

## Biographical Sketch

Bennetta Jules-Rosette is Distinguished Professor of Sociology at the University of California, San Diego and Director of the African and African-American Studies Research Project. As Project Director, she organizes research programs, symposia, community and youth outreach, and cultural events focusing on Africa and the African diaspora. She received her B.A. (Summa Cum Laude) in Social Relations from Radcliffe College and her M.A. (1970) and Ph.D. (1973) from Harvard University in Social Relations (Sociology and Anthropology). Professor Jules-Rosette's research interests include contemporary African art and literature, semiotic studies of the African diaspora and Black Paris, religious discourse, and new technologies in Africa. Since 1969, she has conducted a series of field studies in Congo (Kinshasa), Zambia, Côte d'Ivoire, Kenya, and France. Dr. Jules-Rosette's major publications include: *African Apostles* (Cornell, 1975), *A Paradigm for Looking* (Ablex, 1977), *The New Religions of Africa* (Ablex, 1979), *Symbols of Change* (Ablex, 1981), *The Messages of Tourist Art* (Plenum, 1984), *Terminal Signs: Computers and Social Change in Africa* (Mouton de Gruyter, 1990), and *Black Paris: The African Writers' Landscape* (Illinois Press, 1998). Her book, *Josephine Baker in Art and Life: the Icon and the Image* (2007), is published with the University of Illinois Press. She is currently writing a book on African art and museum culture in France. Professor Jules-Rosette is on the Board of the National Museum for African Art at the Smithsonian and has served as a consulting editor for *Revue Noire* and *African Arts* magazine. She has also served as President of the Semiotic Society of America (1988-89) and is currently the President of the Association for Africanist Anthropology (2004-2009).