

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT

Created by the [Wright Institute Los Angeles Alumni Association](#) for the WILA Community

We're proud of our alumni! You go on to serve as ambassadors for the excellent training and services provided at WILA. This Alumni Spotlight features distinguished WILA alumni and their reflections on their time at WILA, how being an alumnus has helped shape their career, and how they stay connected to the WILA community.

ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT: Dr. David Laramie

By Lilly Gallay, Alumni Association Newsletter Editor



David Laramie, Ph.D., completed two years of full-time training at [WILA](#) from 2006 to 2008. Since his time at WILA, Dr. Laramie has been very active in the [Los Angeles County Psychological Association](#), including serving as President in 2014 and his current position as chair of the local advocacy network. He is in private practice in Beverly Hills, where he integrates his psychodynamic training with existential, mindfulness, and somatic-based approaches. His clinical interests include trauma, mind-body issues, relationships with technology, and eating disorders.

Dr. Laramie is also a staff psychologist at the [Akasha Center for Integrative Medicine](#) in Santa Monica, where clients with physical health issues receive both western medical care and complementary modalities, including psychotherapy and psychiatry, from a holistic, collaborative approach. He is the creator and facilitator of a popular eight-week men's group called [Power Tools for Men](#) at the Akasha Center, which focuses on stress management, self-care, and work/life balance for male professionals.

Dr. Laramie said recently that, while he aspires to think integratively in his clinical work, the psychoanalytic perspective he learned during his time at WILA is his "center of gravity." **"I realized after leaving WILA that the core idea I took away from my time there is that we're object-seeking creatures, which is actually a polytheoretical idea. I also got to experience that with the people there--with my cohort, my supervisors. That we need each other: that's something that crystallized for me at WILA."**

Dr. Laramie describes himself as someone who thrives on learning opposite perspectives and then discovering for himself the points of intersection. He said he appreciated that at WILA he was exposed to the full range of theoretical camps within the psychoanalytic world. A through-line in his work with patients, whether in his private practice or at the Akasha Center, is following the patient's associations and being curious about their response to whatever technique he introduces. **"Valuing depth and meaning, both personally and professionally: that's what I got from WILA."**

Information about Dr. Laramie's practice can be found [here](#).

INSPIRING, ISN'T IT?

HELP ENSURE FUTURE GENERATIONS WILL
GET THE TRAINING YOU GOT AND THE HELP YOU GAVE.

DONATE "A SESSION FOR A SESSION"

THAT'S IT. ONE

OF YOUR FULL-FEE SESSIONS WILL PROVIDE
EXPONENTIALLY FOR OUR
CURRENT STUDENTS AND PATIENTS!