



About the EES

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President

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<http://www.europeanevaluation.org/>

Introduction

The primary goal of the European Evaluation Society is to promote theory, practice and utilization of high quality evaluation especially, but not exclusively, within the European countries. This goal is addressed by bringing together practitioners, academics and policy makers from all over Europe and from any professional sector, thus creating a forum where all participants can benefit from the co-operation and bridge building.

In order to further these aims, we have developed the following strategic priority areas that have been agreed by the present EES Board to act as a broad direction for our work over the next period., that is to say during 2009 and 2010. They give a good idea of where our priorities lie.

At the moment we have some 460 individual members and 26 institutional members and we are growing. At the core the EES is outward facing with a European flavour.

To enable the EES to achieve these goals, we have initiated six activity streams, each coordinated by a member of the Board. We welcome any member to contact our secretariat (EuropeanEvaluationSociety@mos-net.nl) to become actively involved in the work of one of the activity streams. The streams are:

1. Communications with particular responsibility for the WEB site and the newsletter 'Evaluation Connections' (p.j.teixeira@sapo.pt or anne.mckee@btconnect.com)

2. Connections with other societies (m.saunders@lancaster.ac.uk or marie.kaufmann@evaluation.cz)
3. Professional Development and capacity building (roxana_irimia@yahoo.com)
4. Resources and financial management (idavies@capacity.ca or wichmand@ilo.org)
5. Members and membership services (BurtPerrin@gmail.com or mbustelo@cps.ucm.es)
6. Quality of practice, standards and accreditation (r.picciotto@btopenworld.com)

We can be contacted via our secretariat that can put you in touch with any of our Activity Stream leaders or simply contact the coordinator of any stream you may be interested in knowing more about.

Working with and supporting the development of evaluation societies within and outside Europe

This strategic priority has four broad dimensions

Working more closely with national societies world-wide

This priority involves the EES in brokering, enabling or sponsoring increased cooperation, exchange and development of partnership activities between regional and country based societies and associations within Europe and exchanging evaluation knowledge with other societies e.g. the AEA, CES, AFREA and the AES.

Engaging with the EU and European Evaluation Societies

There has been some momentum to develop a more 'European conscious' approach to our work. This aligns well with the development of the cross societal engagements initiated at the Strasbourg and Lisbon evaluation conferences. To this end we have inaugurated with the French Evaluation Society, the National Evaluation Societies of Europe (NESE) network. The next meeting will be in Munster, Germany in October 2009. A corollary of this is the development of a more engaged approach to the evaluative processes undertaken in EU institutions.

Networks in the global arena

We are reflecting European practices within the global framework. We plan to also reach out to developing countries in collaboration with regional associations, IOCE, IDEAS and development assistance agencies. This work has been facilitated by a strong Development Stream in our Lisbon Conference in October 2008. Long abstracts from this conference can be obtained on <http://www.europeanevaluation.org/congressmedia>

Supporting emerging and developing societies

This priority has a focus on the new EU states in particular and has been informed by our position on supporting evaluation in a wider Europe. This dimension of our work is also based on a brokering, sponsoring or enabling role in which the EES seeks ways in which capacity, collaboration and partnerships might develop in which 'buddy' systems of support are created. To this end the EES hosted an inaugural meeting of all those interested in forming a Portuguese Evaluation Society at its conference in Lisbon.

Lively and improved communications and website

There is no doubt that the WEB site is the principle public face of the EES and will increasingly be so. The logic of this leads to a serious consideration of its style, design and content. We have identified some principles and some specific issues of content. The new look WEB site is being developed and includes a regular newsletter "Evaluation Connections" which will contain news items but also 'think pieces' at the cutting edge of evaluation thinking

We are piloting a member's only section which should be developed with the following characteristics:

- Professional development materials (e.g. from previous summer schools)
- Job offers, tenders, etc.
- Forums and/or other means where EES members can be consulted and provide their input regarding EES directions
- A discussion forum (I am not sure about this)
- Evaluation clinic
- Minutes of past AGMs, potentially of Board meetings as well
- Area for electronic voting
- Membership profiles to facilitate networking

Vibrant and active working groups associated with our activity streams

The activity streams are required to carry out the main functions of the EES. The governance of the work of the Activity Streams requires that they have a link person who will be a Board member in order to report to the Board meetings either in person or in writing. However, membership of an activity stream and, indeed, leadership, might be undertaken by any EES member.

Resourcing, fund raising and our financial situation

One of the Board's priorities is to consider how we can protect and improve the financial health of the EES during our term of office.

The International Conference

The bi-annual conference was held in Lisbon on 1st-3rd October 2008 was financially successful due to bursaries and a high volume of delegates. This will enable consideration of different formats for the conference in 2010.

The membership

We have both institutional and individual membership. Members' services might be associated with this priority.

- Clear advantages for members at the conference (pricing etc)
- Clear advantages for members' services on website
- Vigorous recruitment in each country
- A focus on corporate membership

Professional development activity

A core activity in this stream for 2008 was the pre-conference workshop. Also we aim for one other high profile event in 2009 using the model of the advanced summer school or some regional capacity building activities funded by national or regional government agencies. The professional development stream will be charged with developing a sustainable professional development programme over the next four years. To this end, we are able to bring to your attention our International Seminar on Evaluative Practice in Higher Education to be held at Fribourg University in Switzerland on June 5th 2009 (for registration go to:

<http://www.europeanevaluation.org/?page=9454521>

for more information go to:

<http://www.europeanevaluation.org/?page=9511700>)