**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.
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.
2008 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
Session 123. 4:30 PM to 6:00 PM. Room 107 Convention Center
Title: Contrary to Expectations: When Evaluators Have Bad News to Share
Type: Think Tank
Presenters:
Matthew Goldwasser, University of Illinois, Chicago
Carol Fendt, University of Illinois, Chicago
Mariam Mazboudi, University of Illinois, Chicago

Discussants:
Megan Deiger, University of Illinois, Chicago
Rodney Harris, University of Illinois, Chicago
Esther Mosak, University of Illinois, Chicago
Session 243. 9:15 AM to 10:45 AM. Room 107 Convention Center
Title: Building Evaluation Capacity in Schools: Strategies for Fidelity
Type: Multipaper Session
Chair: Jacqueline Stillisano, Texas A&M University

Increasing the Utilization of Evaluation Findings Through the Disaggregation of Survey Data
Nicole Gerardi, University of California, Los Angeles

Measuring Implementation Fidelity: Implications for Program Implementation and Evaluation
Rochelle Fritz, Miami University
Paul Flaspohler, Miami University

Consequences of Building Evaluation Capacity in Schools: A Case Study of Iteration in Team Development
Edward McLain, University of Alaska, Anchorage
Susan Tucker, E & D Associates, LLC
Letitia Fickel, University of Alaska, Anchorage

Joelle Greene, National Community Renaissance
Susan Neufeld, National Community Renaissance
Yoon Choi, National Community Renaissance
Session 261. 10:55 AM to 12:25 PM. Centennial Section D
Co-sponsored by the Systems in Evaluation TIG
Title: Using Developmental Evaluation in Complex Dynamic Systems
Type: Panel
Chair: Michael Quinn Patton, Utilization-Focused Evaluation

Case Study: Developing the Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program’s Client-Level Data System
Margaret Hargreaves, Abt Associates, Inc.

Case Study: Evaluating USAID’s EQUIP 2 Program for Education Policy, Systems and Management
John Gillies, Academy for Educational Development

Case Study: Improving USAID’s Healthcare Quality Assurance Project
Tessie Catsambas, EnCompass, LLC

Case Study: Fostering Multi-level Systems Change in a Community Mental Health Center in West Suburban Denver
John Mahalik, Jefferson Center for Mental Health
Session 289. 10:55 AM to 12:25 PM. Room 107 Convention Center
Title: Improving Global Results: Getting the Most Out of Evaluation of Global Partnership Programs - Through Intentional Planning, Policies, and Quality Standards
Co-sponsored by the International and Cross-cultural Evaluation TIG
Type: Multipaper Session
Chair: Uma Lele, Independent Consultant

Intentional Evaluation Policy Development, Planning and Budgeting for Global and Regional Partnership Programs: Lessons Learned
Dale Hill, World Bank Group

Adapting Standard Evaluation Criteria to Evaluation of Global and Regional Partnership Programs
Chris Gerrard, World Bank Group

Expanding Financial Services to the Poor in a Rapidly Changing Technological Environment: The Case of the Consultative Group to Assist the Poorest (CGAP)
Khalid Siraj, Independent Consultant

Measuring and Aggregating Achievement of Global Environmental Benefits From Dispersed Small Grants: The Case of the Critical Ecosystems Partnership Fund
Lauren Kelly, World Bank Group
Session 335. 1:40 PM to 3:10 PM. Room 107 Convention Center
Title: How Evaluation Results are Used by Policy Makers in the US and Internationally
Co-sponsored by the International and Cross-cultural Evaluation TIG
Type: Multipaper Session
Chair: Roger Miranda, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

A Longitudinal Study of the Uses of Public Performance Reports by Elected Officials
James McDavid, University of Victoria
Irene Huse, University of Victoria

An Exploratory Study of How Information is Used in the Policy Process by Education Policymaker Staff and Public Administrators
Katy Anthes, The Third Mile Group

Evaluation as Transnational Policy: Evaluation Policy in Swedish Compulsory Education – Its International Influences and National Features
Christina Segerholm, MidSweden University

Use of Evaluations in Dutch Urban Policy
Ger Arendsen, Open University of the Netherlands
Session 427. 4:30 PM to 6:00 PM. Room 107 Convention Center
Title: The Impact of Quality Assurance and Evaluation: Stakeholder Perceptions
Type: Multipaper Session
Chair: Edward McLain, University of Alaska, Anchorage

Can Participatory Impact Pathway Analysis be Used by Evaluators to Engage Stakeholders While Increasing Cultural Competencies of Evaluators?
Alice Young-Singleton, University of Southern California

High Quality Program Evaluation with Unrealistic Outcome Expectations
Courtney Brown, Indiana University
Mindy Hightower King, Indiana University
Mercey Moss, Indiana University

How Danish Teachers Experience the Impact of Quality Insurance and Evaluation Initiatives on their Teaching Practices
Carsten-Stroembæk Pedersen, University of Southern Denmark
Session 500. 7:00 AM to 7:50 AM. Centennial Section A  
Title: Evaluation Use TIG Business Meeting and Presentation  
TIG Chair: Karen E. Kirkhart, Syracuse University  
TIG Program Co-Chair: Susan A. Tucker, E & D Associates LLC  
TIG Program Co-Chair: Emma Norland, e-Norland Group  

Invited Presentation:  
Title: Theory Into Practice: A Dialog on Utilization-Focused Evaluation  
Presenter: Karen E. Kirkhart, Syracuse University  
Discussant: Michael Quinn Patton, Utilization-Focused Evaluation  

Sessions Sponsored by the Evaluation Use TIG  
Friday, November 7, 2008
Session 514. 9:15 AM to 10:45 AM. Centennial Section A
Title: Evaluating A State’s Principal Licensure Standards: The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly of Including and Managing Multiple Stakeholders to Ensure Use
Co-sponsored by the Pre-K – 12 Educational Evaluation TIG
Type: Multipaper Session
Chair: Sharon Rallis, University of Massachusetts, Amherst
Discussant: Nancy Zajano, Learning Point Associates

Opening Act
Rebecca Gajda, University of Massachusetts, Amherst

Act II: Rising Action
Andrew Churchill, University of Massachusetts, Amherst

Act III: Elusive Resolution
Sharon Rallis, University of Massachusetts, Amherst
Matthew Militello, North Carolina State University
Session 542. 9:15 AM to 10:45 PM. Room 105 Convention Center
Title: Process Use—Methods and Measures
Type: Multiple Paper Session
Chair: Sandra Ortega, Kent State University

Promoting the Use of Evaluation Information: Early Reading First in Chicago Charter Schools
Tania Rempert, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign
Lizanne DeStefano, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign
William Teale, University of Illinois, Chicago

Initial Results from a Planned Approach to Process Use: Using Evaluation to Influence Public School Policy and the Classroom Practice of Formative Assessment
Debra Heath, Albuquerque Public Schools
Nancy Carrillo, Albuquerque Public Schools
River Dunavin, Albuquerque Public Schools

Evaluation as Change Agent: The Precarious See-Saw Between Helping and Judging and How it Affects Process Use
Gale Mentzer, University of Toledo
Session 558. 10:55 AM to 11:40 AM. Centennial Section A
Title: New and Emergent Directions in Evaluation Policy and Practice Through the Lens of Utilization-Focused Evaluation
Type: Expert Lecture
Chair and Presenter: Michael Quinn Patton, Utilization-Focused Evaluation

Session 608. 1:35 PM to 3:05 PM. Mineral Hall Section A
Title: Measuring Use and Influence in Large Scale Evaluations
Type: Multipaper Session
Chair: Susan Tucker, E & D Associates, LLC

Retaining Relevance in Evaluation: Evaluation for Learning or Liability?
Laura Moore, Mid-Continent Research for Education and Learning
Sheila A. Arens, Mid-Continent Research for Education and Learning

Identifying Factors Associated With Local Use of Large-Scale Evaluations: A Case Study
Tania Rempert, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign

The Development and Validation of Evaluation Use Scales in Large Multi-Site Program Evaluations
Kelli Johnson, University of Minnesota
Session 693. 4:30 PM to 6:00 PM. Mineral Hall Section A
Title: CC3: Lessons Learned From the Evaluation of Three Comprehensive Centers
Co-sponsored by the Pre-K – 12 Educational Evaluation TIG
Type: Panel
Chair: Kim Cowley, Edvantia, Inc.
Discussant: Caitlin Howley, Edvantia, Inc.

Evaluation of the Appalachia Regional Comprehensive Center
Kimberly Good, Edvantia, Inc.
Laura Plybon, Edvantia, Inc.
Karen Bradley, Edvantia, Inc.
Kim Cowley, Edvantia, Inc.
Nicole Finch, Edvantia, Inc.
Kathy McKean, M & M Evaluations

Evaluation of the Mid-Atlantic Comprehensive Center
Nate Hixson, Edvantia, Inc.
Karen Bradley, Edvantia, Inc.
Kim Cowley, Edvantia, Inc.

Evaluation of the Florida and the Islands Comprehensive Center
Juan D’Brot, Edvantia, Inc.
Nate Hixson, Edvantia, Inc.
Caitlin Howley, Edvantia, Inc.
Session 869. 10:45 AM to 12:15 PM. Quartz Room Section B
Title: Get Those Data Off the Shelf and Into Action: Encouraging Utilization Through Innovative Reporting Strategies
Type: Roundtable

Roundtable Rotation I: “Little Pig, Little Pig, Let Me In!” The Relationship Between Individual Evaluation Policy and Degree of Cooperative Participation in the Evaluation of a Large, Comprehensive Project
Gale Mentzer, University of Toledo

Roundtable Rotation II: You Expect Us To Do What? Examining Issues Related to Utilizing Evaluation Findings and Recommendations
Stefanie Anderson, Association of Minority Health Professions Schools, Inc.
Diane Elder, Independent Consultants
Session 920. 4:00 PM to 5:30 PM. Centennial Section D
Title: Communication and Cognition in Evaluation Utilization
Type: Multipaper Session
Chair: William Bickel, University of Pittsburgh

How Do People Process Data Reports? Implications for Reporting Evaluation Findings to Stakeholders
Jill Lohmeier, University of Massachusetts, Lowell
Steven Lee, University of Kansas

Making Evaluation Meaningful: Creating Recommendations Clients Can and Will Use
Caitlin Scott, Northwest Regional Educational Laboratory
Theresa Deussen, Northwest Regional Educational Laboratory
Kari Nelsestuen, Northwest Regional Educational Laboratory

Exploring the Role of Communication in Evaluation Utilization
Janet Lee, University of California, Los Angeles
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!

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