

The School of Applied Human Science in collaboration with Ma'at Institute and the Forum for African Psychology cordially invites you to a seminar



THEME:
**RECLAIMING NARRATIVES: WEAVING
AFROCENTRICITY INTO COMMUNITY
ENGAGEMENT AND EDUCATIONAL
TRANSFORMATION**

By:

Dr Cheryl Tawede Grills & Dr Deanna Cooke



For more Information: Call: 031 260 2836 | WhatsApp: 060 548 9137 | Email: Maat@ukzn.ac.za

DATE

Thursday,
27 June 2024

VENUE

Shepstone Building:
Lecture Room 7

TIME

09h00 – 16h00

TO RSVP



CLICK HERE



BIOGRAPHIES



Dr. Cheryl Tawede Grills is a Clinical Psychologist with a current emphasis in Community Psychology. On the faculty of Loyola Marymount University (LMU) for the past 37 years, she is a Professor of Psychology, Director of their Psychology Applied Research Center, and President's Professor in the College of Liberal Arts. She is also the Founder and Executive Director of a non-profit organization, Imoyase Community Support Services, dedicated to program evaluation, action research, and technical assistance with community-based organizations focused on social justice, community organizing, and community-defined interventions.

Dr. Grills is a national Past President of The Association of Black Psychologists (ABPsi). She serves as one of the lead trainers in the international Emotional Emancipation Circles Initiative designed to address racial trauma and stress experienced by people of African ancestry.

She served on the California Reparations Taskforce, appointed by the Governor of California, and also serves on the National African American Reparations Commission (NAARC). In addition, Dr. Grills is a commissioner on the 400 Years of African American History Commission, U.S. federal commission under the Department of the Interior and is a member of the Governing Council of the Global Pan African Movement whose secretariat is based in Kampala, Uganda.

Dr. Grills is a research principal investigator on several national, state, and county multi-site projects addressing mental health disparities, social determinants of health, positive youth development, and COVID's impact on communities of color nationally. An important part of her work is in racial stress focusing on research and training associated with racism, racial stress, implicit bias, and the development of community-based self-help models to address the negative effects of racism on people of African ancestry in the US and globally.

Dr. Grills' research interests, publications, and projects include African Psychology, African-centered models of treatment engagement with African Americans, community psychology, community mental health, mental health disparities, community organizing as a public health strategy, community-defined mental health intervention strategies; positive youth development; and program evaluation. She has published over 60 peer-reviewed articles and book chapters in addition to a number of commissioned special reports and white papers.



Dr. Deanna Cooke is a Community Psychologist with a 20-plus career conducting and supporting community-based collaborative educational activities. She is a clinical associate professor and director of Engaged Learning at Loyola Marymount University in Los Angeles, CA. She teaches community-collaborative courses through LMU's Psychological Sciences Department and works with all faculty in the College of Liberal Arts to develop and implement community-collaborative teaching. Recent projects address issues in the criminal justice system, such as educational assessments in local jails, co-hosting The Justice on Trial Film Festival, and serving on a community safety advisory council. Additionally, her work to advance diverse educational opportunities has resulted in grants to support curriculum development related to African American, Asian American and Latine culture and history. She is currently PI on a grant to support student research and the sharing of biographies of Buffalo Soldiers and Asian Americans interred at the LA National Cemetery. In addition to her community-based endeavours, Dr Cooke

studies teaches and has published on African American racial identity and socialization. She has studied abroad in Ghana and South Africa and, in turn, designed courses and tours in Costa Rica, Cuba, Ghana, South Africa and Panama. Dr. Cooke is a native of Compton, CA, an avid traveler and lover of music and the arts.