



## STUDENTS' NEWSLETTER

Vol. 1 No. 2

September 2006

### Message from Student Chair

Welcome to the second student newsletter! In this issue, we share with you some of the student posters and presentations from the recent 2006 CES conference and the work experiences of several student committee members. Hopefully, this will provide you with some inspiration concerning the type of work you might like to pursue.

The student committee has lots of great ideas to benefit students in evaluation and would greatly appreciate your participation. If you are interested in joining the committee or helping out with our activities, get in touch! (students@evaluationontario.ca)

We hope you enjoy the newsletter and perhaps we will have the opportunity to meet at a future CES event!

Erica Procter

### CES 2006 Conference at PEI

The CES 2006 Annual Conference held in Charlottetown, PEI provided another enjoyable and valuable educational and networking opportunity. The smaller size of the conference (compared to the mammoth Joint American & Canadian Conference in October!) allowed for easier networking and informal discussion for the participants.

### CES - Ontario Mission

The Ontario chapter's mission is to foster a vibrant evaluation community in Ontario by promoting best practices in evaluation to achieve excellence in public, private, and non-profit action. For more information:

[www.evaluationontario.ca](http://www.evaluationontario.ca)

### Student Papers / Posters at CES 2006 Conference

#### PAPERS

#### Comparison and Contrast of Logical Frameworks of International AID Agencies

Hubert Paulmer and Harry Cummings,  
University of Guelph

#### The CES Student Case Competition: Building Competencies and Capacity

Courtney Amos, Sarah Viehbeck,  
Robin Blanchard, University of Waterloo  
Anita Myers, PhD and Mark Season, PhD

#### Increasing the Participation of Women in Science and Engineering: Evaluation of the Ontario Chair for Women in Science and Engineering

Linda Yuval, University of Guelph

#### POSTERS

#### Linking Program Planning and Evaluation Research in Mental Health: Using Program Development Research as an Intervention and as a Tool to Strengthen Program Evaluation Research

Joan Nandlal, University of Toronto,  
Erica Procter and Linda Yuval,  
University of Guelph

#### Evaluating Pre-charge Diversion Programs:

#### A Critique of the Literature and Recommendations for Strengthening Evaluation Efforts

Erica Procter and Linda Yuval,  
University of Guelph  
Joan Nandlal, University of Toronto

If you are a student and presented at the

## Student Experiences in Evaluation

### **PHIL DARLING – University of Toronto**

Phil has been primarily involved in internal evaluation activities for the College of Nurses of Ontario. As a Statistical Analyst he has participated in evaluation planning for various projects, developed evaluation frameworks, implemented a number of evaluation and performance measurement mechanisms, analyzed the data collected, and prepared detailed interpretive reports. Most recently, he worked on a College-wide Evaluability Assessment (EA). EA activities included developing a detailed project plan, creating standardized data-collection templates, conducting an extensive document review and several key informant interviews, and preparing a final report and presentation.

### **HEATHER TRAVIS – University of Toronto**

Heather has been working in the tobacco control field for six years. She has had employment experience in evaluation with a grassroots community program, at a public health department, with various research grants and with the Ontario Tobacco Research Unit. Heather developed and evaluated (RCT) a self-help smoking cessation series of booklets for young adults. This project was carried out on 6 campuses in Ontario, and involved focus-testing, telephone interviews, analysis of data and dissemination of results through conferences. The results informed smoking cessation practices on campuses in Ontario. Most recently, Heather was involved in a knowledge synthesis grant, using 3 complementary methods: literature review, a Delphi process with experts, and focus groups with the population of interest. Results informed recommendations for policy, practice, and research for assisting young adults in the general population to quit smoking.

### **SURBHI BHANOT – University of Windsor**

Surbhi's evaluation work has primarily focused on health care. In particular, she has completed an internship in which she conducted an evaluation for an injury prevention organization. Her responsibilities included conducting a literature review, compiling and statistically analyzing survey-based data, and writing a recommendations report based on her findings. She has a strong interest in feminist evaluation and hopes to focus her future evaluation work on projects related to the prevention of violence against women.

### **ESSENTIAL SKILL SERIES**

The Essential Skills Series is an excellent opportunity for students to learn the basics of evaluation concepts and techniques with a highly experienced and knowledgeable instructor, Dr. Arnold Love. The four day workshop series will be held at Ryerson in Toronto from November 20-23, 2006. Discounted slots are available for students. Watch the CES website for registration details!

### *Student Committee*

Erica Procter	- University of Guelph (Student Committee Chair)
Surbhi Bhanot	- University of Windsor
Philip Darling	- University of Toronto
Hubert Paulmer	- University of Guelph
Heather Travis	- University of Toronto
Linda Yuval	- University of Guelph
Biljana Zuvella	- University of Belgrade

### *From the Editors*

This is the 2<sup>nd</sup> issue of the student newsletter. Share your ideas and experiences in the newsletter. If you would like to receive or contribute to the newsletter, please email us at: [students@evaluationontario.ca](mailto:students@evaluationontario.ca)

*Heather Travis & Hubert Paulmer*