Message from the Chair

Koolamalsi Njoos (Hello Colleagues/Friends)! Nii noonjiyaayi (I am from) Shawano, Wisconsin. I’ve served as the Co-Chair for the Indigenous Peoples in Evaluation Topical Interest Group (IPE TIG) in the American Evaluation Association (AEA) since 2015 and have been an active member of IPE TIG since 2006. It has been my honor to serve our IPE TIG membership at the local, national, and international level. In October 2016, Beth Michel, MPH was elected to the Co-Chair position. Her steady and active leadership has brought more energy, vision, and collaborative processes to all IPE TIG activities. Together our IPE TIG leadership team meets monthly to continue the next generation of activities and impacts that the IPE TIG is engaged in within the evaluation community. The cooperative, consistent, and comprehensive IPE TIG leadership efforts include: the newsletter, an upcoming fall 2017 Indigenous blog series, social media presence, website content and other robust work. This community based and Indigenous process, participation, and work products for IPE TIG membership use has been a vision of mine since I was elected Chair in 2015.

In closing, as your IPE TIG Chair, my door is open and I walk humbly in service, advocacy, and leadership to our membership so this is “our community” including this newsletter/virtual space. We always have room in our community for more members. My mind, heart, and spirit are always open, so please feel free to call (715) 526-9240 or email me at nicky@bpcwi.com any time. We hope to hear from you. I look forward to hearing from you during the year and at the annual conference. Anushiik (thank you) and see/talk to you soon!

Introducing New TIG Leadership

The IPE TIG leadership welcomes two new members, Aneta Cram, Program Co-Chair, and Beth Michel, Co-Chair. We are also happy to re-introduce Mark Parman, Secretary. We are truly appreciative of Laurie Ringaert’s, 2016 Program Co-Chair, and Andrea Johnson’s, outgoing 2016 Co-Chair, outstanding leadership and contributions to the IPE TIG. Laurie played a critical role in the development of the inaugural IPE TIG newsletter. Andrea provided strong historical and institutional knowledge of the IPE TIG. Below we introduce our three IPE TIG leaders and what they bring to our community.
Beth (Bahe) Michel is a proud member of the Tohono O’odham Nation as well as Navajo and Hopi. She is a senior associate at ICF, a consulting firm based in Atlanta, Georgia. Beth provides evaluation technical assistance to Tribal grantees funded by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, and supports national evaluation projects for the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Administration for Community Living. Before joining the ICF team, Beth was a fellow at the National Congress of American Indians. Prior to graduate school, Beth was a research associate at the Translational Genomics Research Institute in Phoenix, Arizona. She received a Master of Public Health degree with a global health concentration from Emory University, Rollins School of Public Health and a Bachelor of Science degree in Nutritional Science from the University of Arizona.

Aneta Cram is affiliated with Ngāti Pahauwera, Ngāti Kahungunu Iwi (tribes), in Aotearoa New Zealand. She has been involved in evaluation and research work with a Māori (indigenous New Zealanders) well-being focus for the past few years. Her interests include working with community organisations, research and work that focuses on community development and targeting social inequalities. She is currently in the process of completing her Master’s in Evaluation at the University of Melbourne. She is also employed as Research Fellow for Katoa Limited, an indigenous research and consulting organization in New Zealand.

Mark D. Parman is a citizen of the Cherokee Nation. He came to program evaluation from applied ecology working with many of the Northern Plains Nations. For the past decade he has worked in the Cherokee Nation’s Community & Cultural Outreach Department. He is responsible for evaluating internal programs and providing technical assistance to Cherokee community non-profit organizations in the Cherokee National Jurisdictional Service Area and across the United States. Outside of work, Mark runs his family’s ranch provided grass finished beef and lamb, pasture raise pork and eggs from pasture raised hens to markets in Oklahoma.

About the IPE TIG

The Indigenous Peoples in Evaluation (IPE) is a topical interest group (TIG) of the American Evaluation Association. The IPE TIG exists to improve evaluation practices and methods by:

- Developing and disseminating knowledge that helps assure that evaluations in which Indigenous people are among the major stakeholders are culturally responsive and respectful of their interests and rights.
- Creating a venue for Indigenous evaluators and others working in Indigenous contexts to participate in discourse about evaluation models and methods that support Indigenous values, practices, and ways of knowing.
- Mentoring emerging evaluators interested in evaluation in various Indigenous contexts.
IPE TIG Updates

Evaluation 2017 Conference Proposal Submissions

- Thank you to everyone for their Evaluation 2017 proposal submissions!
- The IPE TIG received 15 proposal submissions.
- Thank you to the 22 IPE TIG members for volunteering to review the proposal submissions!
- Proposal submission reviews are complete.

Events

EvalIndigenous Participates in the Third EvalPartners Global Evaluation Forum

Nicky Bowman and Fiona Cram, both IPE TIG members, attended the Global Evaluation Forum in Kyrgyz Republic from April 26-28, 2017. The forum theme was Transforming our world through evaluation: engagement and partnerships for the better world we want. For more information about the EvalPartners and United Nations Evaluation Group and the Global Evaluation Forum (and past forums), please click HERE. Drs. Bowman and Cram are Co-Chairs of the EvalIndigenous global work force group under the EvalIndigenous global task force (Dr. Larry Bremner, Chair). EvalIndigenous created an Eval2020 agenda in 2015. As a continuation of that work, a 3-year strategic action plan is being implementing to document community based Indigenous evaluation stories from the global community and to develop a foundation paper that will include contributions from the EvalIndigenous members and communities. These activities will strengthen a connected Indigenous community of practice to other EvalPartners task force groups therefore as Indigenous evaluators we can all learn from each other and start sharing empirical examples of resources, networks, and emerging best practices, models, and case studies. Below is a photo of the EvalIndigenous participates at the global forum.

For more information about EvalIndigenous, please click HERE. To watch member’s testimony, please click HERE.

Upcoming Events

- September 4-6, 2017: Australian Evaluation Association’s International Evaluation Conference in Canberra, Australia. For more info, please click HERE.
- September 21-21, 2017: Hawai'i-Pacific Evaluation Association Conference in Kane‘ohe, Hawaii. For more info, please click HERE.
- September 27-29, 2017: Center for Culturally Responsive Evaluation and Assessment's Fourth International Conference in Chicago, Illinois. For more info, please click HERE.
News and Updates from IPE TIG Members


We welcome your feedback and updates. Your place is waiting for you here in the newsletter! Please send news, feedback and updates for the newsletter and website to Beth Michel. Please send social media news and feedback to Mark Parman.

Get Involved

We are looking for volunteers to support our IPE TIG website and social media accounts, please contact Mark Parman. If you are interested in participating in the IPE TIG work groups please contact Nicky Bowman.

IPE TIG Leadership Contact Information
Nicky Bowman, Chair at nicky@bpcwi.com
Beth (Bahe) Michel, Co-Chair at Beth.Michel@icf.com
Erica Roberts, Program Chair at eblueroberts@gmail.com
Aneta Cram, Program Co-Chair at anetacram@gmail.com
Mark Parman, Secretary at mark-parman@cheroke.org

Connect with the IPE TIG’s Social Media
We encourage you to post news on the IPE TIG Facebook page or tweet us!

Find us on IPE TIG on Facebook
@AEAIPE TIG
AEA IPE TIG Website