

Nivischi Ngozi Edwards, Ph.D., LMHC, NCC, DCC

Assistant Professor
Regent University

EDUCATION

- August 2009** **PhD in Education: Counselor Education (CACREP)**
University of Central Florida, Orlando, FL
Dissertation Title: Marital Satisfaction: Factors for Black Jamaicans and African Americans Living in the United States.
- June 1999** **Master of Arts: Education (CACREP)**
Andrews University, Berrien Springs, MI
Concentration: Community Counseling
Specialization: Marriage and Family Therapy
- May 1997** **Bachelor of Arts: Psychology**
Syracuse University, Syracuse, NY
Minor: African American Studies

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

- 8/08 – Present** **Military and Family Life Consultant**
Office of the Secretary of Defense, Department of Defense
Mental Health Network Government Services, San Rafael, CA
- Provide solution-oriented consultation to individuals, couples, families and groups
 - Support and assist active duty Soldiers, National Guard & Reserves, military family members, and civilian personnel in various need areas including: relationships, crisis intervention, stress management, grief, occupational, and other individual and family issues
 - Conduct psycho-educational presentations on reunion/reintegration, stress/coping, grief/loss, deployment, and other requested topics
 - Conduct Family Readiness Groups, Soldier Readiness Processing and other requested topics
- 12/07 – 8/09** **Child Custody Investigator**
Sixth Judicial Circuit, St. Petersburg, FL
- Performed child custody social investigations and studies
 - Completed all investigations assigned
 - Wrote and submitted comprehensive reports
 - Attended court hearings and depositions for subpoenas
- 11/04 - 8/06** **Counselor**
Florida Hospital College of Health Sciences, Orlando, FL
- Provided counseling to students on a variety of issues using the Brief Therapy Model
 - Created community partnerships for case collaboration

- Referred students with long-term needs to community resources
- Coordinated and oversaw crises intervention
- Coordinated and conducted mental health screening days
- Coordinated seminars for student success
- Chaired Counseling Consultation and Staffing committees
- Assisted with Student Success program planning and implementation

10/02 - 10/04

Outpatient and Outreach Therapist

Drug Abuse Treatment Association

The Lord's Place, West Palm Beach, FL

- Provided individual, family and group counseling to clients in the initial stage of recovery from substance abuse
- Conducted screening, assessment, crises and emergency services
- Provided prevention, intervention, outpatient and aftercare needs to adolescents and adults
- Completed bio-psycho-social narratives including initial and individualized treatment plans
- Maintained regular contact with clients to ensure proper services provision and continued care
- Provided counseling as a prevention/intervention specialist in a middle school setting

5/02 - 10/02

Substance Abuse Counselor

Comprehensive Alcohol Rehabilitation Program

The Lord's Place, West Palm Beach, FL

- Provided screening, intake, orientation, assessment, and treatment planning, to clients in early recovery from substance abuse
- Conducted various forms of counseling, crisis intervention and education
- Provided record keeping, consultation and appropriate referrals as needed
- Counseled clients with a history of domestic violence and HIV

1/02 - 10/04

Licensed Mental Health Counselor Intern

Hibiscus Haven, West Palm Beach, FL

Comprehensive Alcohol Rehabilitation Program, West Palm Beach, FL

Drug Abuse Treatment Association, West Palm Beach, FL

- Registered as an Intern with the Florida Board of Mental Health
- Conducted a minimum of 15 hours of counseling sessions weekly
- Obtained supervision from licensed clinicians
- Completed over 2,000 clinical supervised hours

9/01 - 9/02

Mobil Screening Specialist II

Oakwood Center of the Palm Beaches, West Palm Beach, FL

- Performed preliminary assessment with clients seeking services on an emergency basis
- Provided consultation and therapy to individuals experiencing suicidal or homicidal ideations

- Determined level of care needed and made appropriate referrals within the community

10/00 - 5/02

Program Coordinator/Counselor

Hibiscus Haven, Gratitude House, West Palm Beach, FL

- Provided a strong therapeutic relationship for HIV positive women, living with various mental illnesses, in early recovery from substance abuse
- Developed and implemented policies, procedures and daily activities
- Conducted conjoint sessions
- Provided Family Night group lectures series to clients and family members

7/00 - 9/00

Head Residential Counselor

Upward Bound, Palm Beach Community College, Lake Worth, FL

- Assisted with the development of schedules and activities
- Trained and supervised a staff of five
- Counseled and mentored high school students while monitoring daily activities
- Chaperoned and supervised all cultural, educational, and recreational activities
- Maintained and oversaw operation for all program activities, field trips, college visits and other related experiences

9/98 - 5/99

Intern

Andrews University Counseling and Testing Center, Berrien Springs, MI

- Provided educational, developmental, individual and group counseling, treatment planning and assessments
- Conducted needs assessment surveys and presentations
- Co-led time limited group for women with low self-esteem/self-worth issues
- Provided career counseling to freshmen students

1/97 - 5/97

Intern

Connect: Zimbabwe Institute of Systemic Therapy, Harare, Zimbabwe

- Conducted literature reviews
- Compiled statistical data on the counseling needs of the urban community
- Observed and assessed counseling sessions in progress

1/95 - 5/95

Intern

Newpin: St. Paul's Community Center, London, England

- Assisted as a playroom facilitator
- Monitored children behavior
- Implemented various forms of play therapy

LICENSE AND CERTIFICATIONS

1/06 - Present	Distance Credentialed Counselor	# 00287
10/04 - Present	Licensed Mental Health Counselor, FL	# MH 8116
1/00 - Present	National Certified Counselor	# 56695

PUBLICATIONS:

- Edwards, N. N. & Lambie, G.** (2009). A person-centered counseling approach as a primary therapeutic support for women with a history of childhood sexual abuse, *Journal of Humanistic Counseling, Education and Development*, 48(1), 23-35.
- Daire, A. P., Torres, J. & **Edwards, N. N.** (2009). Family caregivers: Psychosocial impacts and clinical needs. *Adulthoodspan*, 8(2), 67-80.
- Harris, S.M., Daire, A.P., **Edwards, N.**, Houghtaling, A., & Drake, J. (2009). *Texas Healthy Marriage Initiative – Research Brief 1: Despite facilitator’s challenges with managing group self-disclosure, minority participants value the sharing and self-disclosure from other participants.* Lubbock, TX: Texas Tech University.
- Harris, S.M., Daire, A.P., **Edwards, N.**, Houghtaling, A., & Drake, J. (2009). *Texas Healthy Marriage Initiative – Research Brief 2: Marriage and relationship education group facilitators describe promising practices in program delivery.* Lubbock, TX: Texas Tech University.
- Harris, S.M., Daire, A.P., **Edwards, N.**, Houghtaling, A., & Drake, J. (2009). *Texas Healthy Marriage Initiative – Research Brief 3: Participants in marriage education request attention to sexual intimacy, finances, and the impact of children on marriage.* Lubbock, TX: Texas Tech University.
- Young, W. & **Edwards, N. N.** (2008, October). Scholars mentoring scholars. *Holmes Scholars Newsletter*.

Under Review:

Edwards, N. N., Beverly, M. G., & Alexander-Snow, M. Troubling Success: Interviews with Black Female Faculty. *Florida Journal of Educational Administration & Policy*.

In Preparation:

Edwards, N. N., Daire, A. P., Edwards, D. J. *Marital Satisfaction: Black Jamaicans and African Americans Living in the United States.* *Caribbean Journal of Psychology*.

GRANTS AND EXTERNAL FUNDING:

- Edwards, N. N.** (2009, March). Graduate Travel Fellowship. University of Central Florida, *College of Graduate Studies*. Granted Scholar for \$650.
- Edwards, N. N. & Platt J.** (2008, June). Project GRAD: A School/University Partnership to Support Middle School Students with Exceptionalities and Other Special Needs. *Toni Jennings Exceptional Education Research Institute*. Submitted and accepted proposal for \$4,500.

Edwards, N. (2008, July). Quantitative Methods of Social Research: Using Secondary Data for Analysis of Marriage and Family. *Interuniversity Consortium for Political and Social Research*.
Granted Scholar in attendance for \$750.

Edwards, N. N. & Daire, A. P. (2008, May). Examining the Relationship between African American Marital Health and Depression: Effects of Status, Quality, and Number of Marriages, *Mathematica Policy Research, Inc.*, Submitted proposal for \$10,000.

Edwards, N. N. (2008, March). Graduate Travel Fellowship. University of Central Florida, *College of Graduate Studies*. Granted Scholar for \$650.

REFEREED PRESENTATION/WORKSHOPS

Edwards, N. N., Beverly, M., Shillingford, A., Ngazimbi, E., (2011, November). *Black Female Faculty Success*. Caribbean Regional Conference of Psychology, Nassau, Bahamas.

Burt, I., **Edwards, N. N., Gonzalez, T.** (2011, September). Critically Analyzing a Counselor Education Program through Outcome Assessment: Increasing Student Learning and Improving Program Curriculum. American Counseling Association 3rd Virtual Conference on Counseling, Internet.

Burt, I., Gonzalez, T., **Edwards, N. N.** (2011, September). Addressing the Technology Gap in Counselor Education: Complications and Resolutions. American Counseling Association 3rd Virtual Conference on Counseling, Internet.

Gonzalez, T., Burt, I, **Edwards, N.N.** (2010, March). *Impacting the Success of Minority Youth Typically Underrepresented in Post-secondary Education*. American Counseling Association, Pittsburg, PA.

McCloud, C., Gonzalez, T., Burt, I., **Edwards, N. N.,** Ngazimbi, E., Shillingford, A. (2009, October). *Success of Culturally Underrepresented Doctoral Student Participation in the Holmes Partnership*. Association for Counselor Education and Supervision, San Diego, CA.

Edwards, N. N. (2009, April). *Marital Satisfaction: Factors for Jamaican and African American Individuals*. University of Central Florida, Counseling Conference, Orlando, FL.

Edwards, N. N. (2009, April). *Marital Satisfaction for African American and Black Caribbean Couples*. University of Central Florida –College of Education 2nd Annual Faculty & Student Research Symposium, Orlando, FL

Edwards, N. N. (2009, April). Marital Satisfaction for African American and Black Caribbean Couples. 2009 Graduate Research Forum. Sixth Annual Showcase of Diverse Student Research, Orlando, FL.

Edwards, N. N. Daire, A. P., Carter, T., Edwards, D. J. (2009, March). *Marital Satisfaction: Factors for Black Caribbean and African American Couples*. 8th Annual Psychology Conference, Kingston, Jamaica, W.I.

- Edwards, N. N.**, Daire, A. P., Ngazimbi, E., & Patel, S. H. (2009, March). *African American Marriage: Status, Quality and Clarification*. American Counseling Association, Charlotte, NC.
- Edwards, N. N.**, & Platt, J. (2009, February). *Project GRAD: Getting Ready for an Academic Degree*. National Holmes Partnership, Jacksonville, FL.
- Robinson, S. L., Fleener, M. J., Robinson, E. H., Curry, J., Robinson, E. H., **Edwards, N. N.**, Brown, C. M., Horsford, S. (2009, February). *Emerging Leaders and a Promising Future: A Welcome Session for Graduate Students*, American Association for College of Teacher Education, 61st Annual Meeting, Chicago, IL.
- Edwards, N. N.**, & Shillingford, M. A. (2008, November). *The State of African American Marriages*. Florida Counseling Association, Daytona, FL.
- Young, T., Cunningham, L., **Edwards, N. N.**, Burt, I., & Lewis, S. (2008, October). *Using Mindfulness Cognitive Behavioral Therapy for Relapse Reduction in Depressive Symptoms*. Southern Association for Counselor Education and Supervision, Houston, TX.
- Evadne, N. E., Shillingford, M. A., Patel, S., & **Edwards, N. N.** (2008, October). *Multi-model Approach to Supervision*. Southern Association for Counselor Education and Supervision, Houston, TX.
- Shillingford, M. A, Patel, S., Ngazimbi, E., & **Edwards, N. N.** (2008, October). *Parallel Process: Initial Practicum Supervision Experience of Doctoral Students*. Southern Association for Counselor Education and Supervision, Houston, TX.
- Ohrt, J. H., Ieva, K., **Edwards, N. N.**, Young, T., & Jones, K. D. (2008, October). *Developing a Professional Issues in Counselor Education Course: Perspectives from First Year Doctoral Students*. Southern Association for Counselor Education and Supervision, Houston, TX.
- Ieva, K., **Edwards, N. N.**, & Ohrt, J. H. (2008, October). *Scholarly Writing for the Novice Doctoral Student*. Southern Association for Counselor Education and Supervision, Houston, TX.
- Edwards, N. N.** (2008, March). *Counseling in International Countries*. American Counseling Association, Honolulu, HI.
- Edwards, N. N.**, Patel, S., & Young, T. (2008, March). *Using Person Centered Therapy to Support Women with a History of Childhood Sexual Abuse*. American Counseling Association, Honolulu, HI.
- Robinson, S. L., Fleener, M. J., Robinson, E. H., Curry, J., Robinson, E. H., **Edwards, N. N.**, & Lopez, A. (2008, February). *Emerging Leaders and a Promising Future: A Welcome Session for Graduate Students*, American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education, New Orleans, LA.
- Shillingford, M. A., **Edwards, N. N.**, Patel, S., & Ngazimbi, E. E. (2008, February). *The Role of Anxiety in Teacher Burnout and Attrition*, American Association of Colleges for Teacher Education, New Orleans, LA.

Crawford, F., Blackman, O., **Edwards, N. N.**, Ngazimbi, E. E, Shillingford, A., & Patel, S. (2008, February). *Is Teacher Professional Development Overused in the Attempt to Bring about Large-scale Reform?* National Holmes Partnership, Orlando, FL.

Edwards, N. N., Platt, J., & Johnson, G. K. (2007, October). *UCF Holmes Scholars Benchmarks*, National Holmes Partnership, Orlando, FL.

Edwards, N. N. (2007, November). *Using Person Centered Therapy to Support Women with a History of Childhood Sexual Abuse*, Florida Counseling Association, Daytona, FL.

Edwards, N. N., & Rucker, N., Saliba, Y. (2005, November). *Uncovering Your "Stuff,"* Florida Counseling Association, Orlando, FL.

Edwards, N. N., (2001, September). *Incorporating Your Spiritual Beliefs into the Workplace*, Syracuse University, Coming Back Together VI, Syracuse, NY.

Edwards, N. N., (1998, October). *Transforming Acting-Out Behavior (TAB)*, Michigan Counseling Association, Grand Rapids, MI

INVITED WORKSHOPS/PRESENTATIONS

Edwards, N. N. (2011, November). *Moving Forward with Christ*. Women's Conference, Norfolk, VA.

Edwards, N.N. (2011, October). *The Five Love Languages*. Seventh Day Adventist Church of the Oranges, Orange, NJ.

Edwards, N.N. & Burt, I. (2011, July). *The Effective use of the Internet and Social Network sites*. Presbyterian Church of St. Albans, St. Albans, NY.

Edwards, N.N. & Burt, I. (2011, February). *The Effect of the Internet and Social Network on Dating Relationships*. Presbyterian Church of St. Albans, St. Albans, NY.

Edwards, N. N. (2011, January). *Post Combat Risk Taking Behavior*. Shingle Creek Resort, Orlando, FL.

Edwards, N. N. (2010, November). *The Art of Communication*, Shingle Creek Resort, Orlando, FL.

Edwards, N. N. (2010, August). *Living a Satisfying Life in Christ*, Royal Palm Church, Royal Palm Beach, FL.

Edwards, N. N. (2010, April). *Children and Separation Issues of Deployment*, Lunch and Learn, Little Rock Air Force Base, Little Rock, AR.

Edwards, N. N. (2010, April). *A Guide for Helping Children Manage Anger*, Lunch and Learn, Little Rock Air Force Base, Little Rock, AR.

Edwards, N. N., Serrano, B., & Piccard, J. (2008, April). *A Parent's Perspective to Approaches and Therapies for Children of Autism*, TENFEE, Orlando, FL.

Edwards, N. N., & Ohrt, J. (2007, October). *Theories of Counseling*. University of Central Florida, Orlando, FL.

Edwards, N. N., (2007, October). *The Process of Grief*, Florida Hospital College of Health Sciences, Orlando, FL.

Auguste, P., Reid, C., **Edwards, N. N., & Rucker, N.** (2006, August). *Domestic Violence*, Maranatha SDA, Orlando, FL

Edwards, N. N. & Rucker, N. (2006, June). *Eating Disorders*, Maranatha SDA, Orlando, FL.

Edwards, N. N. & Rucker, N. (2006, May). *Teen Suicide*, Maranatha SDA, Orlando, FL.

Edwards, N. N. (2006, February). *Uncovering Your "Stuff,"* Ephesus SDA, West Palm Beach, FL.

Edwards, N. N. (2006, February). *A Single Cause*, Ephesus SDA, West Palm Beach, FL.

Edwards, N. N., & Rucker, N. (2005, October). *Helping Children Heal from Divorce*, Miami Temple Church, Miami FL.

Edwards, N. N., & Rucker, N. (2005, October). *Helping Children Heal from Divorce*, Florida Hospital Church, Orlando, FL.

Edwards, N. N. (2005, September). *Interpersonal Relationships*, Florida Hospital College of Health Sciences, Orlando, FL.

Edwards, N. N. (2005, July). *The Process of Grief*, Florida Hospital College of Health Sciences, Orlando, FL.

Edwards, N. N. (2004, July). *Challenges of College*, Palm Beach Community College, Lake Worth, FL.

Edwards, N. N., & Gutzmore, C. (2004, May). *Breaking Down Barriers: Forgiveness*, Ephesus SDA Church, West Palm Beach, FL.

Edwards, N. N. (2002, June). *What is Dating?*, Ephesus, SDA Church, West Palm Beach, FL.

Edwards, N. N. (2001, November). *Am I The One?*, Hope SDA Church, Bloomfield, CT.

Edwards, N. N. (2001, November). *The Youth of Today and Their Needs*, Ephesus SDA Church, West Palm Beach, FL.

Edwards, N. N. (2000, July). *Color Code*, First SDA Church of Royal Palm, Royal Palm Beach, FL.

Edwards, N. N. (1999, October). *Who is He*, Andrews University, Berrien Springs, MI.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE AND OFFICES HELD

06/10 – 3/11	ACA New Orleans Project <i>Committee Member</i>
11/09 – Present	Hosea Feed the Hungry <i>Volunteer</i>
6/07 - Present	South Eastern Conference Sexual Assault <i>Consultant</i>
3/02 - Present	Mentor
11/07 – 08/09	Florida Association of Marriage and Family Counseling <i>Student Representative</i>
6/07 – 08/09	Mothers of Incarcerated Sons Inc. <i>Volunteer</i>
11/05 – 08/09	Florida Association for Multicultural Counseling and Development <i>Treasurer</i>
5/08 - 8/08	ACA Northern Illinois University <i>Pro Bono Crisis Counselor</i>
6/07 - 12/07	ACA Virginia Tech <i>Pro Bono Crisis Counselor</i>
3/02 - 5/04	Voices of Youth <i>Mentoring Chairperson</i>
5/00 - 12/03	Center for Information and Crisis Counselor <i>Volunteer</i>

PROFESSIONAL SERVICE AFFILIATION

2/09 - Present	Chi Sigma Iota
4/08 - Present	American Business Women's Association
3/05 - Present	American Counseling Association
9/97 - Present	National Association of Negro Business and Professional Women's Club Inc.
9/97 - Present	Who's Who among Students in American Colleges and Universities
1/09 – 08/09	Counselor Education Department Student Organization
10/06 – 08/09	UCF Holmes Scholars Program
6/07 – 11/08	Florida Association for Counselor Education and Supervision
6/07 – 11/08	Florida Association for Spiritual, Ethical and Religious Values in Counseling
6/07 – 11/08	Florida Career Development Association
7/05 – 11/06	Metropolitan Orlando Urban League Young Professionals
3/05 – 11/06	American College Counseling Association
3/05 – 11/06	Association for Spiritual Ethical, and Religious Values in Counseling
3/05 – 11/08	Florida Counseling Association
3/05 – 11/07	Florida School Counseling Association
3/05 – 11/07	Florida Association of Counselor Education and Supervision
3/01 - 7/02	Palm Beach County HIV Care Council
1/01 - 7/02	Community Planning Partnership

RESEARCH INTERESTS

Marriage and family relations
Couple relationships

Marriage education
Distance counseling
Underrepresented populations

LANGUAGE:

Bilingual Spanish (Moderate reading and writing ability)