

Lily Rose N Mlisa PhD

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Education

University of Fort Hare (collaboration with Harvard), East London, South Africa Master's in Public Health (Albertina Sisulu Fellowship Program) Faculty of Health Sciences	04/ 01/ 2004 -09 /2019
University of Free State, Free State, South Africa (SA) Doctor of Philosophy (African Studies) Centre for African Studies	03/2005 -09/2009
University of Fort Hare, Alice, SA Theology- Honors Degree Department of Theology	01/ 1999- 12/1999
University of Port Elizabeth, Port Elizabeth. SA Masters in Clinical Psychology Psychology Clinic	01/1993- 05 /1995
University of Port Elizabeth, Port Elizabeth, Honors In Psychology Psychology Clinic	01/1991- 12/1992
University of South Africa (UNISA) SA Bachelor of Arts (Majors, Sociology and Psychology)	01/1987- 05/1991
UNISA, SA Community Health Nursing Science 11 Areas of expertise: Health visiting; School District Nursing; Occupational Health Nursing; Child and Mother Care.	01/1986-05/1987
UNISA, SA Bachelor of Arts in Nursing Science Majors: Nursing Education and Nursing Administration Merit Award: 3 Distinctions	01/1983-05/1987

Research and Career Interests

Multi and Transdisciplinary research interests on: Indigenous Knowledge Systems; African Traditional Religious studies; and Spirituality; Gender Based violence, children, youth, LGBTI and adults; LGBTI care and services; Indigenous Knowledge systems management and care; Community health care and development HIV prevention interventions. Action Research and trans-disciplinary; HIV care interventions • International research and interventions with academic scholars and communities • stigma • qualitative methods • mixed methods • youth development • community-based participatory research • Youth development. Traditional healing, integrative medicine and integrative psychotherapeutic strategies. Trans-disciplinary research: food security, agriculture and rangeland management. Trans and multi-disciplinary research and Associate Professorship Mentoring of junior researchers; Post –Doctorates and External examiner on post graduate level

Research Experience

2025

2025 : **Member of International Union of Anthropological and Ethnological Sciences (Japan Commission), Kyoto, Japan.**
2023- 2027 Action research through community development funded by Department of Social Development for Social Behavior Change and Environmental structural change with six schools in Sakhisizwe Local municipality, Chris Hani district, Cala. The main purpose is improving behaviors for the reduction of risky life behaviors. There is a strong possibility for a 3-year cycle term (may be up to 2027). Grant amount, R750 000 on annual basis.

2018 – to date- continuous Project: Project coordinator: Traditional healers and Analytic Jungian Analysts interactive dialogue on possibilities

	of integrative psychotherapies, currently known as Rainbow Therapy in Cape Town, South Africa. South Africa and Zurich collaboration. Sponsored fund:
2018 – 2019	Project leader: initiating first interactive dialogue between the Traditional healers and Jungian Analysts at Hosgback Collaboration between myself and Professor Peter Ammann in Zurich.
2017-2017	Project Manager: Community home based care health care service and house-hold inventory at ward 6 Sakhisizwe Chris Hani district Eastern Cape Province, South Africa. US. PEPFAR fund
2016 -2016	Principal recipient of the National Research Fund-KIC in a Promoting International Sustainable Global Knowledge Transfer Networks on Population Health, Community Resilience and Education" project to host a Senior Research Fellow from The MS University of Baroda in Gurataj, India
2016- 2016	Hosted Western Michigan University Professor with group of Students from Public Health Department for review on HIV AIDS management in South Africa and Traditional Health Practitioners role in managing HIV AIDS in South Africa. Sponsored by Western Michigan University and University of Fort Hare
2016 -2016	Grant recipient of University of Fort Hare, Govan Mbeki Research and Education Centre to organize a Panel group Research on Dwelling in Africa: African Religions as part of an integral African Landscape for a conference to be hosted at Ife Ife University in Nigeria.
2016- 2016	Recipient of Zurich funding sponsor to coordinate a workshop in South Africa for an interactive dialogue between the Jungian Analysts and Traditional Health Practitioners at Hogsback, Eastern Cape, South Africa.
2016 – 2017	Principal Investigator community based project on baseline house-hold inventory investigation health related matters needing prior health care intervention at the Tsengiwe Village, Cala in Chris Hani District, EC, SA. University of Fort Hare MRDC Fund
2016 – 2016	Recipient of research grant to host international academic exchange collaborations with diverse senior researchers funded by University of Fort Hare, DMRDC
2015 – 2015	Hosted Hosted Western Michigan University Professor with group of Students from Public Health Department, for review on HIV AIDS management in South Africa and Traditional Health Practitioners role in managing HIV AIDS in South Africa. Sponsored by Western Michigan University and University of Fort Hare
2014 2017	Independent Researcher on Literature review study on secrets that kill: reflections on violation of cultural rights enshrined in the constitution and human rights through traditional circumcision.
2014 -2017	Project Manager, First Things First HIV AIDS program strengthening institutions of Higher Learning in South Africa. National Department of Education-Higher Education AIDS Program fund (HEAIDS).
2014- 2017	Principal Investigator on Traditional Healers in transition, an international research project on IKS practices with Universities of MS of Baroda and Mt Abu World Spiritual, in India and University of Fort Hare: N Research Fund
2013 – 2019	Project Manager: Indigenous Knowledge Systems National Recordal system in the Eastern Cape Province, South Africa. Department of Science and Technology, National Indigenous Knowledge System Office
2013 – 2016	Co-Investigator in a research collaboration on bio-prospecting, innovative and commercialization processes of Traditional medicinal plants, with Walter Sisulu University and Tsengiwe Community,Cala. N R Foundation Fund
2011 – 2016	Recipient of Honorary Research Associate position at Rhodes University, anthropology department, in South Africa
2010 – 2010	Principal Investigator, baseline research on Data base creation and identifying best practices that could be implemented to integrate or complement traditional healing and allopathic medicine. University of Fort Hare, GMRDC
2009 2010	Co-Investigator in partnership research between University of Fort Hare, UMVOTO company, Cape Town and Department of Science and Technology on conducting a baseline research report on the status of women in STI in SADEC REGION. Department of Science and Technology Fund
2005-2005	Independent Researchers, training of traditional healers in the Eastern Cape Province, National Research Foundation Fund
2005 – 2008	PI projects: Tenacity Against the odds- challenges experienced by Traditional Healers in managing their community assets and healing practices, Tsengiwe village, Tsolo and Ugie, Eastern Cape Province, SA, N R F fund
2004 – 2007	Co-investigator in research project, Directional trends in selected aspects of rural poverty in the Eastern Cape Province: changes during the first ten years of South African democracy. Mellon Foundation Fund
2004 – 2004	Research Associate Fellowship at the Department of Anthropology, Iowa University, USA
2003 – 2004	Research Grant to participate in South African Netherlands Research Programme on Alternative in Research, Quantitative Research, Participative Research, Evaluation Research, Feminist Analysis and Discourse Analysis Developments
2003 – 2003	Grant from National Social Development for Ilitha Project for Victim Empowerment and Survivor protection
2002 – 2005	Recipient of National Research Fund grant in Thuthuka grant program Researchers in Training that led to me Obtaining my doctorate degree
2001 – 2002	Grant recipient of Tertiary Education Institutional Linkages Programme on Mentoring and Student Development Workshop implementation programmes, Department of Higher Education fund.
1999- 1999	Grant recipient from National Research Fund – conference attendance and paper presentation in Norway
1997- 1999	Co-Investigator research on adolescent risk behaviors at high schools in the Eastern and Western Cape, a collaboration between three universities, University of Fort Hare, Western Cape and University of Transkei in South Africa. NRF fund

Work Experience

Research Fellow: University of Free State: 2022 TO January 2027: Participate in Conferences
: Internal Examiner or participate in any assigned tasks
: Annual Publications

Director and Founder: Tsengiwe Development One Stop Centre

- Supervision of qualified Social Workers facilitating The Social Behavior Compendium program
- Conducting Social Behavior Compendium program
- Supervision of placed interns: Social Workers or Psychologists
- *Community Home Based care and sustainability of livelihoods*
- Centre for Indigenous Knowledge systems and African Religious Traditions
- Co-ordinate, monitor home based care intervention projects, monitor and evaluate service delivery
- Conduct relevant action research at community level
- Management of various projects including gender-based violence; LGBTI and youth development projects

Research Fellow **University of The Free State** **2023 to 2027 (renewable)**
Department of Biblical and Religious Studies
Faculty of Theology and Religion
Bloemfontein, South Africa

Research Fellow: **University Of Fort Hare , Alice SA** 02/2017 - 02/2020

- *Psychology Department, Faculty of Social Sciences*
- Supervision of post graduate research projects
- Publications
- External Examiner post graduate research
- Independent Research

Publications

2025 **Two papers in the process of publication**

A. **Beyond the Shrubs: Re-Framing the Seven-Stage Komanisi Model of Ukuthwasa within a Phenomenological Matrix –*Journal of Analytic Psychology/ International Jungian Journal* - finalising the manuscript**

B. Camagu! An *Igqirha's* Journey through *Ukuthwasa* as a Phenomenology of the Wounded Healer Archetype submitted to the International Jungian Journal studies (April, 2026) awaiting response.

C. The Web of Intimacy across denominational churches: A Pastoral-Psychological Analysis of Relational Dynamics and Conjugal Infidelity across diverse denominational – MDPI journal deadline 30 October 2026

1. **Ammann P., Borchardt f., Mlisa L.N., & Ramsden R. 2024. “Rencontrer l’autre; analystes jungiens et guérisseurs traditionnels en Afrique du Sud,” *Cahiers Jungiens de psychanalyse*, 159,p, 71-90.**
2. **Mlisa L.N. 2020.**
3. Mlisa, L.N. (2020). Encountering the other: Jungian analysts and traditional healers in South Africa Part III: The traditional health practitioner's stance and the world view. **Journal of Analytical Psychology** 65(1) 212–215
- 3 Mlisa, L.N. (2019). I am an *igqirha* (healer): phenomenological and experiential spiritual journey towards healing identity construction. *Numen: revista de estudos e pesquisa da religião, Juiz de Fora*, 22 (1): 220-239
- 4 Gxasheka, M., Beyene, S. T., Mlisa, L.N., & Lesoli, M. (2017). Farmer's Perceptions of vegetation change, rangeland condition and degradation in three communal grasslands of South Africa. *Tropical Ecology* 58(2) 217 -228
5. Mlisa, L.N. & Nel, P. 2014. Umbilical experiential knowledge and Indigenous healing praxis in Ukunyanga tradition. *African Journal for Physical, Health Education, Recreation and Dance* 21 (3:2):913-929
6. Solomon T Beyene1, L. Mlisa2 and M. Gxasheka1 (2014). Local Perceptions of Livestock Husbandry and Rangeland Degradation in the Highlands of South Africa: Implication for Development interventions, *Journal of Human Ecology*, 47(3): 257-268
7. Gunya, B1; Mlisa, N.L. 2; Muchenje, V1. (2014.). Seasonal effects on village chicken flock dynamics in the Chris Hani Municipality, Eastern Cape Province of South Africa, *Journal of Applied Animal Husbandry and Rural Development* (7)11-16.
8. Mlisa, L.N. & Nel, P. 2013. Types of Umbilini (intuition) in the “ukunyanga” (Xhosa Divination) Tradition. *Journal of Psychology In Africa*.23 (4):609-614.
9. Gunya, B., Fayemi, P.O., Mlisa, N.L. & Muchenje, V. (2013) : Rural consumer's perception on meat from traditionally slaughtered animals in Chris Hani District Municipality, Eastern Cape Province of South Africa. *Fort Hare Papers* 20 (1): 14-24.
10. Mlisa, L.N. (2013). Intuition as divination among the Xhosa of South Africa. In *Reviewing Reality. Dynamics of African Divination'* by van Beek, WEA & Peek, P (Eds) pp59-82 .Berlin, Lit Verlag

11. 11. Mlisa, L. R. (2011). Publish and prosper: resilience as master factor in the long journey to publishing. Journal of Counselling and Development in Higher Education Southern Africa 1(1) 95-99. ISSN 2225- 42
12. 12. Mlisa, L.N. & Nel P., 2010: Ukuthwasa The Training of Xhosa Women as traditional Healers: Ukuthwasa Initiation of Amagqirha and Identity Construction. Saarbrücken: LAP LAMBERT Academic Publishing GmbH @ Co.KG. ISBN 978-3-8433-7377-7.
13. 13. Mlisa, L.N., Ward, C.L., Flisher, A.J., Lombard, C.J. Bullying at rural High Schools in the Eastern Cape Province, South Africa: Prevalence, and risk and Protective Factors at School and in the Family. Journal of Psychology in Africa 2008 18 (2): 261-268. ISSN 1433-0237
14. 14. Zanele N. Mfono a; Precious Ndlovu b; Lilly-Rose Mlisa c; Sindiswa P. Duma d Directional trends in selected aspects of rural poverty in the Eastern Cape Province: changes during the first ten years of South African democracy. Development Southern Africa, Volume 25, Issue 1 March 2008, pages 37 – 60
15. 15. Selby R and Mlisa L.N. (2007): Naming Children in Maori and Xhosa Families. Womens' studies Journal, 21(2) pp. 20-29. Special edition.
16. 16. Flisher, A.J.; Wild, L.; Mlisa, L.N.; Bility, K.M. & Lombard, C.F. (2003). Covariation between Risk Behaviors In Two Rural South African Communities. Journal of Child and Adolescent Mental Health 2003. 15(2): 89-97. South Africa
17. 17. Chapter Contribution (Chapter11) in “Counselling in Southern Africa: A Youth Perspective” edited by Eugene Van Nieker & Annete Prins: Sandown: Heinemann Publishers (Pty) Ltd. (2001)
18. 18. Chapter contribution (Chapter 12) in Women and Mental Health: A South African Perspective p.230, by Dr Lips Hilary M. The book was published in 1999.

Teaching and presentations

2025 September, 24.: Webinar Presentation **Main theme:** Traditional religions and medical systems in South Africa: Philosophy, practice, identity and interactions with Christianity and the Health Care System. Sub theme: AmaXhosa: Philosophy, , religion, spirituality, Christianity and divination system in the modern times. Kyoto, Japan

2025: 19th August : Theme: Southern Africa: Doctrine, theology and rituals: Cleric on Xhosa. Webinar presentation organized by the Academy of African indigenous Religions, Theology and Arts (AAIRTA), Lagos, Nigeria

2025: February : External Examiner: Master's thesis: University of Johannesburg, Department of Anthropology: Topic: Expressions of spirituality in contemporary South Africa: An ethnographic exploration of Eastern Meditative techniques and Southern African Bantu healing practices in Johannesburg and Cape Town. February, 2025

- **Internal Examiner**, Mini Master's thesis: University of Free State, Department of Religion Studies. Research Topic: UNDERSTANDING OF WORSHIP IN AFRICAN INDEPENDENT CHURCHES: A CASE STUDY OF THE EMMANUEL CHURCH OF GOD IN ZION, 2024.
- **Presented** at the University of Free State, Department of School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences for the first- and second-year students. Topic: on 20th July, 2023. Topic: Influence of spirituality, cultural diversity, and cultural sensitivity within the Health Care environment
- **Conducted a Table Talk** at the University of Free state, Department of Religion studies on the 28th June, 2022. Topic: Intersections between religion, culture and identity. What could be done by students with a calling?
- **Presentation accepted** at an international conference at the University of Free State, Department of Religion studies. Conference on 26th -28th October, 2022: theme - The African heritage: Conceptual images of Africanness at the turn of Coloniality. Presentation successfully made.
- Workshop presentation at The Embodied Jung Conference in The Novacella Abbey, South Tyrol, Italy. Conference date: 8-11th September 2022
- Presented at Table talk on: African Christianity: interface between religion, culture and Christianity on the 29th June 2022, hybrid presentation; At the University of Free State: Department of Religion Studies.
- Attended, presented papers and chaired presentations at more than 50 conferences including 15 international conferences (2004-2019).
- External Examiner (1999 – 2020). For postgraduate students' thesis for various universities – Masters and Doctorate thesis.
- Time on task Lecture (2016-2017). Psychopathology lectures for Honors' Students in Psychology. University of Fort Hare, SA
- Lecture on How Traditional Healers in South Africa manage HIV/AIDS for visiting students from Western Michigan University Public Health program (2015 & 2016). University of Fort Hare, Alice, SA.
- Guest Lecturer (2016). How is HIV/AIDS managed in South Africa Brahma Kumaris Global spiritual university; Mt Abu Global Hospital, Gurataj, India
- Guest Lecturer (2016). HIV AIDS management in SA: Traditional healers and community services including student preparation for community services. The M.S. University of Baroda, Gurataj, India.

- Guest Lecturer-two plenary presentations (on White paper post school Education and on enhancement of Student support and development and success in the transforming Higher Education. Southern African Federation for Student Affairs and Services in Higher Education conference, Durban, South Africa
- Chairing conference presentations at various conferences 2000 – 2014.
- Guest Lecturer (2010). “, A New Alternative Approach to promoting early HIV/AIDS Status Disclosure. University of Free State, Bloemfontein, SA
- Guest Lecturer (2010). Chair PhD panel session for a PhD candidate. University of Free State, Bloemfontein, SA.
- Guest Lecturer (2004). Three lectures: On the healing roles of African women” and that of traditional healers in particular (Class WS201); phenomenological experiences of being immersed into two worlds - Christianity and the ancestral spirits (Students and Staff various faculties); and graduate seminar on research methods: quantitative and Qualitative: ethnographic Writing (Anthropology-530 graduate group). University of Iowa State, USA.
- Lecturer advanced 4 year Diploma in General, Midwife, Psychiatry and Community Health Nursing (1988 – 1991), Charlotte Searle Nursing College, Port Elizabeth, SA.
- Part time Lecturer (1991-1995). Research project supervision and lecture support to 2nd and 3rd year level of Psychology students, Psychology Clinic, University of Port Elizabeth, SA.
- Workshop presenter (1997). Gender based Violence management, national and international management engines and strategies for Student and NGO's , at University of Fort Hare, Alice, SA.
- Guest Lecture (1995). Leadership for Student Representative Council, Walter Sisulu University, Queenstown Branch.

Graduate Supervision and Mentorship

Mentee /Student	Degree	Placement /employment
Dr S. G. Taukeni	Post Doctorate	University of Namibia
Miss Busisiwe Gunya	MA	Lecturer University of Limpopo, South Africa (SA)
M,r Masibonge Gaxela	MA	Lecturer University of Venda, SA
Miss Funeka Somdaka	MA	University of Fort hare, SA
Miss Shaida Pretorius	MA	Social Department, Eastern Cape Province, SA
Miss B. Madayi	Hons. Animal Science	University of Fort hare, SA
Mr S. Mati	MA	University of Fort Hare, SA
Mr M. Zamisa	Hons. Psychology	MA program
Mrs S. Somni	MA	University of Fort Hare, SA
Miss A Gqibityala	MA	Land and Agricultural Development bank of South Africa
Mr S. Molefe	Hons. Communication	MA Program
Mr K. Nkwintya	Undergraduate- Anthropology	Rhodes University, SA
Miss Z. Gobane	Hons. Animal Science	University of Fort Hare, SA
Miss B. Gxotani	Bachelor of Arts	Rhodes University, SA
Miss N. Mpama	BSc.	University of Fort Hare, SA
Miss S. Thotsho	BSc	University of Fort Hare, SA
Miss A. Hlobo	Bachelor of Arts	Eastern Cape Provincial Parliament, SA
Amanda Mlungwana	Bachelor of Arts	Buffalo City Metro Municipality, East London, SA.

Professional Activities

2021- to date Deputy General Secretary/Research Academy of African Indigenous Religions, Theology, and Arts (AAIRTA)

2020 - to date Member of Pan-African Strategic and Policy Research Group (PANAFSTRAG)

2016 Invited and hosted visiting Professor from The MS University of Baroda, India. Research collaboration project on : Promoting International Sustainable Global Knowledge Transfer Networks on Population Health, Community Resilience and Education

2009 - To date Honorary Life Member of South African Association for Counselling and Development in Higher Education in South Africa

2006 – 2009 Founder and Chief Editor of Journal of Counselling and Development in Higher Education

2006 - 2007 SAACDHE: President Elect

2005 – 2006 SAACDHE: Public Liaison Officer

2005 Organize a successful panel for the

2000 – 2016: ICAS Employee Health and Wellness Program affiliate

1995 to 2007: Member, Society for Student Counsellors in Southern Africa (SSCSA) now currently known as Southern African Association for Counselling and Development in Higher Education (SAACDHE)

1993 Assessor, Evaluator and Monitor of Cala University Student Association Programs and to provide recommendations

1993 – 1994 served as a student representative for Department of Psychology (U.P.E.) for the tertiary institutions in the Eastern Cape

1993 – 1994 Assistant in Distance Education project for teacher's development in the Eastern Cape. Collaboration between; Australia and Department of Education in South Africa

Service to professional publications

2026: August: Agenda Journal: ukuthwasa leaving children alone

2026: April AOSIS: MDPI - Aligning Indigenous Health Systems and Primary Health Care for Improved HIV Outcomes Among Youth in Southern Africa: A Scoping Review

2025: Peer Review: Title: The holistic management of menopausal symptoms among indigenous women in the Gauteng Province
Journal: African Journal of Primary Health Care and Family Medicine

2024 - Peer Review: Title: Exploring Youth Friendly Support Services for Teenage Mothers in The Eastern Cape Primary Health Care Facilities for Primary Health Care MDPI Journals.

2019 - 2020 Reviewer Theologia Viatorum: Journal of Theology and Religion in Africa.

2018 - 2019 Reviewer African Health Sciences journal

2006- 2014 Founder and Reviewer Journal of South African Association in Counselling and Development in Higher Education Southern Africa

2013 - 2014 Reviewer for KRE International Journal

2010 - 2011 Reviewer for the SA Journal of Psychology

Other Peer Review services

2016:- Panel organizer and abstracts review for the panel: Pan African Religious conference in Nigeria

2011:- Member of Review panel summoned by Health Professions Council in South Africa to review the centre for psychological services and career development at University of Johannesburg, SA

2007 - Panel organizer and abstracts reviewer panel on Panel was no 66: "Traditional religion and healing in Africa and the role of the inner senses", AEIGIS conference in Leiden, Netherlands, appeared in conference proceedings.

2006 Seminar paper reviewer for publications in ARSC internal journal, University of Fort hare

2003 – 2004 Reviewer for National Research Fund applications for funding approval

Fellowships and various Awards

Currently, Research Fellow: University of the Free State, Faculty of Theology, Department of Religion Studies. Free State. {2022 -2028}

Research Fellow: University of Zululand, Faculty of Humanities and Social Science, Department of Anthropology and Developmental Studies (2022-2024).

Awarded a Complimentary ticket to participate in a virtual conference by South African Association of Jungian Analysts in South Africa, Cape Town – 7th November, 2020 on Possible collaborations between Traditional Health Practitioners and Jungian Analyst Therapists.

Awarded 200 USD by Russian Jungian Analysts Society to present two-session presentation, virtually on UKUTHWASA as a Cultural Trauma, on the 16th and 17th October, 2020

Research Fellowship awarded by the University of Fort Hare, Department of Psychology in the Faculty of Human and Social Sciences. 2017-2020

XXI Congress of the International Association for Analytical Psychology: scholarship recipient to present at the conference in Vienna (2019)

II Global African and Afro Diasporic Religions International and Interdisciplinary Conference scholarship award recipient to present at the conference, Brazil (2018).

Award recipient to present a paper at an International Jungian Conference in Cape Town (2017)

Honorary Research Associate position at Rhodes University: Department of Anthropology. (2011 – 2017)

Prize winner workshop presentation on A New Alternative Approach to promoting early HIV/AIDS Status Disclosure, SAACDHE Conference, Stellenbosch, Cape Town, SA, (2010)

Scholarship Award to attend SANPAD Initiative Research capacity program 2004-2005

UNICEF sponsorship to implement various programs for Children and Parent support at the Premier's office and initiating Child-desks in all organizations in the province, 2003

Sponsored to attend ARHAP Special Colloquium in Pietermaritzburg Initiated by the African Religious Health Assets Programme (University of Cape Town & Emory University, 2003

Tertiary Education Institutional Linkages Programme sponsor to attend workshops on mentoring and Student Development programs, 2003

Merit award Certificate for excellent presentation at a sponsored 5th Biennial Seminar on Management of Development in Africa, Durban, 2001

Merit award for thought provoking presentation: South Africa Student Association Conference, Durban, 2000

Boston, United Presbyterian Church award recipient to support initiations of the outreach community project on GBV , Ilitha at Ezibeleni, Queenstown founded by me,1999

Scholarship award to present a paper at Montreal, Canada 1996