

**and the Ministry of Scientific Research and Higher Education - "Campus d'été" Programme - presents its**

# **International Summer School on Public Policy Evaluation Research**

**30 August to 3 September 2010  
at the IEP in Lille**

**in partnership with:**

**The Network of Researchers on  
Evaluation**

**of the**



**Société Française de l'Évaluation**

## Rationale and aim

More and more research on public action has a direct or indirect evaluative aim. It is worth pointing out that such work is coming from different disciplines, and that there has been little cross-fertilization between them. Possibilities for researchers to carry out analysis partly outside their discipline are limited, which is problematic for the quality, development and promotion of research initiatives. This summer school calls for stressing the value of an interdisciplinary approach building common references to guide research on evaluation, and of the opportunity to turn it into a *trans-disciplinary* research field<sup>1</sup>.

It was with this in mind that the *Network of Researchers on Public Policy Evaluation* of the Société Française de l'Évaluation (SFE – *French Society for Evaluation*)<sup>2</sup> decided to organise a summer school as a forum for scientific work and reflection on the interdisciplinary character of research on and about evaluation. This initiative is in line with the work that the network has carried out since its inception a year ago, aiming at addressing the need to structure research efforts related to evaluation.

The aims of this summer school are:

1. To provide researchers who share a common interest in evaluation with an opportunity **to meet, to discuss their work and to devise new methodologies**;
2. To provide young researchers – who struggle to explore a fragmented research field which has few landmarks – with an opportunity to benefit from **knowledge transfer through an intergenerational dialogue**, so as to share a common framework with which to understand evaluation.
3. This summer school will be an important step in **building the legitimacy of evaluation research as a research field in its own right**. Supporting the creation of a strong research centre is a priority for the SFE. In this way, it hopes to foster researchers' and practitioners' mutual contribution to evaluation, with the shared goal of developing practices.
4. Finally, **an international policy of scientific partnership** will be implemented to benefit from foreign experiences in evaluation, and to share French experiences. This is a significant means of improving the reach and quality of scientific work.

## Results

The aim of this summer school must be to improve the structuring of research (in the broad sense of the term) on evaluation. Concretely, this will translate into the **training of participants** at the summer school on the issues pertaining to research on evaluation, as well as on the body of methodology and theory needed for evaluation research. This summer school should lead to the production of a **research agenda**, as a first step for structuring a research field in its own right and to provide a guideline for future developments. Finally, the **proceedings** of this event will be published.

## Organisation of the summer school and practical details

There will be four types of activity:

- Training sessions, facilitated by recognised French and foreign specialists in the field of evaluation (researchers and practitioners) who will offer researchers a refresher course and will introduce

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<sup>1</sup> See Michael Scriven in "The concept of a transdiscipline and Evaluation as a transdiscipline", *Journal of MultiDisciplinary Evaluation*, Vol.5, N°10, 2008.

<sup>2</sup> [www.sfe-asso.fr/](http://www.sfe-asso.fr/)

[Web site : Klik here](#)

Contact : [sfe.universite-ete@orange.fr](mailto:sfe.universite-ete@orange.fr)

them to fields other than their own discipline. Participants will be provided with supporting material;

- Workshops where researchers will present their research, which will then be discussed (PhD research, papers in the process of being submitted, research results). The presentations will be selected through a call for contributions (title and one-page abstract to be submitted before 7 May 2010 – [Web site](#)). At the end of the workshops, discussion times will allow for the ideas that have arisen to be shared. Through the production of common knowledge the workshops will thus help to create a network of researchers and a scientific community revolving around research “on” and “about” evaluation;
- Roundtables opened by internationally recognized speakers will offer “strategic” reflection times. The aim will be to explore issues pertaining to the structuring of evaluation as a research field, to the transfer of research results, and to the challenges linked to interactions between the work of researchers and practitioners. It will also be to debate the main lines of enquiry for a common research agenda;
- Time slots will be set aside for cultural activities to create an atmosphere of conviviality and to discover the host region.

## Scientific themes discussed

Evaluation research is both a broad and relatively unstructured field, at least in France. The debates will be structured in two ways:

- Interdisciplinary dialogue and building a scientific community around public policy evaluation: key and structuring issues of research on and about evaluation.
- Issues pertaining to research on evaluation as an action science, which in turn raise the question of the dialogue between researchers and practitioners within systems of scientific knowledge-building. Could an original epistemological and methodological framework be built for research on and about evaluation?

The following themes will be considered:

- *Evaluation theories*
- *Methods of research on evaluation*
- *Research on evaluation as an action science*
- *Building and promoting research on evaluation within an academic framework*
- *Exploiting sector-based and territorial experiences with evaluation*
- *Generating interest among researchers and public authorities for research on evaluation*

## Targeted audiences and calls for papers

This summer school is for anyone enrolled in a research programme related to the theme of evaluation, from young PhD researchers to experienced lecturers and researchers. The participation of young researchers will be encouraged particularly during the workshops. The participation of professionals would be valuable to ground the academic debates within the perspective of the development of evaluative practices.

Due to the limited number of places, a call for papers will be sent out in early 2010. The papers presented can either be *classical* research papers or *doctoral tutorial* papers, so that PhD researchers can present and discuss the progress of their doctoral research.

## Scientific Committee

Gilles Allaire, INRA Toulouse

Jean-Claude Barbier, Université de Paris I, Centre d'Économie de la Sorbonne (*University of Paris I, Sorbonne Centre for Economics*)

Maurice Baslé, CREM-CNRS- University of Rennes 1

Marielle Berriet-Sollicec, AgroSup Dijon / CESAER

Geert Bouckaert, Public Management Institute, K.U Leuven

Annie Fouquet, President of the SFE

Pierre Mathiot, CERAPS-CNRS/Sciences Po Lille (*Political Science Institute of Lille*)

Jean-Pierre Nioche, IAE de Paris (*IAE of Paris*)

Claudine Offredi, University of Grenoble

Patricia Rogers, CIRCLE, RMIT University, Australia\*

Michael Scriven, School of Behavioral and Organizational Sciences, Claremont Graduate University\*

Vincent Spenlehauer, Ecole Nationale des Ponts et Chaussées (*Ponts et Chaussées National School*)

Nicoletta Stame, University of Roma

Jacques Toulemonde, IEP de Lyon – EUREVAL

Frédéric Varone, University of Geneva

## Organisational Committee

Stéphanie Breton, SFE

Sophie Chevillard, Entrepreneurship Research Centre (EM Lyon)

Marion Laurenceau, UMR Cemagref-ENGEEES Public Services Management

Nicolas Matyjasik, CERAPS-CNRS/University of Lille 2

Ludovic Méasson, AgroParisTech – Clermont-Ferrand, UMR METAFORT

Maryline Revaud, IEP de Rennes - UMR CRAPE

Frédéric Zahm, CEMAGREF Bordeaux - unit ADBX

## Contact

Web site : <http://www.sfe-asso.fr>

Contact : [sfe.universite-ete@orange.fr](mailto:sfe.universite-ete@orange.fr)

## Provisional Programme

### Monday 30 August 2010: Socio-historical aspects of research on evaluation

9:00 - 9:30: Welcome coffee/tea

9:30 - 10:00: Presentation of the summer school

10:00 - 12:00: Training conference “Historical and epistemological landmarks of research on and about evaluation”, *Evert Vedung*, Uppsala University.

13:30 - 16:00: Workshop<sup>3</sup> “Transformations and new directions for research on evaluation”

16:30 – 18:00: Roundtable “Research on evaluation: history, issues and perspectives”

*Steve Jacob*, University of Laval, Québec

*Jean-Pierre Nioche*, IAE de Paris, University of Paris I

*Evert Vedung*, Uppsala University.

*Vincent Spenlehauer*, Ecole Nationale des Ponts et Chaussées (*Ponts et Chaussées National School*), France

Welcome dinner cocktail

### Tuesday 31 August 2010: Academic disciplines and research on evaluation

9:00 - 10:30: Training conference – Part 1 “Between theory and practice: formulating a research project on evaluation”, *Patricia Rogers*, CIRCLE, RMIT University, Australia

10:30 - 12:00: Training conference – Part 2 “Between theory and practice: formulating a research project on evaluation”, *Steve Jacob*, University of Laval, Québec

13:30 - 16:00: Workshop “Methodologies for research on evaluation”

16:30 – 18:00: Roundtable “Epistemological foundations for the methodologies employed”

*Jean-Claude Barbier*, Université de Paris I, Centre d'Économie de la Sorbonne (*University of Paris I, Sorbonne Centre for Economics*)

*Marc Gurguand*, Ecole d'Économie de Paris (*Paris School of Economics*)

*Patricia Rogers*, CIRCLE, RMIT University, Australia

*Nicoletta Stame*, University of Rome

Festive evening

### Wednesday 1 September 2010: Sectors, territories and research on evaluation

9:00 - 10:30: Training conference – Part 1 “The contributions of research to sector-based approaches to evaluation”: employment policies, *Yannick L'Horty*, Centre d'Etude et de l'Emploi, Université d'Evry (*Study and Employment Centre, University of Evry*)

10:30 - 12:00: Training conference – Part 2 “The contributions of research to sector-based approaches to evaluation”: public health and development aid, *Valéry Ridde*, University of Montréal and University of Ouagadougou

<sup>3</sup> The themes may change depending on the paper proposals submitted.

13:30 - 16:00: Workshop “The scientific contributions of sector-based and territory-based approaches to evaluation”

16:00 - 18:00: Roundtable “New challenges for evaluation relating to sustainable development”

*Marielle Berriet-Sollic, Agrosup Dijon / CESAER*

*Pieter Leroy\**, Radboud University Nijmegen

*André Martinuzzi*, Institute for Managing Sustainability, Vienna

*Bernard Perret*, Conseil Général de l'environnement et du développement durable, Ministère de l'Ecologie, de l'Energie, du Développement durable et de la Mer (*French Ministry of Energy, Sustainable Development and the Sea*)

Drinks and debate “Entering the professional world after doing research on evaluation” with the stories of several young researchers and professionals.

### **Thursday 2 September 2010: Methods for research on evaluation**

9:00 - 12:30: Training conference “Main concepts of evaluation and their translation into disciplines”:

Part 1- *Nicoletta Stame*, University of Roma

Part 2- *Alain Trannoy*, EHESS-GREQAM\*

13:30 - 16:00: Workshop “Value, issues and limits of interdisciplinary dialogue on evaluation”

16:00 - 22:00: Cultural activities and dinner

### **Friday 3 September 2010: Setting a research agenda for evaluation**

9:00 - 10:30: Roundtable “PhD curriculums on evaluation”

*Maurice Baslé*, University of Rennes

*Jean Leca*, Honorary president of the French Political Science Association

*Ray Pawson*, School of Sociology and Social Policy, University of Leeds\*.

*Philippe Warin*, UMR PACTE, representative of the Association Française de Sociologie (*French Sociology Association*)

10:30 - 12:00: Roundtable facilitated by Annie Bouquet, President of the Société Française de l'Évaluation (*French Evaluation Society*), “Political and administrative expectations for research on evaluation”

*A representative of the French Ministry of Sustainable Development*

*Elected councillors*

*Heads of administration: one local authority representative and one representative from an international organisation*

13:30 - 15:00: Roundtable facilitated by the network’s scientific committee “Setting a research agenda for evaluation”

15:00 - 16:00: Closing conference by leading specialist *Ray Pawson*, School of Sociology and Social Policy, University of Leeds\*.

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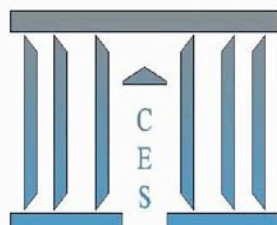
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