



**WILLIAM JAMES  
COLLEGE**

**February 16, 2022**



## **MVP and TVTV Newsletter**

*Your newsletter for all important updates related to Military and Veterans Psychology and the Train Vets to Treat Vets Programs.*

**February 2022**

In honor of Black History Month, I would like to bring attention to the contribution of Black and African American Servicemembers and Veterans. According to a 2020 study by Syracuse University, there are 2.3 million black military veterans nationwide and they comprise 16% of the total Post 9-11 veteran population yet 13 % of the total US population and female Black and African American veterans make up 23% of post 9-11 women veterans. Please use this link to access the study summary [https://ivmf.syracuse.edu/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/2021\\_BlackHistoryMonth\\_1.27.21\\_P3.pdf](https://ivmf.syracuse.edu/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/2021_BlackHistoryMonth_1.27.21_P3.pdf).

While their brave and selfless contributions to service are vital to our success as a nation, there is little attention to the sacrifices they make for our freedom. They face higher rates of unemployment, underemployment, homelessness and inequalities upon their return from service. Please take a moment to learn more about the contributions of Black and African American Veterans from these resources: <https://www.blackveteransproject.org/> and <https://www.va.gov/centerforminorityveterans/>

Thanks for your attention to our program and we look forward to continued communication about our work with military and veteran students, community members and those who serve them.

Warmly,

Dr. Jenny D'Olympia

## Announcements

### Upcoming CE Events

#### Women Veterans

**Time and Date:** February 18th 12-1pm

**CE Credits:** 1

**Cost:** Free

This program will be delivered by a woman veteran psychologist and will explore the personal experience, current research related to women veterans, and common misunderstandings and gaps in the research related to women veteran's experience utilizing mental health services.

[Register Here](#)

#### Peer Support: A Vital Component for Recovery-Oriented Care for Veterans

**Time and Date:** March 18th 12-1pm

**CE Credits:** 1

**Cost:** Free

Peer support is a psychosocial intervention used effectively with both veteran and civilian mental health consumers. This supportive intervention bridges cultural differences between providers and veterans and can combat social isolation and instill hope for recovery. This presentation will address the ways in which peer support specialists can act as cultural brokers or translators between all stakeholders. In addition, we will discuss how providers can become more knowledgeable about this intervention so they can appropriately integrate this type of support into their mental health treatment plans with clients.

## Previous CE Events

### Moral Injury

**Guest Speakers:** Dr. Jenny D'Olympia, Psy.D. and Kevin Lambert

**Date:** October 15, 2021

A moral injury is an injury to the soul, which betrays actions an individual sees as just and right. Johnathan Shay, a long-time VA Psychiatrist, coined the term with the original definition as an act committed by one's self or ordered to be committed by a person in legitimate authority, in a high-stakes situation (Shay, 2014). With a moral injury, a veteran experiences incongruence between their actions or the actions of others and their morals and beliefs about the world, leading to an internal dilemma.

[View the Training Here!](#)

### Save the Date - Spoken Words Discussion - "Rape Culture"

**Time and Date:** April 14th, 12-1pm

April is sexual assault awareness month. We are cohosting an event with the Office of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion to bring universal attention to this difficult subject. Please do not shy away and join us to learn how you might be an advocate in this space. This is a problem that we must face as a community if we wish to solve it. Faculty, staff, students, and community members are invited to join us for a presentation delivered by Obbie West through a combination of spoken words and discussion. He is an Army Veteran who advocates for community awareness about sexual assault in all communities. will define "Rape Culture" by addressing the toxic stigmas perpetuated by society and the hazards created by unhealthy definitions to consent.

### Faculty Spotlight - Dr. David Haddad, Ed.D.

Dr. David Haddad is a psychologist,



consultant, professor, and Coordinator for the Counseling Department of the Military and Veterans Program (MVP). His roles combine his interest in meditation and mindfulness practice with skills in Appreciative Inquiry to facilitate work with organizations that support and enhance positive relationships, high team

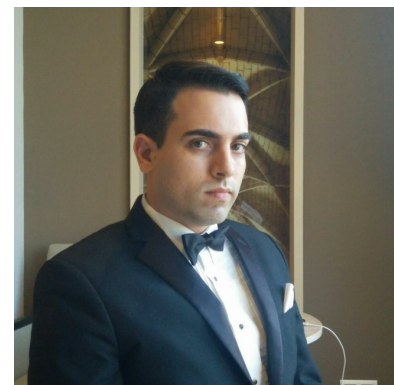
engagement, meaningful work, and expectations for achievement. In over 30 years of practice, Dr. Haddad has helped clients to identify and maximize their individual strengths and resources. He is the co-founder of Appreciative Action, a consulting practice focusing on strengthening the capacity of organizations interested in creating a healthier and more prosperous world community. His work focuses on helping individuals, leaders and communities further personal and organizational goals through self-reflection, leadership development, team building, program evaluation, and training. He consults with health care agencies, community mental health, higher education, and non-governmental organizations (NGO's). Dr. Haddad is a member of the International Positive Psychology Association (IPPA), a Clinical Member and Approved Supervisor in The American Association of Marriage and Family Therapy (AAMFT), and a member of the Taos Institute. Dr. Haddad is also a veteran and worked with Vietnam Veterans as the precursor to today's VA Vet Center.

## **Student Spotlight - José De Ramon**

José De Ramon is a third-year student in William James College's clinical psychology Doctoral Program. José is a reservist in the United States Navy with 6 years active duty, two deployments, and 10 years of cumulative military service. He has a Master's in

Professional Psychology from William

James College and is specializing in treating military and veteran populations, with the ultimate goal to become a military Clinical Psychologist. José has been actively involved in our Train Vets To Treat Vets program for nearly 3 years. He is responsible for bringing our military counterparts to campus



to tell students about available opportunities in the Army, Air Force and Navy as psychologists. He was recently presented an award by the Army Surgeon General in appreciation of his outstanding coordination between our students and their program.

## Contact Us!

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