

ValaRay J. Irvin

ValaRay J. Irvin, Ph.D., is the Director and Senior Psychologist of the University Counseling Center at Southern University Baton Rouge, LA. A licensed Counseling Psychologist, Dr. Irvin has worked in the field of college counseling mental health for twenty-eight years; first as a staff psychologist and, then, as a director of counseling services for college students for the last 26 years. She has specialized in women's issues and supports a holistic perspective by integrating mind, body, and spirit concepts in her work. Irvin is also the co-author of a professionally published article entitled "Spirituality as a Modality of Transformation for African American College Women."

Dr. Irvin received her Ph.D. in Counseling Psychology in 1989 from The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Dr. Irvin is also in private practice in her hometown of Gonzales, LA where she is the owner of Transformation, Inc., a Professional Psychology Corporation. Her goal of therapy as she engages others is always centered on "transforming thoughts and behaviors in order to transform lives." Her volunteer work includes serving as a senior Site Visitor for the International Association of Counseling Services (IACS) which is the accrediting agency for college counseling centers nationally and internationally. Dr. Irvin also serves as a member of IACS' Advisory Council. Outside of her professional life, she is an active member of the Greeters Committee in her church, and a member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc., Phi Sigma Omega Chapter in Gonzales, LA. In her spare time she enjoys traveling within as well as outside of the U.S. She is the eighth of nine children born to both biological parents, and she enjoys wonderful and intimate relationships with a number of nieces, nephews, and great-nieces and nephews.