



## STUDENTS' NEWSLETTER

Vol. 1 No. 3

January 2007

### Message from Student Chair

I would like to announce that my term as the Student Chair recently ended in December. I have greatly enjoyed serving as Student Chair over the past two years and look forward to continuing as a committee member. I will also be continuing my work as a Board member. I am very happy to introduce Natalie Ceccato as the new Student Chair. Natalie is a PhD student in Public Health Science at the University of Toronto in the Health Behaviour stream. I would like to thank all students who have contributed to the committee over the past two years. I have greatly appreciated their contribution and commitment to the role of students in evaluation and CES.

ERICA PROCTER

### Student Survey!!!

We want to hear from you! The student committee is looking for your feedback to guide their activities over the next year. If you are a student member of CES-Ontario, you should have received a survey from the Student Chair.

We would greatly appreciate it if you could take a few minutes to complete the survey. The committee is very interested in hearing from students about the role of CES and the student committee, as well as which activities they would like to see the committee pursuing in the future. If you have not received the survey and would like to participate, please contact Erica Procter at [students@evaluationontario.ca](mailto:students@evaluationontario.ca)

### Welcome!!!!

The Student Committee would like to welcome new members to the committee.

- ✓ **Natalie Ceccato** was recently voted in as the new Student Chair.
- ✓ **Surbhi Bhanot** from the University of Windsor, as well as **Robin Blanchard** and **Lisa MacDonald**, both from University of Waterloo, have been contributing to the committee for the past several months.
- ✓ The most recent addition to the committee is **Roxana Girip**, a student at Virginia Tech University, who is living in Ontario.

### and.....Thank You!!!!

The Committee would also like to thank **Philip Darling** and **Hubert Paulmer** for their contribution to the student committee since its inception. Both past members are currently involved in full-time work in the evaluation field.

### CES-ON updates

On September 18th, 2006, CES-ONTARIO held its **25th Anniversary Annual Conference** on the theme of Building a Case for Evaluation in the Next 25 Years at The Old Mill in Toronto. Dr. Brad Cousins spoke on *Evaluation in the Past, Present and Future*; Martha McGuire on *Evaluation – An Evolving Profession*; Catherine de Leeuw on *Capacity Building for Evaluation*; and Karyn Hicks on *Evaluation in Disaster Relief Efforts*. As well, Erica Procter coordinated the thematic lunch session *Entering the Field of Evaluation*. Eighty three people attended the conference.

On November 27th, CES-ONTARIO had a smooth-running **Annual General Meeting**, followed by a very enjoyable 25th Anniversary Celebration in the warm surroundings of the Hart House Debates Room at the University of Toronto. New Board Members were elected.

More details on [www.evaluationontario.ca](http://www.evaluationontario.ca)

## Experiences in Evaluation

### ERICA PROCTER

Erica Procter has focused her contract and consulting work on projects related to evaluation and the justice system. As part of this work, she completed a needs assessment for a pre-charge diversion program for persons with a mental illness at the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health. Such programs involve diverting persons with a mental illness away from the justice system towards appropriate community services. This project included a literature review and synthesis (including literature concerning the consumer survivor movement), creation of interview schedules, interviews and focus groups with psychiatric consumers, family members, mental health professionals, and police officers, as well as final report writing.

### LINDA YUVAL

Linda has been involved in several consulting projects related to evaluation while attending graduate school, covering different areas, including organizational issues, mental health and criminal justice issues and educational issues. One long-term evaluation project consisted of a 2-year evaluation of the Universal Instructional Design (UID) Project at UoG. The purpose of the Project was to introduce UID principles into several courses taught at the University. UID principles seek to identify and eliminate *unnecessary* barriers to teaching and learning while maintaining academic rigour. The evaluation consisted of the development of a program logic model and questionnaires, several rounds of student data collection, classroom observations, teacher interviews, student focus groups, and interim and final report writing.

### HUBERT PAULMER

After completing his studies in International Development and Planning at UoG, Hubert's been working as a project manager on a project funded by Ministry of Citizenship and Immigration (MCI) to integrate the internationally educated agricultural professionals into the Canadian industry. He has also been a consultant on international assignments to NGOs on CIDA funded projects on evaluation and institutional assessment. His work involved extensive document review, preparing mission plan and methodology, project implementation plan, designing survey / key-informant interview instruments, conducting KI interviews, focus groups, development of a working model and writing of reports.

## Logic Model Workshop

The intermediate-level workshop on Logic Models is being offered on February 19<sup>th</sup>. There are opportunities for students to attend the workshop for FREE!

Students who are interested in hosting the workshop may attend at no cost. Please contact Elana Gray at [elanagr@rogers.com](mailto:elanagr@rogers.com) by January 15<sup>th</sup> if you are interested in hosting.

In addition, CES-Ontario offers the workshop at a reduced rate of \$90 for full-time student CES members and \$110 for full-time student non-members. Please see <http://www.evaluationontario.ca/Events/Workshops.html> for full workshop details.

Please contact Erica Procter at [students@evaluationontario.ca](mailto:students@evaluationontario.ca) if you need any clarification or information

## Student Committee

(2007)

Natalie Ceccato - University of Toronto  
(**Student Committee Chair**)  
Surbhi Bhanot - University of Windsor  
Robin Blanchard - University of Waterloo  
Roxana Girip - Virginia Tech University  
Lisa MacDonald - University of Waterloo  
Erica Procter - University of Guelph  
Heather Travis - University of Toronto  
Linda Yuval - University of Guelph  
Biljana Zuvela - University of Belgrade

☺ Erica has been elected as a Director on the Board of CES-Ontario. Congrats!  
Keep up the Good work 🙌

## From The Editors

This is the 3<sup>rd</sup> issue of the student newsletter in the last one year. The newsletter will continue to be regular feature in the coming year too. We wish you all a wonderful year in 2007. Share your ideas and experiences in the newsletter. If you would like to receive the newsletter, please email us at: [students@evaluationontario.ca](mailto:students@evaluationontario.ca)

Heather Travis & Hubert Paulmer