paper presented at The African Psychology Institute. The Association of Black Psychologist. Raleigh-Durham, NC.
- Grills, C. (July, 1997). *Substance abuse and substance abuse treatment*. Address at the National Football League New Recruit Orientation, Chicago, IL.
- Grills, C. (May,1997). *Using motivational intervention to treat professional athletes*. National Football League Substance Abuse Treatment Management Team, San Diego, CA.
- Grills, C. & Rowe, D. (August,1995). *The Kusudi Saba: an African centered foundation for transformative healing*. Paper presented at, the 27<sup>th</sup> Annual National Convention of the Association of Black Psychologist, Los Angeles, CA.
- Grills, C. & Brown, D., (August, 1995). *A comparison of tobacco and alcohol billboard advertising in African American communities*. Paper presented at, the 27<sup>th</sup> Annual National Convention of the Association of Black Psychologists, Los Angeles, CA.
- Grills, C. & Rowe, D. (August, 1995). *The Kusudi Saba: an African centered foundation for transformative healing*. Paper presented at, the 27<sup>th</sup> Annual National Convention of the Association of Black Psychologists, Los Angeles, CA.
- Grills, C. & Rowe, D. (August, 1995). *Up from chemical enslavement: A video and treatment engagement strategy for African American clients*. Paper presented at, the 27<sup>th</sup> Annual National Convention of the Association of Black Psychologists, Los Angeles, CA.
- Grills, C. (March, 1995). *One vision, many voices: The spirit within us*. Paper presented at, the Center For Substance Abuse Prevention=s Annual National Learning Community Conference, Denver, CO.
- Grills, C. (August, 1995). *Black psychology: The international mandate- the role of the healer=s project*. Symposium roundtable participant at, the 27<sup>th</sup> Annual National Convention of the Association of Black Psychologists, Los Angeles, CA.
- Grills, C. (December, 1995). *Keys to effective partnership between program directors and research evaluators*. Paper presented at, the Annual Center for Substance Abuse Prevention Convention. Washington, D.C.
- Grills, C. (December, 1995). *Evaluation research: Methodological issues*. Paper presented at the Annual Center for Substance Abuse Prevention Grantee Convention. Washington, D. C.
- Grills, C. (December, 1995). *African Americans in film and television: Critical issues for professionals in the field*. Presenter and moderator at, the Black Director=s Guild of America and Warner Brothers Studios Conference: Getting Work in Television and Film. Burbank: CA.

Grills, C. (February, 1995). *The Community Prevention Model for Los Angeles County*. Los Angeles County Community Prevention Summit. Los Angeles County Alcohol and Drug Program Administration, Los Angeles: CA

Grills, C. (August, 1994). *Methodological Issues in evaluation research on community partnerships*. Presented at, the 102<sup>nd</sup> Annual Convention of the American Psychological Association, Los Angeles, CA.

## **PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS /CONSULTATIONS/ ADVISORY BOARDS**

Board of Directors, The Friends of Tanzania, Los Angeles, CA (2005 to present).

Board of Directors, Deuteronomy Developments School of Construction (2004 to present).

The Association of Black Psychologists      Board of Directors, Southern California Chapter, 2001-2003  
President, Southern California Chapter 1999-2001  
Co-editor, the Annals of Black Psychology 1999 to 2000  
Chair, Grants Committee of the National Board of Directors, 1999-2000  
Co-chair, National Convention 1999-2000  
Member: The General Assembly, Social Action Committee 1998 to present  
Member: The African Psychology Institute (1996 to present)  
Liaison: Ghana Traditional Healers Project (1995)

Consultant to the UCLA Eban HIV prevention research study (2001 to present).

Member of *CSAT/TIP (Treatment Improvement Protocol)*: Consensus Panel on Enhancing Motivation for Change in Substance Abuse Treatment (1998 to 2000).

Co-Sponsor, *Addiction Conferences*, Prototypes: the Josette Mondanoro Women's Resource Center's Cross Training Project (1992-1993, 1995, 1998).

Member, *Evaluation Task Force*, LA Bridges Gang Prevention Project, Los Angeles, CA. (1997 to 1999).

Volunteer Instructor, *College Bound*, Youth College Preparatory Training Organization (1997 to present)

Member of *Institute for the Study of African Centered Interventions*, Los Angeles (1994 -1997)

*CSAP Technical Assistance Advisory Committee*, High Risk Youth Programs Cross-Site Evaluation. (1996 to 2000).

*CSAP Technical Assistance Advisory Committee*, Cross-Site Evaluation of the Community Prevention Partnerships Demonstration Grant Program (1995 to 2001).

*CSAP Technical Assistance Advisory Committee*, Community Prevention Coalitions Demonstration Grant Program Cross-Site Evaluation (1995).

*CSAP Grant Reviewer*, on Subcommittee of the High Risk Youth Committee (1991-1995).  
Served as a grant reviewer from 1990-1991 without appointment.

*Steering Committee Member*, Los Angeles County Alcohol and Drug Programs Office  
County Community-Based Prevention Model (1994).

Sitka Alliance for Health Needs Assessment and Evaluation Research Consultation (1993).  
*CSAP Grant Reviewer*, Programs for Pregnant and Postpartum Women (1993).

*Master Plan Advisory Board Member*, Los Angeles County Administration of Alcohol and Drug Programs (1991).

Needs assessment consultation.

*Member of the Advisory Group on Substance Abuse Among Culturally Diverse Populations, Western Center for Drug Free Schools-Southwest Regional Laboratory Division (1990-1991)*

**PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

National Organization of 100 Black Women

The Corporate Council on Africa

The National Association of Black Psychologists

The Ghana National Association of Traditional Healers (Ghana, West Africa)

**REFERENCES**

Personal and professional references will be furnished upon request.