



BLACK DOCTORAL NETWORK

WESTERN REGIONAL CONFERENCE

APRIL 20, 2024

LOS ANGELES, CA

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WELCOME FROM THE CONFERENCE CHAIR

Dear Attendees:

It is my pleasure to welcome you to the 2024 Black Doctoral Network Western Regional Conference in Los Angeles, California. We are thrilled to have you join us for this gathering of brilliant minds.

I would also like to extend our sincere gratitude to Loyola Marymount University and the California Council on Science & Technology. Their support is instrumental in making this event possible, and we extend our deepest gratitude to them. Special thanks to Loyola Marymount University for graciously hosting the conference this year. Your hospitality is truly appreciated. We would like to offer our appreciation to Dr. Emelyn A. dela Pena, Steven Neal, Jamal Epperson, and Michelle Fernandez who worked with us to ensure this event's success.

I also want to extend a heartfelt thank you to our Conference Committee who worked tirelessly for the past few months to organize and plan this gathering. Your dedication and hard work have made this event possible.

We have some amazing research and knowledge being shared by our panel presenters, workshop leaders, and poster presenters. Their contributions enrich our discussions and inspire us all. Whether you are new to the network or a seasoned member, thank you for being here. Your presence enriches our discussions and strengthens our community. For those who are new, I invite you to consider becoming a member of our network. Together, we can continue to foster growth, collaboration, and excellence in academia and beyond.

Once again, thank you for being here today. I hope you will enjoy the conference and bring a friend or two next year!

Sincerely,

Deandra S. Taylor, Ed.D.
Executive Director
Conference Chair
Black Doctoral Network Inc.

CONFERENCE LEADERSHIP TEAM AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS



Marshia Allen, Psy.D.
Conference Manager



Tosha Briscoe, Ph.D.



LaToya Brown, Ed.D.



Dr. Tara Collins



Lynda Gibson, Ph.D.
Conference Manager
BDN Deputy Director



**Professor Van
Havercome**



Dr. Rodlyn Remina Hines



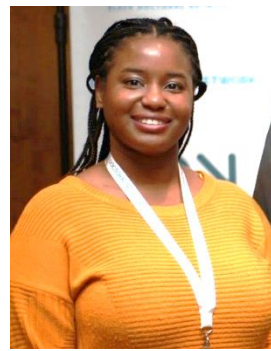
Dr. Charlene Lewis



**La Trese Annette
Monden, M.A.**



**Kaveena Miller-Bullock,
M.A.**



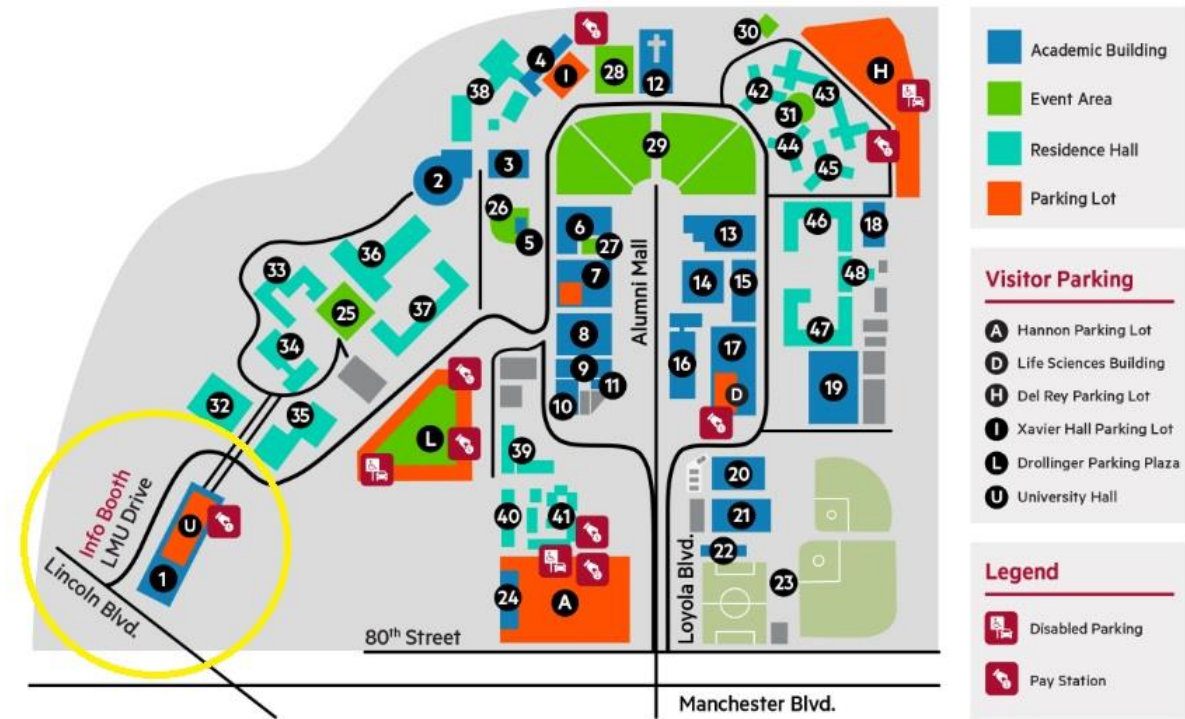
Deandra Taylor, Ed.D.
Conference Chair
BDN Executive Director



Joyce D. Williams

LOYOLA MARYMOUNT UNIVERSITY CAMPUS MAP

University Hall 1 LMU Drive, Los Angeles, CA 90045



Academic Buildings & Miscellaneous

- 1** University Hall (Parking Lot U)
Mall Distribution Center
Dining: Roski Dining Hall, Einstein Bagels, Caribou Coffee
- 2** William H. Hannon Library
Dining: Starbucks
- 3** Hilton Center for Business
- 4** Xavier Hall (Parking Lot I)
- 5** Drollinger Family Stage at Lawton Plaza
- 6** St. Robert's Hall
- 7** Charles Von der Ahe Building (Parking Lot M)
- 8** Communication Arts, Howard B. Fitzpatrick Pavilion
- 9** Burns Fine Art Center, Burns Annex
- 10** Hogan Hall
- 11** Murphy Recital Hall
- 12** Sacred Heart Chapel
- 13** Malone Student Center
Dining: Lair Marketplace
- 14** Foley Building
- 15** Foley Annex
- 16** Seaver Science Hall

- 17** Bruce Featherston Life Sciences Building
- 18** Daum Hall
- 19** Pereira Hall of Engineering, Doolan Hall
- 20** Burns Recreation Center
- 21** Gersten Pavilion
- 22** Lion Athletic Center
- 23** Athletics Fields
Sullivan Field, Smith Field & Page Baseball Stadium
- 24** Children's Center

Event Areas

- 25** O'Malley Lawn
Dining: Coffee Bean & Tea Leaf
- 26** Lawton Plaza
- 27** St. Robert's Lawn
- 28** Sculpture Garden
- 29** Sunken Garden
- 30** Bird Nest/Mbongi Spot
- 31** Founders Pavilion
Dining: Founders Pavilion

Residence Halls

- 32** Leavey 5
- 33** O'Malley Apts
- 34** Leavey 4
- 35** Leavey 6
- 36** McCarthy Hall
- 37** Rains Hall
- 38** Jesuit Community
- 39** McKay Hall
- 40** Tenderich Hall
- 41** Hannon Apts
- 42** Whelan Hall
- 43** Del Rey North/South
- 44** Desmond Hall
- 45** Rosecrans Hall
- 46** Palm North
- 47** Palm South
- 48** Doheny Hall

All Conference activities will be held in University Hall.

Attendees are welcome to park in the University Hall Parking Garage in Lot-U.

Parking is free on weekends and University Holidays.

2024 WESTERN REGIONAL CONFERENCE AGENDA

8:00AM - 5:00PM	Registration & Information Table	UNH East Atrium
8:00AM - 9:00AM	Breakfast	UNH Roski
8:30AM - 9:00AM	Welcome & Opening Ceremony	UNH Roski
9:15AM - 10:25AM	Panel Session I	
	Black Women in the Academy: Advancement through Brilliance and Resilience	UNH 1404
	Conceptualizing Inequities that Contribute to Health Disparities in the Black Community	UNH 1405
	Prioritizing Mental Health and Wellness in the Black Community	UNH 1858
	Social Justice: An Evaluation of Policies, Practices, and Representation	UNH 1859
	Transformative Leadership through Community Engagement	UNH 1866
10:40AM - 11:50AM	Panel Session II	
	A Different Lens: Reimagining the Black Female Experience	UNH 1404
	Healing the Mind, Body, and Soul: Improving Health & Wellness	UNH 1405
	Exploring Solutions to Address Issues with Workplace Climate	UNH 1858
	Marketing Outcomes and Organizational Planning	UNH 1859
	Challenges in Teaching and Curriculum Development	UNH 1866
11:50AM - 1:00PM	Networking Lunch & Keynote Presentation Dr. Cheryl Grills, Loyola Marymount University	UNH Roski
1:10PM - 1:50PM	Research Poster Session	ECC 1857
2:05PM - 3:05PM	Workshop Session I	
	The Baby Eats FIRST	UNH 1404
	The Ps of Writing Success: A New Approach for Successfully Completing Your Dissertation	UNH 1405
	A New Academics Guide to Designing Effective College Courses for Diverse Learners	UNH 1858
	Eliminating Poverty through Education, the Transformative Power of Short-Term Credentials on Marginalized Communities	UNH 1859

3:20PM - 4:20PM	Workshop Session II	
	Forging a path towards Reproductive Health Justice For All	UNH 1404
	Cultivating an Environment of Black J.O.Y. in Educational Settings	UNH 1405
	Revolutionizing Online Pedagogy: Empowering HBCU Faculty for Student Success in Digital Classrooms	UNH 1858
	360°: A Network Approach to Applied Sociology and Community Empowerment	UNH 1859
4:30PM - 5:00PM	Closing Ceremony & Awards Presentations	UNH Roski

PANEL SESSION I
9:15 AM - 10:25 AM

Black Women in the Academy: Advancement through Brilliance and Resilience **UNH 1404**

Moderator: Tosha Briscoe, Ph.D.

How Intersectionality of Gender and Race Forges Self-Sabotaging Behaviors in Female Black Higher Education Chief Executives

Dr. La Toya Gilmore, University of Massachusetts Global

Social and Emotional Intelligence: Exploring How Black Women Navigate Graduate School at Predominately White Institutions

Anayah Walker, M.A., University of South Florida

Sophia's Song an Exploratory Pilot Study

Ms. Sydney Carroll LCMHC, LCAS-A, NCC, Ph.D. Student, UNC Charlotte

Conceptualizing Inequities that Contribute to Health Disparities in the Black Community **UNH 1405**

Moderator: Joyce D. Williams

Improving Health Equity: The Important Role of School Nurses

Nakia Best, Ph.D., RN, University of California, Irvine

Intersectionality, Racial Discrimination and Oral Health Care Utilization Among Black Adults In Baltimore City, Maryland

Briona Phillips, Ph.D., MPH, MSW, Virginia Commonwealth University

Prioritizing Mental Health and Wellness in the Black Community

UNH 1858

Moderator: Sharon Turnage PhD Candidate, LMSW, CASAC-T

The Fourth Trimester: Doula Intervention and Black Maternal Mental Health A Community-Based Study

Mikeisha Oldson, MPH, DrPH(c), Mercer University

Mental Health Practices for Blacks Post COVID-19 Pandemic and Beyond

Marcus Jones, LMSW, Ph.D. Candidate, Yeshiva University

Black Women Navigating Mental Health and Survival in Higher Education

Dr. Arah Parker, California State Polytechnic University-Pomona

Social Justice: An Evaluation of Policies, Practices, and Representation

UNH 1859

Moderator: Alana N. Stevenson, Ph.D.

Womb to Prison Pipeline: Using Data to Change Policy & Practice

Dr. Troya Bishop, M.Ed, Ed.D., Parental Empowerment Institute

Protecting our Energy Project: Building and Mobilizing the Next Generation of Black and Brown Energy Justice Activists in Atlanta

Dr. Desiree S. Smith, MPH, DrPHc, Mercer University

The Variation of Blackness, Exploring the Hidden Nuances of Black, Qaure, Afro-Caribbean, Doctoral Students in Higher Education (U.S.)

Travis Richards, A.B.D., MeD, Loyola Marymount University

Transformative Leadership through Community Engagement

UNH 1866

Moderator: Dr. Tara Collins

A Discussion on How African American Literature is Transforming the Community

Professor Van Havercome, St. John's University

Polity, Politics, & The Pastor: Prophetic Work of Succession Planning in the Black Baptist Church

Itang H. Young-Essien, Ph.D., Fordham University

PANEL SESSION II
10:40 AM - 11:50 AM

A Different Lens: Reimagining the Black Female Experience

UNH 1404

Moderator: Tosha Briscoe, Ph.D.

Changing The Narrative Exploring Post-Traumatic Growth in African American Women Who Identify as Transformational Leaders After Experiencing the Foster Care System
Leah Angel Daniel, St. John Fisher University

A Phenomenological Study Exploring the Lived Experiences of Women Leaders in Information Technology in Nairobi, Kenya
Lizzy Bronte, Ph.D., Nationwide Financial Technology

Healing the Mind, Body, and Soul: Improving Health & Wellness

UNH 1405

Moderator: Joyce D. Williams

Evaluating Partnership Process in a Refugee and Immigrant Oral Health Community Advisory Board
Farnese Murielle Edimo Motto, MSPH, CHES, Virginia Commonwealth University

The Effects of a Modified Otago Exercise Program on a 79-year-old Female At Risk for Falls Advancing
Dr. Venneisa Smith Williams, University of Phoenix
Dr. Wellington Williams, Jr., University of Phoenix

Gender Equality in Aneurysm Diagnosis and Care
Khushi Patel, Rutgers University

Exploring Solutions to Address Issues with Workplace Climate

UNH 1858

Moderator: Dr. Tara Collins

At the Table, On the Menu, and Under the Bus: Are Black Local Health Department Employees Psychologically Safe?
Nicole D. Vick, EdD(c), MPH, CHES, University of Southern California

Perceptions of Governance Boards on the Adoption of Succession Plans for Minorities at Predominantly White Institutions
Dr. Reginald Porter Jr., RSPorter Consultancy LLC

Moderator: Tina Wright, Ph.D.

Brand Wonder

Mike Lee, University of North Carolina at Charlotte

Challenges in Teaching and Curriculum Development

UNH 1866

Moderator: Prof. Van Havercome

Old Dogs, New Tongues: The Problem with Language in the Classroom

Bianca Gray, Loyola Marymount University

The Impact of the American K-12 Education Systems Policies and Practices on Black Women Teachers' Mental Health and Well-being

Jamēla Joseph, Howard University

NETWORKING LUNCH & KEYNOTE PRESENTATION

11:50AM - 1:00PM



Cheryl Tawede Grills, Ph.D., is a Clinical Psychologist specializing in Community Psychology and a Full Professor at LMU, where she founded the Psychology Applied Research Center. With 36 years at LMU, she also established Imoyase Community Support Services, a non-profit providing strategic assistance to community organizations.

Dr. Grills is a past president of the Association of Black Psychologists and a co-founder of the Alliance of National Psychological Associations for Racial and Ethnic Equity. She helped develop the Emotional Emancipation Circles, a model aiding the healing of trauma related to anti-Black racism, and leads global training initiatives for these circles.

In 2019, she co-initiated the South Los Angeles Healing Circles to combat local violence. Dr. Grills has held significant roles in various commissions, including the CA Reparations Taskforce and the Los Angeles County Sybil Brand Commission, contributing to key reforms in child welfare and county jail conditions. Recently, she joined the Governing Council of the Global Pan African Movement and the 400 Years of African American History Commission.

Dr. Grills conducts research on mental health disparities, community mental health, and intervention strategies, focusing on the impact of social determinants on health and community-based solutions.

UNDERGRADUATE RESEARCH POSTER COMPETITION

University Hall ECC 1857

1:10 PM - 1:50 PM

#101 Autism in the Public Eye: A Closer Look

Hyejeong Ahn, Johns Hopkins University

#102 Examining Suicidal Outcomes in Inpatient Foster Care Youth

Isabelle Antaran, University of California, Los Angeles

#103 Medication Management Strategies Among Older Couples Living with Multiple Chronic Conditions

Kai Dickerson, Spelman College

#104 Using eDNA to Detect Marine Invasive Species Along the Antarctic Coast

Aria Fulton, Loyola Marymount University

#105 The Negative Effect of Trauma Leads to Emotional Dysregulation and to an Increase in Crime Among Black Youth

Janardia Jackson, University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign

#106 Exploring Vanadium Complex Catalyzed Deoxydehydration Reaction

Jamill Lemon, Cal Poly Pomona

#107 Characterizing the Occurrence of Metabolic Rewiring in Non-Small Cell Lung Cancer and Evaluating the Effectiveness of Therapeutic Combinations

Leila Mieville, Johns Hopkins University

#108 Systematic Hippocampal Suppression and its Influence on Systems Consolidation

Nkem Ogbuefi, Harvard University

#109 Breaking Barriers, Building Bridges: An Interdisciplinary Exploration of Equity and Inclusion in U.S. Education Abroad Programs for Historically Underrepresented Students

Logan Pender, Winthrop University

#110 The Implications of the Straight-Ticket Voting Option on Residual Voting: A Comparative Study Using Gaston County, NC and York County, SC

Carrie Vaughn, Winthrop University

POSTER COMPETITION JUDGES

We would like to acknowledge and thank our judges for their time and effort!

Fayal Abderemane-Ali, Ph.D., *University of California, Los Angeles*

Laura Arce, Ph.D., *California State University, Fullerton*

Marta P. Baltodano, Ph.D., *Loyola Marymount University*

Josette Banks, Ph.D., *Loyola Marymount University*

Suraj Bhat, Ph.D., *University of California, Los Angeles*

Gary W Mathern, M.D., *University of California, Los Angeles*

Nora A. Murphy, Ph.D., *Loyola Marymount University*

Dario Ringach, Ph.D., *University of California, Los Angeles*

GRADUATE STUDENT AND POSTDOCTORAL SCHOLAR POSTER SESSION

University Hall ECC 1857

1:10 PM - 1:50 PM

#201 Mental Exhaustion Amongst Black Educators: A Review of Low Retention of Black Educators in Academia
Jada Augustine, University of California Los Angeles and California State University Los Angeles

#202 Ethnic Racial Identity (ERI) Radiant Root Retreat
Zee Bolden, California Baptist University

#203 Reclaiming Black Spirit: Redefining Social Justice Leadership with and for Black Youth in Jesuit Schools
Jeremy Divinity, Loyola Marymount University

#204 Symbiotic Resistance: The Recursive Role of Everyday Resistance within Intercultural Organizations
Nicole Graham, Loyola Marymount University

#205 The Persistence of First-Generation African American Female Students at Private HBCUs
Syliva Griffin, Spelman College

#206 Understanding DEI Initiatives and Performance Metrics in Food Bank Operations
Mikaya Hamilton, North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University

#207 Racial Disparities and Maternal Mortality Among African American Women, A Call to Action.
Lisa Kersey, Tulane University

#208 Across Cultures and Roles: Understanding the Complexities of Caregiving Among Care Partners of Persons With Dementia
Nicole Lewis, University of California Los Angeles

#209 Factors Associated with Failure to Receiving Standard Recommended Screening for Colorectal Cancer Among Respondents Aged 45-75 in Ohio, United State.
Opeyemi Ogungbola, Florida A&M University

#210 Exploring a Moderated-Mediated Model Linking School Racial Socialization to Satisfaction with Life: A College Student Perspective
Nia Williams, University of California, Riverside

#211 Understanding the Why? Exploring the Impact of Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) on Chronic Absenteeism in Urban Elementary Schools
Jaqueline Woods, Hampton University

WORKSHOP SESSION I
2:05 PM - 3:05 PM

The Baby Eats FIRST

UNH 1404

Workshop Leader: Dr. Charise Breeden-Balaam, LSW, Balaam and Associates LLC

Attendees will gain actionable insights to support food-insecure community college students, particularly parent-students. Goals include informing about food insecurity depth, understanding its causes, and offering practical solutions. Empowering attendees to tackle food insecurity in their institutions is the ultimate aim of this presentation.

The Ps of Writing Success: A New Approach for Successfully Completing Your Dissertation

UNH 1405

Workshop Leader: Dr. Johanna Andrews Adlam, Premexcellence®

The purpose of this workshop is to review, discuss, and practice a comprehensive, customizable, and convenient writing model for successfully completing a thesis, dissertation, or long-term writing engagement.

A New Academics Guide to Designing Effective College Courses for Diverse Learners

UNH 1858

Workshop Leader: Dr. James A. Bush, Life University

This workshop will delve into the art of developing courses that meet the diverse needs of in-person and online students. Join us as we guide you in creating a dynamic and inclusive learning environment, a valuable step towards tenure and an enhanced resume.

Eliminating Poverty through Education, the Transformative Power of Short-Term Credentials on Marginalized Communities

UNH 1859

Workshop Leader: Will White, Morgan State University

Workshop attendees will leave with a deeper understanding of how credentialing can serve as a tool for social and economic empowerment for individuals living in underrepresented communities. Participants will also be equipped with strategies to implement similar workforce development programming in their respective states and institutions.

WORKSHOP SESSION II

3:20 PM - 4:20 PM

Forging a Path Towards Reproductive Health Justice For All

UNH 1404

Workshop Leader: Sharon Turnage PhD Candidate, LMSW, CASAC-T, Tyler Nicole Foundation

Healthcare providers are on the frontline caring for families experiencing perinatal health challenges and loss. There is a need for education around Reproductive Justice, Intersectionality, & how to address health disparities BIPOC individuals experience. Let's support our clients to improve birth outcomes while at the same time avoid stress and burnout.

Cultivating an Environment of Black J.O.Y. in Educational Settings

UNH 1405

Workshop Leader: Dr. Kamshia Childs, Texas A&M University-Commerce

In this workshop, participants will learn about creating and facilitating an environment of Black J.O.Y. within educational spaces—particularly those environments that have not always been welcoming, affirming, or equitable. Implementation ideas as to how “joy” can be tended to in participants’ own communities and educational settings will be creatively explored.

Revolutionizing Online Pedagogy: Empowering HBCU Faculty for Student Success in Digital Classrooms

UNH 1858

Workshop Leader: Alana N. Stevenson, Ph.D., Bossier Parish Community College

In this workshop, participants will discover strategies that elevate HBCU online learning, spotlighting dynamic strategies to foster instructor presence & student success. Participants will explore creative course design and community engagement to enhance educational excellence, ignite innovation, inspire achievement, and shape a brighter future!

360°: A Network Approach to Applied Sociology and Community Empowerment

UNH 1859

Workshop Leader: Tina Wright, Ph.D., UTN

This workshop will focus on applied research and learning, utilizing the 360 model to maximize the power of social networks and social support systems, build cooperative structures for community sustainability, and develop cultural strategies that center Blackness.

JOIN THE BLACK DOCTORAL NETWORK COMMUNITY



Unlock a world of opportunities, connections, and support by joining the Black Doctoral Network, where brilliant minds converge to inspire, engage, and empower one another.



Individual Memberships:

Step into a vibrant community tailored for Black and Brown scholars. Our individual memberships provide access to a wide range of resources, including mentoring, networking opportunities, career development workshops, and discounts on upcoming events. Connect with peers and leaders who are shaping the future across various disciplines.



Institutional Memberships:

Enhance your institution's commitment to diversity and inclusion. Institutional memberships allow universities, colleges, and other academic entities to provide their students and faculty with full access to our network's resources. It's an investment in your community's professional growth and visibility in the broader academic landscape.

Join today and be part of a community that supports your growth and celebrates your achievements.

For more information and to sign up, visit: www.BlackPhDNetwork.com



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