Message from the Leadership Team

Koolamalsi (Hello) Colleagues and Friends of IPE TIG!

The summer certainly flew by and during this time your IPE TIG leadership has kept regularly engaged and working on behalf of our membership. We have met monthly to carry out our work for the AEA 2019 conference. Topics and activities have included: the planning for November 2019 Presidential sessions, planning of evaluation social events, as well as contributing to the AEA executive leadership and local planning committee activities so that Indigenous voices are heard and our people are represented throughout AEA’s policy and programming. The commitment of the IPE TIG leadership and members is consistent and growing! Through evidence-based policy, contributing to theory and practice in publications or trainings, and by developing new and sustaining existing relationships with allies and partners, we are having an impact within our professional association and the broader field of evaluation. Inside and outside of AEA you’ll see new webinars and publications coming in Fall 2019 and Winter 2020 that are building on our existing work and offering new perspectives on evaluation theory and practice.

In this newsletter we share IPE sponsored sessions, we introduce the work of EvalIndigenous, we share publications and new resources (some by IPE TIG members), and present ways you can more deeply engage with our Indigenous work locally and/or globally!

In November, we will be looking to recruit a new TIG Chair, as Beth Michel completes the 3-year term position. We will also be looking to have other positions on the team filled as well as broach the idea of developing a new leadership position. If you would like to be more involved with the IPE TIG and/or take on a leadership position, make sure to attend our TIG business meeting on Thursday November, 14th at 7:30pm and feel free to contact the leadership team if you would like more information about what the positions entail.

Anushiik (thank you) and see you in November 2019 at AEA’s convention and virtually on our IPE TIG Facebook page.

As always, thank you for your continued membership!
Nicky Bowman, IPE TIG Chair
Farewell to Beth Michel

We would like to extend a big thank you to Beth Michel (Bahe as she was known for part of her time with us) as she will be finishing her term a few months early due to the arrival of their second child, Isaiah Michel. Beth has been actively engaged in the IPE TIG and AEA more broadly since the beginning of her time with us. We thank her for all of the work that she has done leading the IPE TIG leadership team and look forward to meeting her new child and seeing what’s next for her in AEA and her career.

AEA 2019

This year’s AEA conference will be focusing on ‘Paths to the Future of Evaluation.’ AEA President Tessie Catsambas has invited presenters and general conference attendees to consider where we are now and what we need to, and, should take forward into the future of evaluation.

Looking at how far the IPE TIG and Indigenous voices have come within AEA alone, has been great. We have seen the development of the Indigenous Peoples TIG at AEA, we have seen a New Directions in Evaluation volume being dedicated to the voices of Indigenous Evaluation practitioners, as well as more speakers and ceremony being incorporated into the conference. Moving forward, let us consider how we can we build on these achievements and forge ahead to best serve our peoples and communities.

As part of our continued efforts to push for inclusion of Indigenous peoples of the local community and Indigenous cultures at the yearly conferences, we have been working in partnership with AEA leadership to uncover ways this can be respectfully accomplished. The guide to local Indigenous resources is one result of these conversations, as well as the inclusion of two local Indigenous artists that will be sharing their work during the Poster Reception and Meet the Authors on Wednesday, November 13th between 6:30 – 8:30 pm as well as in the exhibit hall during the duration of the conference. MNEA have developed an acknowledgement of land which will be posted throughout the conference. Additionally, we will be providing additional informational and healing resources at our IPE TIG table during the Poster Reception and Meet the Authors; come by to say aaniin!

IPE TIG Sponsored Sessions and Posters

The yearly conference always has so many opportunities for engagement and educational development, yet so little time to do it all. Nevertheless, we hope you will have room in your schedule to check out some of the fascinating sessions that the IPE TIG is sponsoring and co-sponsoring. This years’ IPE TIG sponsored sessions are detailed in the table below.
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>POSTER</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday, November 13, 2019</td>
<td>6:30 PM</td>
<td>Poster 73</td>
<td>Evaluating Indigenous Voices through Formative Evaluation and Learning</td>
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<td><strong>SESSIONS</strong></td>
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<td>Friday, November 15, 2019</td>
<td>8:00 AM</td>
<td>CC L100 E</td>
<td>An Indigenous Driven Evaluation Framework: Strengthening Tribal/State Collaborative Evaluation of Tribal Led Initiatives</td>
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<td>Friday, November 15, 2019</td>
<td>3:30 PM</td>
<td>CC L100 E</td>
<td>Evaluators as leaders in contributing to promote equity, diversity and the protection of human rights – Learning as we go to support Indigenous learners as a circle of caring adults through Developmental Evaluation</td>
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<td>Friday, November 15, 2019</td>
<td>4:30 PM</td>
<td>CC L100 E</td>
<td>Lessons in Indigenous Evaluation: Paving the Path to the Future of Evaluation</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday, November 15, 2019</td>
<td>5:45 PM</td>
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<td>African Paths to the Future of Evaluation in Africa</td>
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<td>Friday, November 15, 2019</td>
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<td>Contributing to the Future of Evaluation: Grounding Practice in a Hawaiian Worldview</td>
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<td>Friday, November 15, 2019</td>
<td>5:45 PM</td>
<td>CC L100 E</td>
<td>Practical experience with Made in Africa Evaluation: Two examples</td>
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<td>Saturday, November 16, 2019</td>
<td>9:15 AM</td>
<td>CC L100 E</td>
<td>Braiding Together Indigenous Ways of Knowing and Centering Indigenous Voice to Decolonize Evaluation Theory and Practice</td>
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**Presidential Strand: African Paths to the Future of Evaluation in Africa (Session 2827)**
- Wanjiru B Nderitu; Nombeko Mbava; Oladayo Omosa,

We are excited to share that our TIG’s Presidential strand nomination was selected. This session will be an expert panel sharing thoughts and knowledge around the topic of Made in Africa Evaluation (MAE). As we look forward toward the future of evaluation it is critical to make room for a diverse array of knowledge systems by continuing to push the decolonization of evaluation as it currently stands. Decentering Western dominant frameworks is necessary if we are to consider the realities of the communities in contexts such as Africa in order to provide meaningful and impactful evaluation services. This expert panel intends to share their perspectives on how Made in Africa Evaluation is an important part of these efforts, as their following abstract details:

In this panel, experts from Africa share their thoughts, experiences, and perspectives on the ongoing effort in the African evaluation space to foreground African evaluation theories and practices, often referred to as ‘Made in Africa Evaluation’ (MAE). This work is proposed as a counterbalance to the enduring tendency for theory and practice of evaluation to be largely centered on and derived from Euro-Western worldviews and perspectives. These dominant Euro-Western frameworks continue to evolve in a manner that primarily addresses the needs of donors and international agencies without sufficiently considering the realities of the African people who such programs and evaluations are purported to serve. The perspectives shared by this expert panel will help move the field of evaluation forward by deepening and widening our understanding of MAE.
**Places to visit and things to learn in Minnesota**

This year, Elizabeth Taylor-Schiro and Nicole Bowman have been working with AEA’s local conference planning group and the national leadership to create and share Indigenous resources that can be used by the membership before or at AEA 2019. Similar to AEA 2018 in Cleveland, OH, the IPE TIG has created educational resources on local Indigenous landmarks and places to visit while in the Minneapolis area. Minneapolis is the ancestral home to the Dakota and Ojibwe and is home to over 35,000 off reservation urban Indians living in or near the Twin Cities. Minneapolis is one of many urban centers in the United States that is home to urban Indigenous populations as part of Federal policies that forced relocation from original homelands that is rooted in the Federal Indian Relocation Act of 1956 and the Indian Removal Act of 1830. The IPE TIG leadership started this tradition to educate and engage authentically in whatever places AEA holds their annual conference. These resources, along with land acknowledgements and respectful inclusion of Indigenous peoples of the local community, are part of the mission and legacy of the IPE TIG to AEA and the broader field of evaluation.

**Take Note**

**Recent Events**

The following list is of recent events that may be of interest.

- **Blue Marble Webinar**: Living in Good Relations – Why a Tribal Critical Systems Model is Needed for Evaluation Partnerships and Practice was provided by Dr. Nicole Bowman (Mohican/Lunaape) on August 20th, 2019 via Dr. Michael Quinn Patton’s UFE website [here](https://www.aesociety.org/resources/webinars/blue-marble-tribal-critical-systems-model-needed). A full copy of the free webinar is available [here](https://www.aesociety.org/resources/webinars/blue-marble-tribal-critical-systems-model-needed).

- **Eval Café Podcast**: In July 2019 Dr. Nicole Bowman (Mohican/Lunaape) recorded a 1.5 hour podcast on evaluation and community building. The title of the podcast is, “Evaluation as Medicine: Healing Ourselves and Building our Capacity to Heal our Communities”. Check for Dr. Bowman’s podcast to be posted in September 2019 via the Eval Café website at: [https://evalcafe.wordpress.com](https://evalcafe.wordpress.com).

**Recent Publications**

- **Preventing Chronic Disease (PCD)** recently released a new collection of articles on Indian wellness. The PCD collection includes 7 articles from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s (CDC) Good Health and Wellness in Indian Country (GHWIC). CDC describes the collection as, “Together, the articles on GHWIC describe a model for public health practice across the country and around the world, one that seeks to be relevant to the people being served, to uplift culture and respect local knowledge, and to institutionalize sustainable health improvements.” [https://www.cdc.gov/pcd/collections/Good_Health_And_Wellness_2019.htm](https://www.cdc.gov/pcd/collections/Good_Health_And_Wellness_2019.htm)

- **Canadian Journal of Program Evaluation** will publish online in fall 2019 the Canadian Evaluation Society keynote papers from 2018. Papers from Dr. Nicole Bowman, Mr. Larry Bremner, Ms. Kate McKegg, and Dr. Nan Wehipeihana are responding to the 2018 CES Conference Theme of “Co-Creation”. The author’s paper all center around the topic of “Reconciliation and Culturally Responsive Evaluation – Rhetoric or Reality?”. Publication of these papers will be posted in fall 2019 at the CJPE website and are free: [https://journalhosting.ucalgary.ca/index.php/cjpe](https://journalhosting.ucalgary.ca/index.php/cjpe).
Canadian Journal of Program Evaluation will publish online in fall 2019 a full issue on evaluating in Indigenous contexts. Edited by Dr. Robert Shepard and Dr. Katherine Graham of Carleton University and the Canadian Evaluation Society, this issue focuses on a call to action for evaluators to include, honor, and respect First Nations and Indigenous evaluation theories, methods, and frameworks in the field of evaluation. Publication of these papers will be posted in fall 2019 at the CIPE website and are free: https://journalhosting.ucalgary.ca/index.php/cjpe.

A new resource from an April 2019 meeting of Indigenous and community-led earth warriors who convened to discuss the development of indicators related to connections between and across people and place in Indigenous Peoples and local communities (IPLCs). The Center for Biodiversity and Conservation (CBC) at the American Museum of Natural History (New York, NY, USA) hosted 20 IPLC members and practitioners from Russia, Central Asia, North America, Central America, and the Pacific Islands during the meeting early this year. Participants exchanged perspectives and lessons learned using linked biological and cultural indicators in monitoring and reporting for Indigenous and/or community-led biodiversity conservation efforts. A full copy of the “2019 Indicator Gathering Meeting Summary” can be obtained here.

Looking Ahead: Key Dates

- October 14th - US Indigenous Peoples’ Day
- World Indigenous People’s Conference on Education (WIPCE) 2020 conference, November 2-6, 2020 in Adelaide, Australia. Call for abstracts due November 1, 2019
- November, National American Indian Heritage month

The Hawaii-Pacific Evaluation Conference 2019
The 2019 Hawaii-Pacific Evaluation Conference was held September 19 – 20 in Honolulu, Hawaii. Nearly 200 Indigenous participants, partners, and allies to Indigenous evaluation/evaluators attended the pre-conference and in conference sessions (Agenda Here). Dr. Nicole Bowman (Mohican/Lunaape) delivered the keynote address and with Dr. Carolee Dodge-Francis (Oneida), delivered an indigenous evaluation pre-conference workshop. The Indigenous evaluation action work group continued their efforts for creating global bio-indicators with the support of and hosting by the American Museum of Natural History. A new resource document is forthcoming that will provide details of bio-indicators, models, methods, and instruments in the near future.
Visit the Nature-Culture indicators and Knowledge Systems Resource Directory here to be amongst the first to receive this important resource and future resources created by the Action Group.
Diversity Social

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I am excited about the Diversity Social to be held on Thursday, November 14th, beginning at 9:00pm after all the TIG Business Meetings. We have welcomed some new people to the planning committee and are leaning on some of our veteran party planners for another great evening. The sponsoring TIGs include our Indigenous Peoples in Evaluation as well as Multiethnic Issues in Evaluation, Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Issues, La RED (Latinx Responsive Evaluation Discourse) and Feminist Issues in Evaluation. The Diversity Social has become the premier networking event, so make plans to attend. Information concerning registration and location will be made available as our plans are finalized. Please feel free to reach out to the IPE TIG for additional details.

ᏭᏙ (pronounced WaDo, meaning thank you)

Mark Parman

EvalIndigenous

EvalIndigenous is a multi-stakeholder partnership built on the foundation of the knowledge and expertise of Indigenous peoples around the world. EvalIndigenous seeks to bring awareness to, include, and celebrate the cultural traditions and values, languages, legal/political governance practices, and ways of life of Indigenous peoples wherever they live. Their focus is to ensure that policies and evaluation practices for Indigenous peoples are based on equity, fairness and justice. Learn more about them on the EvalPartners website and their youtube channel.

Indigenous Voices project

EvalIndigenous are putting their goals and expertise into action through multiple projects. One of which is the Indigenous Voices project which looks to highlight the voices of Indigenous evaluators globally through inviting and video/audio recording interviews with practitioners. A focus is to showcase different journeys, experiences and quality evaluation practices of Indigenous practitioners with evaluation, within and beyond their respective communities.

To date, you can find interview clips on the EvalIndigenous Youtube Channel for 13 indigenous evaluators from all over the world. Including North America, South Africa and New Zealand amongst others. To learn more about the project visit the EvalIndigenous Youtube Channel or email evalindigenous@evalpartners.org.
Why should October 14th become Indigenous Peoples Day instead of Columbus Day?

The Doctrine of Discovery of 1493 is a guide to colonization that became the roots for many of the laws and practices of the United States that allowed, and continue to allow, the violent and exponential atrocities that violate the rights and humanity of Indigenous Peoples of North America.

Columbus Day, generally celebrated in the United States the second Monday of October, perpetuates the acceptance of this horrifying history by celebrating the inaccuracy that Christopher Columbus discovered the Americas in 1492; when in fact, his arrival to the lands of Indigenous America propelled the creation of the Doctrine of Discovery and the attempted erasure of Indigenous Peoples already living here through genocide, abuse, and assimilation techniques (see boarding schools). When visiting Minnesota in November, you will be visiting one of only six states that have renamed the October holiday in an attempt to recognize the true history of this land and honor the Indigenous Peoples who are still fighting for their sovereignty and recognition. Join North American Indigenous Peoples and their allies on October 14th through celebration of Indigenous Peoples Day!

Parting Message

As we head into colder months, take care to not dwell on the warmth of Summer and what has been but enjoy the promise of rest, letting go of what does not serve you and opening up to the promise of a nourishing conference.

We are excited by the papers shared this year and welcoming new voices to the Indigenous Peoples in Evaluation TIG.

Take care, rest, reflect and engage. We look forward to seeing you soon!

The IPE TIG Leadership Team

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