


History. The Topical Interest Group on Evaluation Use is one of the original TIGs of AEA. It was born of the interest in evaluation utilization in the 1970s, extending into both theoretical and empirical work on use in the 1980s and 1990s, and to a broader conceptualization of use and influence in the 2000s.

Activities. The Use TIG is in the process of developing a website, linked to the AEA TIG homepage and providing more details about the history and leadership of our TIG as well as seminal documents and current resources. We sponsor conference sessions on current theory, research or practice to enhance use, and members interact at our annual AEA business meeting.

EVALUATION USE TIG

OUR MISSION

The Use TIG is committed to understanding and enhancing the use of evaluation in a variety of contexts and to maximizing the positive influence of evaluation through both the evaluation process and the results produced.



Topics of interest to our members include:

- 👁️ The influence of evaluation on systems.
- 👁️ The social change role of evaluation.
- 👁️ Research on evaluation use/influence.
- 👁️ Strategies for enhancing the use/impact of evaluation.
- 👁️ Ethics and evaluation misuse.
- 👁️ Intended and unintended influences of evaluation—both positive and negative.
- 👁️ Research on effective communication strategies.
- 👁️ Theories of use/influence.
- 👁️ Metaevaluation of evaluation impact.
- 👁️ Issues of validity as a property of use.
- 👁️ Effective communication of evaluation results.
- 👁️ Organizational change/organizational learning.
- 👁️ Use-enhancing evaluation methods.
- 👁️ Evaluation as a tool for social justice.
- 👁️ Process use.
- 👁️ Barriers to the use of evaluation.

2007 Executive Committee

Karen E. Kirkhart, Chair

Valerie J. Caracelli, Past Chair

Susan A. Tucker, Program Co-Chair

Emma Norland, Program Co-Chair

Sandy Taut, Member-at-Large

Linnea Betzler Mirsch, Webmaster



Sessions Sponsored by the Evaluation Use
TIG

Thursday, November 8, 2007

Session 304. 9:35 AM to 11:05 AM. International Ballroom D

Title: **Organizational Learning and Evaluation Use at the State Level**

Type: Multipaper Session

Chair: Susan A. Tucker, Evaluation and Development Associates

Evaluations of High School Exit Examinations: What Have We Learned?

Nicki King, University of California, Davis

Using Evaluation as a Management Tool: The Experience of the Tennessee State Improvement Grant Evaluation

Chithra Perumal, University of Kentucky

Brent Garrett, Independent Consultant

Learning From Local Evaluations: How Math-Partnership Project Evaluations Informed State Policy

Helene Jennings, Macro International, Inc.

Nancy Carey, Maryland State Department of Education

Session 339. 11:15 AM to 12:45 PM. International Ballroom D

Title: Models of Evaluation Use and Influence in Social and Educational Services

Type: Multipaper Session

Chair: Dennis Affholter, Affholter and Associates

Supporting the Conditions for Organizational Development: A Case Study Examining the Role of the Evaluator

Cheryl-Anne Poth, Queen's University

Evaluation Influence and Evaluation Utilization: Comparison of Theories and Application to a Case

Mijung Yoon, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Implications of a Case Study for Mark and Henry's Schematic Model of Evaluation Influence

Shu-Huei Cheng, National Hsinchu University of Education

Jean King, University of Minnesota

Session 375. 1:55 PM to 3:25 PM. International Ballroom D

Title: **Building Evaluation Capacity in Youth Serving Organizations for Bullying Prevention**

Type: Panel

Chair and Discussant: Nancy Csuti, The Colorado Trust

Incorporating Evaluation into Bullying Prevention Programming

Ed Lucero, The Colorado Trust

Providing Customized Technical Assistance within a Foundation: Directed Evaluation Framework

Robin Leake, JVA Consulting, LLC

Using Evaluation to Guide Program Related Technical Assistance: The Real World intervenes

Jill Adams, Colorado Foundation for Families and Children

Session 410. 3:35 PM to 5:05 PM. International Ballroom D

Title: **Conceptual and Empirical Advances in Evaluation Capacity Building**

Type: Multipaper Session

Chair: J. Bradley Cousins, University of Ottawa

Discussant: Peter Dahler-Larsen, University of Southern Denmark

Integrating Consequences of Evaluation into Evaluation Capacity Building Inquiry

J. Bradley Cousins, University of Ottawa
Swee C. Goh, University of Ottawa
Catherine Elliott, University of Ottawa

Precarious Balance

Miri Levin-Rozalis, Ben-Gurion University of Negev

Evaluation Capacity Across Organizational Contexts: What are the Patterns?

Swee C. Goh, University of Ottawa
Robert Lahey, REL Solutions, Inc.
Catherine Elliott, University of Ottawa
Jill Chouinard, University of Ottawa
Keiko Kuji-Shikatani, Independent Consultant

A Case Study of a Successful School Evaluation Capacity Building Process

Barbara Rosenstein, Ben-Gurion University of Negev
Pnina Elal-Englert, Ben-Gurion University of Negev

Session 445. 5:15 PM to 6:00 PM. International Ballroom D

Title: **TIG Business Meeting and Open Discussion**

TIG Chair: Karen E. Kirkhart, Syracuse University

TIG Program Co-Chair: Susan A. Tucker, Evaluation and Development Associates

TIG Program Co-Chair: Emma Norland, Institute for Learning Innovation

Open Discussion: *Envisioning the Future of Evaluation Use*

Sessions Sponsored by the Evaluation Use TIG
Friday, November 9, 2007

Session 519. 9:25 AM to 10:10 AM. McKeldon Room

Title: **Lessons From Evaluation Use at the United Kingdom National Audit Office and the World Bank Group**

Type: Panel

Chair: Keith MacKay, World Bank

Ensuring Learning in an Accountability Setting: Lessons from Performance Audit as a Form of Evaluation

Jeremy Lonsdale, United Kingdom National Audit Office

An Empirical Review of the Utilization of Evaluation Knowledge at the World bank

Klaus Tilmes, World Bank

Session 570. 11:15 AM to 12:00 PM. International Ballroom D

Title: **Exploring the Sacrifice Fly Phenomenon in Evaluation use**

Type: Think Tank

Presenter: Emma Norland, Institute for Learning Innovation

Discussants:

Joe Heimlich, The Ohio State University

Beverly Sheppard, The Institute for Learning Innovation

Julia Washburn, National Park Service

Session 603. 1:55 PM to 3:25 PM. International Ballroom D

Title: **Studying Process Use on a Large Scale**

Type: Multipaper Session

Chair: Susan A. Tucker, Evaluation and Development Associates

Evaluation in Post War Countries: Tools and Skills Required

Mushtaq Rahim, ARD, Inc.

Not by the Books: Models, Impacts and Quality in Ninety Evaluations

Verner Denvall, Lund University

Learning From Evaluations in National Governments of Developing Countries: The Case for Sub-Saharan African Countries

Rosern Rwampororo, Ministry of Economic Planning and Development

Rhino Mchenga, Ministry of Economic Planning and Development

On the Value-added of the Evaluation Process: Investigating Process Use in a Government Context

Courtney Amo, Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada

J. Bradley Cousins, University of Ottawa

Sessions Sponsored by the Evaluation Use TIG
Saturday, November 10, 2007

Session 723. 9:35 AM to 10:20 AM. Calvert Ballroom-Salon C

Title: **Get Those Data Off the Shelf and Into Action: Encouraging Utilization Through Innovative Reporting Strategies**

Type: Skill-Building Workshop

Presenters:

Mindy Hightower King, Indiana University

Courtney Brown, Indiana University

Marcey Moss, Indiana University

Session 758. 10:30 AM to 12:00 PM. Calvert Ballroom-Salon C

Title: **Frameworks of Evaluation Use and Empirical Assessments**

Type: Multipaper Session

Chair: Edward McLain, University of Alaska, Anchorage

Investing Stakeholders in the Process of Generating a Content-specific Evaluation

Susan Marshall, Southern Illinois University, Carbondale

Joel Nadler, Southern Illinois University, Carbondale

Nicholas Hoffman, Southern Illinois University, Carbondale

Jack McKillip, Southern Illinois University, Carbondale

An Evaluation Use Framework and Empirical Assessment

Laura Peck, Arizona State University

Lindsey Gorzalski, Arizona State University

The Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI) Benchmarking Initiative: Using Performance Measurement and Benchmarking to Support Organizational Learning

Brigitte Manteuffel, Macro International, Inc.

Sylvia Fisher, United States Department of Health and Human Services

Does Performance Measurement Facilitate Learning?

Leanne Kallemeyn, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Session 793. 12:10 PM to 1:40 PM. Calvert Ballroom-Salon C

Title: **New Developments in Utilization-focused Evaluation: Implications for Learning**

Type: Demonstration Session

Presenter: Michael Quinn Patton

Session 827. 1:50 PM to 3:20 PM. Calvert Ballroom-Salon C

Title: **Case Studies of Evaluation Use**

Type: Multipaper Session

Chair: Emma Norland, Institute for Learning Innovation

Initial Results From "Beyond Evaluation Use": A Study of Involvement and Influence in Large, Multi-site National Science Foundation (NSF) Evaluations

Jean King, University of Minnesota

Lija Greenesid, University of Minnesota

Kelli Johnson, University of Minnesota

Frances Lawrentz, University of Minnesota

Stacie Toal, University of Minnesota

Boris Volkov, University of Minnesota

Case Studies of Evaluation Use and Influence in a School District

John Ehlert, University of Minnesota

Jean King, University of Minnesota

Process Use and Organizational Learning: A Different Perspective—The Case of the World Bank

Silvia Paruzzolo, World Bank

Giovanni Fattore, Bocconi University

Building Learning Communities With Evaluation Data Teams: A Collective Case Study of Six Alaskan School Districts

Edward McLain, University of Alaska, Anchorage





Susan A. Tucker, Evaluation and Development Associates

Diane Hirshberg, University of Alaska, Anchorage

Alexandra Hill, University of Alaska, Anchorage

Fundamental Issues in Evaluation Use

The Evaluation Use TIG takes the following issues as fundamental to the evaluation profession:

-  **Theory of Use/Influence.** What is the nature of “use” itself? Theories of influence or use (language varies) focus on the nature of influence/use as a construct, on types of use/misuse, and on causal pathways of influence.
-  **Use and the Public Good.** What is evaluation’s impact on social justice and other expressions of social betterment? This question merges into ethics and values discussions and the examination of whose interests are addressed in different models of use.
-  **Evaluator Role in Facilitating Use.** What is the necessary and appropriate role of the evaluator in facilitating use? What is the nature of influence that is appropriate to that role? The answers to these questions differ across evaluation models.
-  **Validity and Use.** How can the consequences of evaluative understandings and actions offer evidence of an evaluation’s validity? Since validity has long been understood to reside in the *use* of an instrument or method, the focus on use merges into fundamental discussions of validity in evaluation.
-  **Metaevaluation.** Is the empirical study of use essentially evaluating the evaluation(s)? Whether use/influence is an intended or unintended outcome of evaluation, studying the scope of influence of a given evaluation and factors facilitating use moves into metaevaluation.

THANK YOU

to our members who volunteered their time to review program proposals in creating this year's program!

Susan A. Tucker, Program Co-Chair

Emma Norland, Program Co-Chair

Dennis Affholter

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Maryann Durland

Diane Hirshberg

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Bill Thorton

