

JAMES NATHAN SELLS, Ph.D.

Rosemary Scotti Hughes Endowed Chair of Psychology, Counseling and Christian Thought

Licensed Psychologist; VA 0810004174

Professor.

School of Psychology and Counseling

Regent University

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EDUCATION

DOCTOR OF PHILOSOPHY: 1993

Counseling Psychology (APA-accredited program)

Rossier School of Education

University of Southern California,

Los Angeles, CA

Specialties: clinical supervision, marriage/family therapy, men's issues

Dissertation: "The Relationship Between Supervisor and Trainee Gender and Their Interactional Behavior"

Internship: Illinois State University Counseling Center (APA-accredited program) (1992-93)

MASTER OF SCIENCE IN EDUCATION: 1988

Counseling

Northern Illinois University

DeKalb, IL

Specialty: Community-Agency Counseling

MASTER OF ARTS: 1984

Educational Ministries

Wheaton Graduate School

Wheaton, IL

Thesis: "Moral Development and Identity Formation in Early Adulthood."

BACHELOR OF ARTS: 1981

Social Science and Secondary Education

Biola University

La Mirada, CA

ADMINISTRATIVE EXPERIENCE

CO-DIRECTOR, CHARIS INSTITUTE

July 2019-present

Co-direct a research institute whose mission is “to bring proven principles and practices in marriage and family care to every willing home, helper and house of worship.” The institute applies advance research methods and psychological science to support the mission of the Christian church in marriage and family services, programs, and education.

HUMAN SUBJECTS REVIEW COMMITTEE CO-CHAIR College of Health and Behavioral Sciences

July 2020-present

Oversaw human subjects submissions for assessment of participant protections. Consulted with students and faculty as to human subject protocols in all research. The HSRC reviewed about 100 submissions each year.

CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION FOR PSYCHOLOGICAL STUDIES,

Board Chair

2022-2024

Vice Chair

2021-2022

Board Member, Counselor Education Representative

2018-2024A

Elected for two 3-year terms by the Counselor Education community within CAPS. Elected by board to serve as vice chair, then as chair.

ASSISTANT DEAN, ACADEMICS

July 2010-2019

**School of Psychology and Counseling
Regent University**

Responsibilities include providing leadership to the School of Psychology and Counseling, to develop new degree and certificate programs to meet the university’s growth initiative, and to assist the dean in performance, budgets, professional accreditation and strategic planning.

COUNSELING DEPARTMENT CHAIR

July 2010-2016

**School of Psychology and Counseling
Regent University**

Responsibilities include administrative oversight of 1 Ph.D., 4 masters programs and numerous undergraduate and graduate certificate programs in the School of Psychology and Counseling. Primary tasks include program development, faculty evaluation, and professional accreditation compliance. As dept. chair I co-directed successful the 2016 CACREP re-accreditation process for four graduate counseling programs.

PROGRAM DIRECTOR

July 2005-2010

**Ph.D. Program in Counselor Education and Supervision
Regent University**

Responsibilities include directing all aspects of the Ph.D. in Counselor Education and Supervision at Regent University. Plan and manage faculty loads, mentor CES faculty, direct program curriculum, oversee student admissions and retention, coordinate program accreditation process such as writing the program self study, direct student evaluation, and manage the implementation of University and School of Psychology and Counseling policy.

PRESIDENT, REGENT UNIVERSITY SENATE 2009-2010
SENATOR, REGENT UNIVERSITY SENATE 2007-2010
Regent University

Elected by the faculty senate to chair faculty senate meetings, to represent the senate and the faculty on the Academic Council, and Strategic Planning Committee, and to speak for the senate and faculty on matters that pertain to academic instruction, faculty issues and university curriculum.

**EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEMBER,
SCHOOL OF PSYCHOLOGY
AND COUNSELING** 2005-Present

Advise the dean on matters concerning the School of Psychology and Counseling, including curriculum, budgeting, student recruitment, admissions, and retention, and the development of current and new programs.

INTERNSHIP COORDINATOR 2002-2004
Ms.Ed. & Ed.D. Program in Counselor Education and Supervision
Northern Illinois University

Responsibilities included evaluating masters and doctoral readiness for internship, coordinated internship faculty, developed on-going relationship with more than 30 internship sites in the Chicago area, hosted a Supervisor workshop and directed site supervisor continuing education.

SENATOR, 1999-2000
Graduate School, Northern Illinois University
Elected by College of Education peers to provided leadership to the Graduate School, Northern Illinois University as a member of the oversight body. Responsibilities included curriculum and research policy compliance.

PRACTICUM COORDINATOR, COUNSELING LAB DIRECTOR 1997-2000
Ms.Ed. & Ed.D. Program in Counselor Education and Supervision
Northern Illinois University

Responsibilities included oversight of the counseling program clinic directing two doctoral level grad students, 5 practicum instructors and 40 masters-level practicum counselors. Responsible for generating clients for the counseling lab, assisting adjunct and regular faculty with operating the lab. Annually, the counseling lab provided counseling services to over 400 clients and generated more than 2,000 hours of individual client contact.

CO-FOUNDER/DIRECTOR

1994-1996

**Amarillo Family Institute,
Amarillo, TX**

Responsibilities included oversight of budget and facilities, establishment and implementation of institute policy, coordination of therapist schedules, and marketing of institute services.

ACADEMIC EXPERIENCE

**PROFESSOR, COUNSELING
ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR**

**2007-Present
2005-2007**

**Regent University,
Virginia Beach, VA**

Taught doctoral courses in Advanced Marriage and Family Therapy and Supervision and Consultation, chaired dissertations, and maintained an active research agenda related to marriage and family, supervision, and international applications to counseling.

**ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR, COUNSELING
ASSISTANT PROFESSOR**

**2000-2005
1996-2000**

**Northern Illinois University,
DeKalb, IL**

Tenured position in the Department of Counseling Adult and Higher Education. Responsibilities include teaching counseling courses in individual and group theory and techniques, psychopathology/mental health assessment, family therapy, and practicum; program and dissertation advising for masters and doctoral students; and research.

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR, COUNSELING
West Texas A&M University
Canyon, TX

1993-1996

Tenure-track position in the Counselor Education Program. Teaching responsibilities included human development, psychological theories, assessment and diagnosis of psychopathology, clinical supervision, counseling techniques and practicum.

TEACHING ASSISTANT**1991-1992**

**Division of Counseling and Educational Psychology
University of Southern California, Los Angeles, CA**

Assisted in the curriculum development, presentation, and evaluation of the following undergraduate and graduate courses: Ethical approaches to self-development, Quantitative research methods, and Student development in higher education.

SECONDARY EDUCATION TEACHER**1983-1988**

Wheaton Academy, West Chicago, IL; Kennedy High School, Anaheim, CA

Taught courses in introduction to psychology, world and United States history, and religious studies; coached men's varsity football and track and field.

GRANTS

Sells, J. N. & Ripley, J. (2024). Mental Health and Ministry Initiative. A grant for 2024 to fund a demonstration project of mental health ministry within church and para-church organizations. The grant is funded by the National Christian Foundation. \$250,000

Ripley, J. & Sells, J. N. (2022-2024). Family CARS Project. Funded through the Religious and Spiritual Competencies Project, funded by the Templeton Foundation. Training mental health professionals in religious and spiritual competencies for couple and family therapy. \$107,295

Sells, J. N. & Ripley, J. (2016) Developing pastoral counseling competencies in China. A Templeton Foundation Grant for \$370,000 (total gifts).

Sells, J. N. (2015). Regent University "Excellence in Service" Award. Given for service innovation and excellence. Nominated by peers in the School of Psychology and counseling. Selected by the University Awards Committee. Presented Spring, 2015.

Sells, J. N. & Ripley, J. (2015). Development of a Relational Virtues curriculum for Families in the Chinese Christian Church. A \$24,000 grant provided by an anonymous family for research into marital restoration in China. Conducted Summer, 2015.

Sells, J. N. & Ripley, J. (2013). Preparing pastors to counseling conflicted couples. A \$10,000 grant awarded by the Huston Foundation.

Beckenbach, J., Patrick, S., & Sells, J. N. (2009). Marital conflict intervention training video. Texas State University, \$6,000

Sells, J. N. Parks-Savage, A., Rehfuss, M., & Underwood, L. (2006). On-Line and traditional masters level counselor training: A comparative analysis. CACREP-ACES and Regent University Research Grant, \$9,000.

Sells, J. N. (2000). Marital Conflict Cycle: Definition and Intervention. Research and Artistry Grant, Northern Illinois University, \$5,000 Summer, 2000.

Sells, J. N. & Giordano, F. (1997). Relationship Restoration: A group intervention in reconciling marriages. Research and Artistry grant, Northern Illinois University. \$5,000 Summer, 1997.

Sells, J. N. (1994). West Texas A&M University Counseling Laboratory. A \$7,000 university presidential award to develop a counselor training lab within the counseling center.

PUBLICATIONS

Books

Ripley, J. S., Sells, J. N. & Chandler, D. J. (Eds.) (2024) Ministering to Families in Crisis: An Essential Guide. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press.

Sells, J. N., Trout, A. & Sells, H. C. (2024). Beyond the Clinical Hour: How Counselors Can Partner with the Church to Address the Mental Health Crisis. Downers Grove, IL: InterVarsity Press.

Sells, J. N. & Ripley, R. (2023). The Marriage Garden: Growing Grace and Harvesting Hope. Beirut, Lebanon: Bible Society of Syria (Arabic Language Version)

Yarhouse, M. & Sells, J. N. (2017). Marriage and Family Therapies: A Christian appraisal, 2nd Edition. Downers Grove, IL: Inter Varsity Press.

Sells, J. N. & Ripley, J. S. (2017). The Marriage Garden: Growing Grace and Harvesting Hope. Beijing, China: ZDL Books (Mandarin language version).

Sells, J. N. & Yarhouse, M. (2011). Counseling couples in conflict: A relationship restoration model. Downers Grove, IL: Inter Varsity Press.

Chapters and Edited Volumes

Munis, E. A. & Sells, J. N (2025). Families and Addiction. In C. R. Williams III & T Houlihan (Editors) Addictions Counseling: Body, Soul, and Spirit. Cogella Press.

- Ripley, J. S, Chandler, D. J., and Sells, J. N. (2024). Establishing Hope Amid the Storm of Family Crisis. In J. S. Ripley, J. N. Sells & D. J. Chandler Ministering to Families in Crisis: An Essential Guide. Downers Grove, IL: Inter Varsity Press.
- Cannedy, M. and Sells, J. N. (2024). Ministering to families facing addiction. In J. S. Ripley, J. N. Sells & D. J. Chandler Ministering to Families in Crisis: An Essential Guide. Downers Grove, IL: Inter Varsity Press.
- Mortimer-Mitchell, T., Overfelt, C., Sells, J. N. (2024) Counseling Ministry within the Church. In J. King & K Ford, Christian Integration in Counseling. Kendall Hunt Publishers.
- Sells, J. N. (2021). Forward. In R. A. Fowler & N. Ford's Grace-based Counseling: An Effective New Biblical Model. Chicago: Moody Press.
- Sells, J. N., Newmeyer, M. D. & Cannedy, M. (editors) (2021). Special Issue Innovations in Christian Mental Health Care and Training. Journal of Psychology and Christianity, 40, pp. 3-88
- Sells, J. N. (2013). The Marital Conflict and Restoration Model: Empirical Evidence for Pain-Defense and Grace-Trust Patterns in Couple Reconciliation. In E.L. Worthington, Jr., E. L. Johnson, J. N. Hook, & J. D. Aten, Evidence-Based Practices in Christian Counseling and Psychotherapy. Downers Grove, IL: Intervarsity Press.
- Sells, J. N., & Hervey, E. G. (2011). Forgiveness and Reconciliation in Sexual Abuse. In A. J. Schmutz (Ed.) The Long Journey Home: Understanding and Ministering to the Sexually Abused. Eugene, OR: Wipf & Stock Publishers.
- Sells, J. (2009). Strategic family therapy. Encyclopedia of Counseling. Washington D.C.: American Counseling Association.
- Sells, J. N. (2003). The fast driving politician and the back seat driver. In L Golden (Ed.) Case Studies in Marital Therapy. 2nd Edition. New York: Merrill/Prentice Hall.
- Sells, J. N. (2000). Marital Group Therapy: Theory and Intervention. In K. Fall (Ed.) Theory and Practice of Group Therapy. New York: Nova Press.
- Sells, J. N. (2000). The fast driving politician and the back seat driver. In L Golden (Ed.) Case Studies in Marital Therapy. New York: Merrill/Prentice Hall.

Empirical Research, Referred Journal Publications Articles Non-Refereed Publications and Book Reviews.

Niewhof C & Sells, J. N. (2025) "Rethinking Care: How the Church Can Meet the Mental Health Crisis" The Leadership. August Publication.

Sells, J. N. (May/June 2025). The Greatest of These. Outreach Magazine, Vol. 24, Issue 3. P. 84-85..

Sells, J. N., Trout, A., Sells, H. C. (2024). He looked worn out. *Christian Counseling Connection* 26. P. 28-31.

Lee, E., Sells, J. N., Newmeyer, M., & Areveson, K. (2023) An examination of attachment to God, individualism, collectivism, and differentiation of self in second generation Christian Korean Americans. *Journal of Psychology and Theology*.

Kansiewicz, K. M., Sells, J. N., Holland, D., Lichi, D., & Newmeyer, M. (2022). Well-being and help-seeking among Assemblies of God ministers in the USA. *Journal of religion and health*, 61(2), 1242-1260. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10943-021-011488-z>

Baraka, M. K., Zaporozhets, O., Sells, J. N., & Goodyear, R. K. (2021). Cross-Cultural Counselling Supervision in Ukraine. *International Journal for the Advancement of Counselling*, 43(3), 320–339. <https://doi.org/10.1007/s10447-021-09434-0>

Sells, J. N., Ripley, J. S., Frain, D., Urh, N., & Wray, K. (2021). The Effectiveness of a Virtue-Based Marital Curriculum to Enhance Intimate Partner Relationality. *Journal of Psychology and Christianity*, 40(4), 317-328.

Sells, J. N., Newmeyer, M. D. & Cannedy, M. (2021). Introduction to the Special Edition. Philip, the Ethiopian, and Us: Casting a Vision for Christians in the Mental Health Professions, *Journal of Psychology and Christianity*, 40, pp. 3-7.

Ripley, J. S, Sells, J. N., Miller, V., Wang, Q., Wen, L., Pui Ting, C. & Worthington, E.L. Jr., (2020) Promoting healthy marriages in Chinese church communities: Survey of Chinese couples' marriages, virtue-based training for leaders, and outcomes. *The Family Journal*, 28, 319-328.

Pui-Ting Lau, C., Sells, J. N., Ripley, J., & Poon, M. (2019). Work-Family Conflict and Religious Coping among Chinese Working Parents *Journal of Psychology and Christianity*, 38, pp. 268-276.

Ruckstaetter, R., Sells, J. N., Newmeyer, M. D., & Zink, D. (2017). Parental Apologies, Empathy, Shame, Guilt, and Attachment: A Path Analysis. *Journal of Counseling and Development*, 95, 389-400.

- Dwiwardani, C., Ord, A.S., Fennell, M., Eaves, D., Ripley, J. S., Perkins, A., Sells, J., Worthington, E. L., Jr., Davis, D. E., Hook, J. N., Garthe, R. C., Reid, C. A., & Van Tongeren, D. R.. (2018). Spelling HUMBLE with U and ME: The role of perceived humility in intimate partner relationships. *The Journal of Positive Psychology*, 13(5), 449-459.
- Sells, J. N & Hagedorn, B. W. (2016). CACREP Accreditation, Ethics and the Affirmation of both Religious and Sexual Identities: A Response to Smith and Okech. Journal of Counseling and Development, 94, 265-279.
- Beckenbach, J., Patrick, S., Sells, J., & Terrazas, L. (2014). The Statement of Us: A Narrative-Based Practice for Enhancing Couples' Preferred Identity. *Journal of Systemic Therapies*: Vol. 33, No. 2, pp. 50-61.
- Patrick, S., Beckenbach, J. Sells, J. N. & Reardon, R. (2013). Justice, Grace, and Forgiveness: Paths to Relationship Restoration. The Family Journal, 21, 146-153.
- Shaler, L., Hathaway, W., Sells, J., & Youngstedt, S. (2013). Correlates of anger among operation enduring freedom and operation Iraqi freedom veterans. *Journal of Military and Government Counseling*, 1(3), 136-151.
- Senyonyi, R. M., Ochieng, L. A. & Sells, J. N. (2012). The Development of Professional Counseling in Uganda: Current Status and Future Trends. Journal of Counseling and Development, 90, 500-504.
- Sells, J. N & Yarhouse, M. (2011) Trends in Marriage and family counseling. Christian Counseling Today, 18, 47-51.
- Sells, J., Tan, A., Brogan, J., Dahlen, U., & Stupart, Y. (2012). Preparing international counselor educators through online distance learning. International Journal for the Advancement of Counselling, 34, 39-54.
- Steiner, L. W., Suarez, E., Sells, J. N., & Wykes, S. (2011). Effect of Age, Initiator Status, and Infidelity on Women's Divorce Adjustment. Journal of Divorce & Remarriage; 52, 33-47
- Bokar, L., Sells, J. N., Giordano, F.G. & Tollerud, T. (2011). The validation of the marital conflict cycle. The Family Journal; 19; 7-14.
- Beckenbach, J., Patrick, S., & Sells, J. (2010). Relationship Conflict and Restoration Model: A preliminary exploration of concepts and therapeutic utility. Contemporary Family Therapy, 32(3), 290-301.
- Beckenbach, J., Patrick, S., & Sells, J. N. (2009). The Evaluation of Participants' Perceptions of Session Impact: Do Counsellors-in-Training, Volunteer Clients, and Extra-Credit/

Class Required Clients View Session Impact Differently? British Journal of Guidance and Counselling, 37. 485-493

Sells, J. M., Beckenbach, J., & Patrick, S. (2009). Pain and Defense vs. Grace and Justice: The Relational Conflict and Restoration Model. The Family Journal, 17. 203-212.

Jones, T., Sells, J. N., Rehfuss, M. (2009). How wounded the healers: Relapse among addictions counselors recovering from substance abuse. The Alcoholism Quarterly, 27. 389-408.

Sells, J. N. (2009). Conversations with Biblical counselors. Journal of Counseling and Discipleship, 2. 36-42.

Patrick, S., Sells, J. N., Giordano, F. G., Tollerud, T. (2007) Intimacy, Differentiation, and Personality Variables as Predictors of Marital Satisfaction. The Family Journal, 15, 359-368.

Giordano, F., Sells, J., & Tollerud, T. (2007). Sexual abuse and forgiveness: A regression analysis. Sexual Abuse 7. 35-49

Sells, J. N., Giordano, G. F., Bokar, L., Klein, J. F., Panting, G., Thume, B. (2007). The Effect of Honduran counseling practices on the North American counseling profession: The power of poverty. Journal of Counseling and Development, 85, 431-439.

Beckenbach, J., Giordano, F., Sells, J., & Tollerud, T. (2007). Sexual abuse and forgiveness: A regression analysis. *Professional Issues in Counseling, Summer*. Retrieved from <http://www.shsu.edu/~piic/summer2007/index.html>.

Sells, J. N., Giordano, F. G., & King, L. (2002). A pilot study in marital therapy; Process and outcome. The Family Journal, 10. 156-166.

Patrick, S., Beckenbach, J., & Sells, J. (2001). Exploring the boundaries between counseling and pastoral counseling. *Professional Issues in Counseling, Winter*. Retrieved from <http://www.shsu.edu/~piic/winter2001patrick, Beckenbach, sells.html>

Sells, J. N. (2001). Purpose, process and product: A case study in marital intervention. The Family Journal, 9. 186-190.

Sells, J. N. & Hargrave, T. G. (1998). Forgiveness: A review and critique of the clinical forgiveness literature. Journal of Family Therapy, 20, 21-36.

Sells, J. N., Goodyear, R. K., Polkinghorne, D. E., & Lichtenberg, J. (1997). Relationship of supervisor and trainee gender to session impact, ratings of trainees, and in-session verbal behavior. Journal of Counseling Psychology, 44, 406-412.

Sells, J. N. and Hays, K. (1997). A comparison of time-limited and brief-time limited group therapy at termination. Journal of College Student Development, 38, 136-141.

Hargrave T. G. and Sells, J. N. (1997).Development of a forgiveness scale. Journal of Marriage and Family, 23, 41-62.

Sells, J. N., Yates, S., Gooch, V., Margo, K. and Granat, G. (1996).The perception of counselor competence and the use of therapeutic touch with children. Texas Counseling Journal, 24, 9-17.

AWARDS

Yarhouse, M. & Sells, J. N. (2010). Family Therapies: A Christian Appraisal. “Book of the Year”. Awarded by the Korean Christian Publishers Association.

Sells, J. N. (2010) Regent University “Excellence in Teaching” Award. Given for teaching innovation and excellence. Nominated by peers in the School of Psychology and Counseling. Selected by the University Awards Committee. Presented Spring, 2010.

Sells, J. N. (2012) Regent University “Excellence in Service” Award. Given for teaching innovation and excellence. Nominated by peers in the School of Psychology and Counseling. Selected by the University Awards Committee. Presented Spring, 2012.

PROFESSIONAL PRESENTATIONS

Kansiewicz, Smith, J. Sells, J. N., Fidler, B., J. (2025) Issues in Counselor Development. Christian Association for Psychological Studies, Atlanta, GA. March, 2025

Luna, V., Sells, J. N. Beretta, R. (2024). Implementing a U.S. Virtue-Based Relational Program with Peruvian couples in their faith communities Presentation for the NBCC Digital Conference: “Mental Health Connections: Fostering Community, Propelling Peace” December, 2024.

Sells, J.N., & Trout, A (2024) Beyond the clinical hour: How counselors can partner with the church to address the mental health crisis. Christian Association for Psychological Studies, Atlanta, GA. March, 2024

Ripley, J., Sells, J.N., Battaglini, L., Smith, R., Haught, S. (2024) How to talk about God in training: Principles of leading religion/spirituality diversity training groups. Christian Association for Psychological Studies, Atlanta, GA. March, 2024

Kansiewicz, K., Hoover, J. Ripley, J., Temple, M. & Sells, J. (2024) Empowering clergy to live well: Lessons from a new study of Baptist pastors and their spouses. Christian Association for Psychological Studies, Atlanta, GA. March, 2024

Sells, J. N. & Ripley, J. (2023). Grace Together and Loyal Love: Marital Renewal Models for Counseling and Ministry. A Pre-Conference workshop. American Association of Christian Counselors World Conference, Nashville, TN.

- Ripley, J. & Sells, J. N. (2023). Grace Together and Loyal Love: Treatment Models to Challenge Conflict and Create Intimacy in Marriage. A Conference Break-out Session. American Association of Christian Counselors World Conference, Nashville, TN.
- Sells, J. N. Family Therapy and Trauma Interventions. Invited address to Syrian mental health professionals sponsored by the Bible Society of Syria, August, 2023, Beirut, Lebanon.
- Ripley, J. S., Sells, J. S, Saunders, M., Kent, V. (2023). Family CARS: Spirituality & Religious Competency in Couple & Family Therapy. Christian Association for Psychological Studies, Louisville, KY, March. 2023
- Sells, J. N. Ripley, J. S, Saunders, M., Kent, V. (2023). Spirituality & Religious Competency in Couple & Family Therapy: A Research Model and Preliminary Findings International Marriage and Family Conference. St. Petersburg, FL, Feb. 2023
- Beckenbach, J. Sells, J. N. & Patrick, S. (2023). Relational Conflict Reconciliation Model: Practices of Relational Grace. International Marriage and Family Conference. St. Petersburg, FL, Feb. 2023
- Sells, J. N. & Ripley, J. (2021). Grace Together and Loyal Love: Treatment Models to Challenge Conflict and Create Intimacy in Marriage. A pre-conference workshop presented at the American of Christian Counselors Conference, Orlando, FL. September, 2021.
- Sells, J. N. & Ripley, J. (2021). Grace Together and Loyal Love: Marital Renewal Models for Counseling and Ministry. Presented at the American of Christian Counselors Conference, Orlando, FL. September, 2021.
- Sells, J. N. & Ripley, J. (2021). Using community strategies to improve marriage: Counseling, psychology and church collaborations. Presented at the Christian Association for Psychological Studies. Virtual Conference. March, 2021.
- Trout, A. & Sells, J. N. (2021). The articulation of Christian mental healthcare: New meaning. new methods. new ministries. Presented at the Christian Association for Psychological Studies. Virtual Conference, March, 2021.
- Sells, J. N.; Trout, A., & Suk, T. (2020). Innovative models of counseling care. Presented at the Christian Association for Psychological Studies. Atlanta, GA, March, 2020.
- Sells, J. N. & Beckenbach, J. (2020). Grace, Justice, Forgiveness and Trust: Clinical Challenges in the Path to Relationship Restoration. Pre-Conference workshop, IAMFC Annual Conference. New Orleans, LA, January, 2020
- Sells, J. N. (2020). Understanding relational systems: Foundations of family therapy. Invited address to Syrian mental health professionals sponsored by World Relief and the Syrian Bible Society, October, 2020, Beirut, Lebanon.

- Sells, J. N. & Ripley, J. (2019). Staying in the furnace—without getting burned: Strategies of Grace and Hope in Marital Conflict Counseling, American Association of Christian Counselors World Conference, Nashville, TN
- Sells, J. N.; Ripley, J., Miller, V., Wang, Q., Pui-ting, C., Wen, L., & Montiel, L., (2018). Promoting Healthy Marriages in Chinese Church Communities: Needs assessment, outcomes and implications for marital intervention. Oxford Family Institute, Oxford UK.
- Sells, J. N. (2018, April). Offering salt to a low-sodium culture and light to a disphotic church: A place for CAPS between the secular and the sacred. Plenary address. Christian Association for Psychological Studies Annual Conference, Norfolk, VA.
- Sells, J. N. & Ripley, J. S. (2017). The Marriage Garden: Growing Grace and harvesting Hope. American Association of Christian Counseling World Conference, Nashville, TN.
- Ruckstaetter, R., Sells, J. N (2017). Parental Apologies, Empathy, Shame, Guilt, and Attachment American Association of Christian Counseling World Conference, Nashville, TN.
- Hendrickson, R. Headly, K. Sells, J. N., Kocet, M., O'Brien, E.,& Linde, L. (2017). Conservative and Traditional Religious Counselors in Relation to ACA and ASERVIC: A Panel Discussion, ASERVIC National Conference, Richmond, VA.
- Patrick, S. J., Beckenbach, J.; Sells, J. N. Hagedorn, B. H., Smith, L. C., Okech, J., Goodrich, K., Aquino Sosa, G. (2017). The Intersections of Religion and Sexual Identity: A Conversation on Ethics. Learning Institute, American Counseling Association Conference, San Francisco, CA. March, 2017.
- Sells, J. (2015) Turning Stalemates to Soulmates: Counseling the Highly Conflicted Couple from Impasse to Intimacy. A workshop presented at the World Conference of the American Association for Christian Counselors, Sept. 24, 2015, Nashville, TN.
- Bufford, R., Sells, J., Cook, J., Emmons, R. (2015). Exploring Grace through the Lens of Psychology. Workshop presented at the Annual Conference of the Christian Association for Psychological Studies, Boulder, CO, 2015.
- Romig, C., Holeman, T., Sells, J., Frye, T., & Duba Sauerheber, (2015). Handling Values Conflicts with Clients: Best Practices When Referral is Not an Option. Symposium presented at the Annual Conference of the Christian Association for Psychological Studies, Boulder, CO, 2015.
- Sells, J. N. (2014) CACREP accreditation, Faith-based Intuitions and Religious Minorities. Symposium participant, American Counseling Association Conference, Honolulu, HI, March, 2014.
- Sells, J. N. (2013). The Marital Garden: Weeding Conflict & Cultivating Trust

American Association of Christian Counselors, World Conference, Nashville, TN, Sept. 2013.

Sells, J. N. & Yarhouse, M. (2012). Counseling Couples in Conflict: Using the Relationship Restoration Model in Clinical Practice. Workshop presented at the Annual Conference of the Christian Association for Psychological Studies, Washington, D.C. Spring, 2012.

Ripley, J., Sells, J., Dwiwardani, C., Hargrave, T., Hook, J., Davis, D. (2012). Phronesis and the Marriage Relationship. Workshop presented at the Annual Conference of the Christian Association for Psychological Studies, Washington, D.C. Spring, 2012.

Sells, J. N. & Yarhouse, M. (2011) Counseling Couples in Conflict. A pre-conference workshop presented at the American Association of Christian Counselors, World Conference, Nashville, TN, September, 2011.

Sells, J. N. (2011). From Cyclical Conflict to Marital Intimacy: The Role of Relational Grace. Distinguished Scholar invited address. Marriage and Family Track, Christian Association for Psychological Studies Annual Conference, Indianapolis, IN, March, 2011.

Morgante, C., Ripley, J. & Sells, J. N. (2011). Grace and Trust in Couples Therapy. Poster presentation, Christian Association for Psychological Studies Annual Conference, Indianapolis, IN March, 2011.

Sells, J. N., Kennedy, J. F. & Suarez, E. (2011). : Counselor Education in the Digital Age: Evidence, strategies and tools for counselor preparation. Christian Association for Psychological Studies, Indianapolis, IN, March, 2011.

Sells, J. N. & Yarhouse, M. (2010). A discussion with CACREP and APA regarding the accreditation of faith-based mental health programs. A symposium presented at the Christian Association for Psychological Studies, Kansas City, KS, April, 2010.

Yarhouse, M. & Sells, J. N. (2009). Christianity and family therapy: Integration challenges and opportunities. Presented to the American Association of Christian Counselors, Nashville, TN September, 2009.

Yarhouse, M. & Sells, J. N. (2009). Christianity and family therapy: Integration challenges and opportunities. Presented to the Christian Association for Psychological Studies, National Conference, Orlando, FL, April, 2009.

Sells, J. N.; Tan, A., & Dahlen, U. (2008). Training world counselors: Developing curriculum for international contexts. Presented at the Southern Association of Counselor Education and Supervision, Houston, TX, October, 2008.

- Sells, J. N. & Kennedy, J. F. (2008). When Answering the Call is Long Distance: On-line Counselor Education. Presented at the Southern Association of Counselor Education and Supervision, Houston, TX, October, 2008.
- Patrick, S., Beckenbach, J. & Sells, J. N. (2008). The training of counselors in marital conflict intervention. Presented to the American Counseling Association Annual Conference, Honolulu, HI, March, 2008.
- Sells, J. N. Parks-Savage, A., Rehfuss, M., Underwood, L., Suarez, E. Lahey, S., Chesterton, H., & Preffer, Jennifer. (2007). A comparison of on-line and traditional master's counselor training. Presented to the American Counselor Education and Supervision Conference, Columbus, OH, November, 2007.
- Sells, J. N., Nedderman, B., & Vuncannon, J.(2007). International counseling: Notes from the field and principles to comprehend. Presented to the American Association of Christian Counselors, World Conference, Nashville, TN, Sept. 2007.
- Sells, J. N. (2006). *Resiliency, forgiveness, & intimacy in the frame of US*. An invited workshop at Texas State University, Round Rock, TX campus. Sept. 2006
- Klein, J. F. & Sells, J. N. (2006) Investigating the bias in admissions process of master's level counselor education programs. Presented to the Southern Association of Counselor Education and Supervision, Conference, Orlando, FL, Sept, 2006
- Sells, J. N. (2006) Characteristics of Christian Maturity. African Inland Mission Family Conference, Mombassa Kenya.
- Sells, J. N. (2005) Compassion Fatigue: Managing Yourself. A workshop presented at The American Association of Christian Counseling World Conference, Nashville, TN, Sept. 30, 2005.
- Panting, G. & Sells, J. N. (2005). Factors in Honduran gang participation: A mixed methods investigation of incarcerated adolescent gang members. A poster presentation presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Psychological Association, Washington, D.C. August, 2005
- Klein, J. F. & Sells, J. N. (2004) Investigating the bias in admissions process of master's level counselor education programs. A presentation accepted for the Illinois Counseling Association Annual Conference, Lisle, IL October, 2004
- Klein, J. F. & Sells, J. N. (2004) Investigating the bias in admissions process of master's level counselor education programs. A presentation accepted for the North Central Association of Counselor Education and Supervision, St. Louis, Mo.

- Sells, J. N. & Panting, G. (2004). Honduran counseling methods and their implications to multicultural counseling. A poster presentation presented at the Annual Meeting of the American Psychological Association, Honolulu, HI, August, 2004
- Sells, J. N., Bokar, L. Carlson, S. (2004). Understanding and altering a pattern of marital conflict. A presentation to the Illinois Marriage and Family Association Annual Conference, Elgin, IL, March, 2004.
- Klein, J. F. & Sells, J. N. (2004) Investigating the bias in admissions process of master's level counselor education programs. A poster presentation presented at the American Counseling Association Annual Conference, Kansas City, MO, April, 2004
- Sells, J. N., Giordano, F. G. Bokar, L., Klien, J. F., Panting, G., Thumme, B. (2003). Honduran counseling methods and their implications to multicultural counseling. A symposium presentation accepted for the Illinois Counseling Association Annual Conference, Springfield, IL Nov, 2003
- Sells, J. N., Giordano, F. G. Bokar, L., Klien, J. F., Panting, G., Thumme, B. (2003). NIU Honduras Project: An examination of indigenous counseling methods. A symposium presentation at the Midwest Qualitative Research Conference, St. Paul, MN. June, 2003.
- Sells, J. N. (2002). Seminar in Counseling Supervision. An ongoing workshop presented to Honduran mental health professionals over a 16 week period. The project was sponsored by Integra Clinical Services, Iglesia en Transformacion and UNAH (the national university of Honduras). See the portfolio for course outlines and materials.
- Sells, J. N. (2002) Tu y yo: El retiro de matrimonios. (You and I: A marital retreat). A one day workshop sponsored by Iglesia en Transformacion. Presented on March 23, 2002. There were 22 couples in attendance.
- Sells, J. N., Wickman, S. Giordano, F. G., Bokar, L. Klein, J. F. Thumme, B. (2002). Current training and practices in the preparation of North American counselors. An invited presentation to the School Counseling Department at the National Pedagogical University, March, 2002.
- Sells, J. N. (2002). A demonstration of short-term reality based counseling. An invited presentation to the School Counseling Department at the National Pedagogical University, March, 2002.
- Sells, J. N. (2002) El soltero adulto: Caminando con otros (The single adult: Walking with others). A one day workshop sponsored by Iglesia en Transformacion. Presented on April 6, 2002. There were 40 in attendance.
- Sells, J. N. (2002). Current practices in the treatment of Schizophrenia. A lecture presented at the psychology students at the National University of Honduras. April 18, 2002. There were 54 students in attendance.

- Sells, J. N. (2002). The Culture of Counseling: Our Honduran experience. A presentation of the sabbatical to Honduras for the CAHE faculty and invited guests. October, 2, 2002.
- Sells, J. N. & Giordano, F. G. (2001). Understanding and altering patterns of marital conflict. A Pre-Convention Workshop at the American Counseling Association Annual Conference, San Antonio, Tx, March, 2001
- Sells, J. N. & Walters, P. H. (2001). Relational injury: Understanding and altering chronic conflict cycles. The 26th Annual National Wellness Conference, University of Stevens Point, Stevens Point WI. July, 2001
- Sells, J. N. Conflict Resolution. (2000). Plenary presentation at the Mental Health Professionals Annual Conference, Tegucigalpa, Honduras, August, 2000.
- Sells, J. N. Marital conflict: Understanding the patterns and creating intervention. (2000). A full day workshop sponsored by the Illinois Mental Health Association, October, 2000.
- Sells, J. N. & Giordano, F. G. (1999). Marital group therapy: Process and outcome research. Paper accepted for presentation at the Annual Meeting of the American Psychological Association, Boston, MA, August, 1999.
- Sells, J. N. & Giordano, F. G. (1999). Falling through the cracks: Marital group therapy, principles, techniques, and training ideas. Poster proposal accepted for presentation at the Association for Counselor Education and Supervision National Convention, New Orleans, LA, October, 1999.
- Patrick, S., Sells, J. N., Beckenback, J. & Beckman-Page, A. (1999) Counseling and Pastoral Counseling: defining the boundaries between ministry and therapy. Presentation accepted by the American Counseling Association Convention, San Diego, April, 1999.
- Sells, J. N. & Giordano, F. G. (1998). Restoring relationships: Forgiveness and reconciliation in marital group therapy. Presented at Annual Meeting of the American Psychological Association, San Francisco, CA, August, 1998.
- Sells, J. N. & Giordano, F. G. (1998). Restoring relationship: Forgiveness and reconciliation in marital group therapy. Workshop presented to the Illinois Counseling Association Convention, Bloomingdale, IL.
- Sells, J. N., Herdon, M., Hargrave, T. G., Gassin, L., & Lusterman, D. (1996). Restoring community: current theoretical models of forgiveness. Chair of a symposium to be presented at the American Psychological Association Mid-Winter Convention, Scottsdale, AZ, March, 1996.
- Sells, J. N. & Hargrave, T. G. (1995). The development of a clinical scale of forgiveness. Presented at Annual Meeting of the American Psychological Association, New York

City, August, 1995.

Sells, J. N. (1995) Relationship of supervisor and trainee gender to session impact, ratings or trainees, and in-session verbal behavior. Presentation at Mid-Winter Convention, Division 29, of the American Psychological Association, New Orleans LA, March, 1995.

Sells, J. N., Hays, K. A. & Lamb, D. (1995) Does time matter: Length and outcome in counseling center therapy groups. Presentation at the American College Personnel Association, Boston, MA, March, 1995.

Sells, J. N. (1994) Supervision and trainee gender role behaviors: A study of interaction. Poster presentation at Annual Meeting of the American Psychological Association, Los Angeles, CA, August, 1994.

Sells, J. N. & Evans, S. (1994). When to receive, when to punt: Assessing emotional and mental health needs in students. Higher Education Consortium of Texas and Oklahoma Faculty Day, September, 1994.

Sells, J. N. & Roberson, J. (1994). Supervision Training: Integrating ethics and philosophy in the development of counselor educators. Texas Counseling Association, Houston, TX, November, 1994.

Roberson J. & Sells, J. N. (1994). Networking in Counselor Education. Texas Counseling Association, Houston, TX, November, 1994.

Nelson, L., Sells, J. N., and Goodyear, R. K. (1993) Gender interactions and supervision. Presentation at Mid-Winter Convention of the American Psychological Association, San Diego CA, March, 1993.

Sells, J. N. (1993). Gender differences in professional development. West Texas A&M University Faculty Colloquia, November, 1993.

Goodyear, R. K., McCormick, K., Roffey, A., Sells, J. N. and Trager, J. (1992) Conducting a joint dissertation project. Symposium presentation at the Annual Meeting of the American Psychological Association, Washington D.C., August, 1992.

Goodyear, R. K., and Sells, J. N. (1991) California psychology licensure: Consequences for counseling psychologists and their specialty. Symposium Presentation at the Annual Meeting of the American Psychological Association, San Francisco, CA.

Goodyear, R. K., Polkinghorne, D. E., Roffey, A., Sells, J. N. Schwartz, S.H., and Trager, J. (1991) "Research practice skills: A neglected area in counselor education". Workshop presentation at the Western Association of Counselor Education and Supervision Conference, San Diego, CA.

PROFESSIONAL MEMBERSHIPS

American Counseling Association	1988-Present
Division Memberships:	
International Association of Marriage and Family Counselors (active)	
Association of Spiritual, Ethical, Religious Values in Counseling (active)	
Association of Counselor Education and Supervision (inactive)	
American Psychological Association	1989-2007
Division Memberships:	
Division 17, Society of Counseling Psychology	
Division 36, Psychology of Religion	
Christian Association for Psychological Studies	1993-present
Counselor Education Community (CAPS board member as The Counselor education community representative)	

EDITORIAL BOARD MEMBERSHIPS

Journal of At-Risk Youth	1996-2000
The Family Journal	2005-Present
Psychology of Religion and Spirituality (ad hoc reviewer)	

CLINICAL EXPERIENCES

LICENSED CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGIST	
Virginia	2009-Present
LICENSED CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGIST	
Illinois	1997-Present
Alliance Clinical Associates Wheaton, IL (1997-2005)	
Marital, individual, family and group therapy. Clinical focus on marital restoration, anxiety, depression.	
LICENSED COUNSELING PSYCHOLOGIST	
Texas	1995-1996
Amarillo Family Institute Amarillo, TX	

Individual, marital, family therapy. Clinical focus on marital restoration, anxiety, depression, and group treatment for somatic symptoms.

STAFF PSYCHOLOGIST

1993-1994

Student Counseling Center
West Texas A&M University, Canyon TX

Individual and group assessment and psychotherapy, crisis intervention, case consultation, and supervision.

APA-ACCREDITED PRE-DOCTORAL INTERNSHIP 1992-1993

Student Counseling Services
Illinois State University, Normal IL

Individual and group assessment and psychotherapy; career counseling; crisis intervention, outreach and education (rape education, multi-cultural training), and supervision in a large comprehensive counseling center.

PSYCHOLOGY TRAINEE / ADVANCED PRACTICUM 1991-1992

Student Counseling Services
University of Southern California, Los Angeles, CA

Field work position in an APA-accredited university counseling center. Responsibilities included individual psychotherapy and health education instruction.

PSYCHOLOGY ASSISTANT / TRAINEE

1990-1991

Family Practice Clinic
Kern County Medical Center, Bakersfield, CA

Field work position in a county hospital.
Responsibilities included psychological assessment, individual, group, and family therapy, and psychological consultation to resident physicians.

FAMILY THERAPIST

1988-1989

Circle Family Care
Chicago, IL

Led therapy sessions for adolescents, adults, couples, and families; conducted group therapy and seminars for abusing parents, married couples in an urban family agency.

PROFESSIONAL LICENSES AND CERTIFICATIONS

Licensed Psychologist

State of Virginia, 2009.

State of Illinois, 1997.

State of Texas, 1995. (in-active)

Licensed Professional Counselor

State of Texas, 1994 (inactive)