



OREGON PROGRAM EVALUATORS NETWORK

April 2024 Newsletter

Highlights

President's Message
Community Events
AEA & Affiliates Events
Job, RFP & Internship Opportunities
Call for Council Members & Presenters

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear OPEN Members,

I am so grateful for the enthusiasm OPEN members have shared for the AEA conference this fall. This past month, the welcoming committee met to discuss the *Welcome to Portland* guide that will be available to AEA attendees. Additionally, the city engagement committee and AEA staff members convened to explore ways that the conference can connect with our city.

OPEN also hosted an Evaluation in Progress session where attendees shared current evaluation questions, situations, and received feedback from their colleagues.

If you have an idea for an event or would like to know more about how you can get involved with OPEN, please contact me at chari@evaluationintoaction.com.

Thank you,
Chari Smith, OPEN President 2024

EVENTS

Designing Quality Survey Questions - Spring 2024 Edition

Presenters: Kim Leonard & Sheila B Robinson

When: Wednesday, April 10 & 17, 2024

Time: 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM (PDT)

Location: Virtual

Looking to refresh or update your survey design skills in order to effectively and respectfully gather data for your research or evaluation?

[Designing Quality Survey Questions](#) is for you!

This live, online course is designed for individuals and professionals of all levels. You'll learn how to:

- Use a respondent-centered, intentional question design process as a key to designing an effective survey.
- Understand the cognitive processes involved in answering survey questions and their implications for question design.
- Identify several common problems with survey questions and ways to address them.
- Craft high quality open and closed ended survey questions with

appropriate response options.

In addition to our comprehensive curriculum on question design, you'll also have access to survey experts Kim Leonard and Sheila B Robinson, who will provide engaging instruction, personalized feedback, and support.

[Registration and details here!](#)

Centering Communities: Implementing Equitable Evaluation at Ecotrust

Presenters: Denise Chin and Noah Enelow

When: Thursday, April 18, 2024

Time: 12:00PM - 1:00PM

Location: Virtual

For over 30 years Ecotrust has worked throughout the region to affect change at the intersection of equity, ecology, and economy - the 3 E's. Yet we have only recently adopted an equity framework that encompasses our many programs, functions, and processes, including for evaluation. In this session, evaluators Denise Chin and Noah Enelow will share the process of adopting an Equitable Evaluation approach at Ecotrust. Choosing principles, engaging with affected parties, developing a pilot, and building a toolkit to measure a diverse portfolio of work are some ways that the organization has chosen to adopt equitable practices in evaluation. If you are on a similar equity journey and looking for ways to make your evaluations center communities and affected parties, or if you are just curious about equitable evaluation—we invite you to join us.

A Zoom link will be sent to registrants an hour prior to the event.

Questions? Contact Denise Chin at dchin@ecotrust.org

[Register here](#)

AEA & AFFILIATES EVENTS

Texas Evaluation Network (TEN)

Professional Development Opportunity: Evaluation in Action: Learning

from Practice and Community

When: Thursday, April 25, 2024

Time: 9:00AM - 4:30PM (CST)

Location: Virtual

Cost: General admission: \$50 as TEN Member; \$74 as non-member

Student admission: \$25 as TEN Member; \$35 as non-member

Howdy from Texas,

There is an upcoming professional development opportunity hosted by the Texas Evaluation Network (TEN) that I want to put on your radar. The TEN's Virtual Institute is set to offer a deep dive into "Evaluation in Action: Learning from Practice and Community".

This event promises to be a vibrant gathering of minds, featuring an interactive keynote address by Meme Styles, a renowned figure in the field of evaluation from [Measures](#) in Austin, Texas. Participants will have the opportunity to engage in a full day of sessions, where both emerging and experienced evaluators will share their invaluable stories, lessons learned, and practical recommendations for applying evaluation theory effectively. The sessions aim to enhance the relevance, utility, and impact of evaluation in various contexts.

[Register Today](#)

Spread the word! Click [here](#) for more details

AEA

The Summer Evaluation Institute is back in-person in 2024!

When: June 26 - 28, 2024

Location: Washington, DC

AEA is excited to announce the return of the Summer Evaluation Institute, taking place June 26-28, 2024 in Washington, DC at the Washington Hilton. Featuring a new look, new location, and re-imagined schedule, we're thrilled to show you what we have in store.

Registration is now open! **Reserve your spot** by the May 27 early bird rate to save.

If you need a letter of invitation, please fill out [this form](#).

About Summer Evaluation Institute

The Summer Evaluation Institute offers professional development workshops for evaluators, applied researchers, grantmakers, foundation program officers, nonprofit administrators, and social science students. The 2024 Summer Evaluation Institute is taking place in Washington, DC and features two days of full-day and half-day workshops with interactive, classroom training for evaluators, plus a pre-event day of additional programming. Workshop presenters included: experts who have conducted evaluations in a variety of settings, nationally-known authors, those working on the cutting edge, evaluation experts, and outstanding trainers.

[Register Now](#)

AEA 2024 Conference

The American Evaluation Association conference will be in Portland October 21-26. Save the date, and stay tuned to future newsletters for more updates.



Are you University Faculty or Student Affairs looking to get your students involved in the evaluation field?



The American Evaluation Association's 2024 Annual Conference is scheduled to be held in Portland this upcoming October and we are so excited to share updates, opportunities, and related information for professionals and students alike!

If you are interested in outreach for this year's conference aimed at supporting either or both the AEA professional and student experiences, please fill out the information in the QR link above. For professionals, there are multiple community-building, professional development, and field-advancement opportunities throughout the year as a part of membership. For students, some opportunities include a reduced price or waived registration for the conference.

If you would like more information, please contact Tryce Taylor (OPEN Membership and Outreach Officer) to learn about these incredible opportunities for students at tryce.taylor@natlsa.org

OPPORTUNITIES

OPEN DEI Learning Series:

Calling all OPEN members to submit proposals to host DEIJ (diversity, equity, inclusion, and social justice) series from Winter/Spring 2024. Please reach out to the OPEN council members if you plan to host DEIJ series.

OPEN Member Spotlight!

In the coming months, the communication officer will reach out to OPEN members and request for volunteers to featured in the OPEN member Spotlight on our newsletter and social media. Volunteers would be given the opportunity to highlight their careers, passion for evaluation, and "why OPEN".

Newsletter Submission

Do you have something to include in the OPEN newsletter? Please email info@oregoneval.org. Please note, all submissions are subject to OPEN Council approval.

From the Job Board (Jobs, RFPs, & Internships)

Know of an evaluation-related job listing, RFP, or internship opportunity that would be of interest to the OPEN community? *As an OPEN member*, you can share opportunities directly to the [Job Board](#) -- and you can also "subscribe" to each month's job thread to learn about opportunities when they're posted!

Virtual Summer Research Associate Internship: **AIR (American Institutes for Research)**
Research & Learning Specialist: **Caldera**

Call for Council Members & Presenters

Do you want to help make OPEN a vibrant community? We need your help! We're looking event presenters and ideas, blog posts, resources, and more. We have opportunities for every level of skill and availability, and we're here to help you brainstorm how you can help!

Reach out today!

Join or Renew Your Membership!

Are you a friend of OPEN and looking to become more involved? We would love to see you again!

Join or renew your membership!

You are receiving this email because you are a friend or member of OPEN. Visit the [OPEN website](#) to learn about all the ways to become involved!

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