Invitation

This issue of the newsletter is mainly devoted to the Sixth EES Conference that will take place in Berlin on September 30-October 2, 2004, in collaboration with the German Evaluation Society (DeGEval). Our partner in the organization of the Conference is the University of Applied Sciences for Public Administration and Legal Affairs (FHVR Berlin) that will host the Conference in its new campus in East Berlin.

As in previous occasions, the choice for the place and venue of the Conference reflects rotation criteria, and prospects of development. In implementing the EES policy of linking with national evaluation associations, Berlin was to our eyes the place to go in 2004 for strengthening our ties with DeGEval and with the emerging and already flourishing evaluation networks and association in the Eastern European countries.

The Conference title is “Governance, Democracy and Evaluation”. This theme encompasses many issues that are debated by the community of evaluators and concerned people. It touches the core of evaluation activities and functions, but it may disclose specific aspects for people working in different levels of government, sector of policy, or geographic area. In the newsletter you will find the call for papers, and the proposed format of the sessions.

We hope that you will participate in the Conference bringing your own thoughts and experience as evaluator, commissioner, utilizor, researcher or reflective citizen. You may want to discuss theoretical and methodological implications, the perspective from such sectors as education, health, research and development, socio-economic development, and more. It is the variety of approaches, the complexity of policies, articulation of sectors and multidisciplinarity, and – last but not least – the European multiculturality and openness to the international community that make our conferences an exciting event, as we are sure the Berlin conference will be. Come join us!

Nicoletta Stame, EES President 2004-05

European Evaluation Society
6th Conference

in collaboration with the German Evaluation Society (DeGEval)

September 30 – October 2, 2004
Berlin

Governance, Democracy and Evaluation

The need for evaluation is widely acknowledged inside governments that are seeking to ‘modernize’ and introduce new approaches to governance, at the national and international level. In this context, there is a real need to deepen our understanding of the contribution that evaluation can bring to democratic and transparent modes of governance.

Deadline for call for papers April 1st 2004

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The Conference aims at addressing various issues that may shed light on the general theme, such as:

- The complexity of programs, the multiplicity of institutional partners and stakeholders, multi-cultural environments, and the combination of policy tools: how can evaluation improve all this in a way that respects cultural diversity and enhances social justice?
- Accountability is increasingly regarded as ‘mutual accountability’ between decision makers, public managers and citizens, each of these partners having responsibility toward the other, in order to better work in the public interest.
- Standards and guidelines for evaluation activities and functions are no longer seen as rigid rules, but as shared within ‘communities of practice’, that have to be elaborated collectively: a joint process of value construction.
- Policy implementation, with all its stress on agency, accountability and organizational learning, has taken centre stage in the evaluation of results and impacts. Policy making is not about a decision, it is process – and often it is this process that explains results and impacts and how these can be improved.
- Knowledge management and education in evaluation are seen as crucial part of institutional development. To use evaluation institutions need to know what they know. However underlying these concerns is how knowledge is distilled through experience-networks, meta-analyses and syntheses.

The conference will be open to discuss how these themes relate to programs and policies implemented at national and European levels, to the processes of accession to the EU, to international and local development in a ‘globalized’ world. The conference will welcome inputs from many different perspectives: from different policy sectors; institutional (and non institutional) perspectives; local, national, regional and international programs and interventions; civil society including NGOs, associations and third sector actors.

We invite you to send your proposal on any of these themes, and on whatever you think could contribute to this agenda. We hope to make this an event that will gather practitioners and experts from many different communities of people that are working together to strengthen and better understand democracy and good governance through evaluation.

Deadline for proposal presentation: April 1, 2004

FHVR Berlin - University of Applied Sciences for Public Administration and Legal Affairs
Alt-Friedrichsfelde 60
D 10315 Berlin

The Conference format includes these types of presentation: paper sessions, symposia, posters, group tables, networking groups:

1. Paper sessions
A paper session is based on two or three papers that reflect on evaluation research and practice. Such papers would report on particular evaluations, compare different evaluations or explore more theoretical points. The session is ninety minutes long. It includes presentation by the authors (15 minutes each), comments by discussants and questions from the floor. Papers would normally be between 5,000 and 8,000 words and be available prior to the conference. Please e-mail your proposal, including title, an abstract of about 250 words, indicating how you propose to relate to the conference title and its themes, to the EES Secretary.

2. Symposia
A symposium consists of a moderated debate on a particular topic relevant to evaluation today and to the conference themes. It will involve four to six panelists as well as a wider audience. The chairperson will present a short introductory paper and raise a series of issues for discussion. Panelists and participants from the audience will react through brief interventions. If you would like to propose a panel session, please e-mail the title, provisional list of panelists and a short description of the content of the debate (of between 150 and 250 words) together with how it relates to the conference title and its themes, to the EES Secretary.

3. Posters
A poster consists of a participant proposing a paper for discussion for colleagues attending the conference. There will be a parallel presentation of posters in dedicated space which could allow all participants to move freely among posters. If you would like to present a poster, please come to the conference with a poster and 25 copies of your introductory paper (1,000-3,000 words). Please e-mail the title of the poster, a brief description of the topic of the paper (approximately 150 words) and how it relates to the conference title and its themes, to the EES Secretary.

Continued on page 3...
4. Group tables.
The group table is a small-scale, quite informal dialogue in the form of a paper presentation. Two presenters and some participants sit around a table. The presenter talks for about 10-15 minutes, followed by a discussion. Then the other presenter does the same thing. Presenters are matched thematically to the extent possible. Session length for two presenters: 45 minutes. If you would like to present a paper in a Group table, please come to the conference with copies of your paper. Please e-mail the title of your paper, and a brief description of the topic of the paper (approximately 150 words) to the EES Secretary.

5. Networking groups
EES Conferences are places for networking and sharing experiences, apart from the official program. There will be spaces devoted to self-organized meetings and spontaneous gatherings. A networking group is advertised through a poster in the main conference hall and it is organized at the conference.

The Conference program also includes:
- keynote addresses from internationally renowned experts in evaluation
- round tables on the conference main themes
- pre-conference training

The full program will be circulated as soon as your proposals have been reviewed.

Educational and professional development
Pre-conference training and education will be held on the morning of September 30, 2004. If you are interested in proposing a pre-conference session please submit a proposal indicating: a) the title of the session; b) the name, affiliation and experience of the trainer; c) the content and coverage of the session (domain, methodology, evaluation practice skills); d) the pedagogic mode and learning outcomes envisaged; e) the intended beneficiaries (level and any other expectation).

Help us run the Conference
We are keen to encourage members of the Society to take an active role in the Conference, by reviewing papers; convening, chairing and acting as discussants and rapporteurs for different conference sessions. If you are willing to take on such a role, please contact the EES Secretary, indicating which role you are willing to take on.

Venue of the Conference
The Conference will be held at the FHVR Berlin - University of Applied Sciences for Public Administration and Legal Affairs (Alt-Friedrichsfelde 60 - D 10315 Berlin, Germany), in the new campus where it has recently moved. It is located in the Eastern part of Berlin, and can be reached by the S-bahn and U-bahn.

Delegates will be hosted in hotels in Mitte (the exciting centre undergoing a renaissance) and will receive travel passes to the Conference venue. Accommodation will be provided at varied standards of comfort and price; special rates will be negotiated for participants. During the Conference there will be social events in places of historical interest.

Language sensitivity
European conferences are usually held in English as a working language, but we know not all the participants can express themselves in that language, as they would like. On the other hand it would be impossible to use more than one language, as Europe is a multicultural continent where about as many languages as countries are spoken. Usually, for budget reasons, translations into the language of the hosting country are offered only of keynote addresses.

We welcome sessions in other languages (in which case you can send your abstract in your language) and any specific initiative that other language speakers may want to take.

In order to facilitate participation and understanding we would like to ask everybody to take care of this problem during the conference. Chairpersons will ensure that people for whom English is the native language make an effort to speak slowly; if needed other people may ask a question in their language and have someone translating it into English. We ask participants to volunteer helping each other.

Let us know what languages you know that you could use to help translate questions at a papers session, to offer simultaneous translation to other participants, to make the conference a collaborative environment.
Welcome to FHVR Berlin

The FHVR Berlin is very pleased about the decision of the European Evaluation Society to hold its conference 2004 in Berlin on the premises of the university. In fact, the members of staff are very proud to host this event and are ready to contribute to the success of the conference as well as to the well-being of the participants.

FHVR Berlin – the University of Applied Sciences for Public Administration and Legal Affairs – is a Berlin State university which was founded in 1973. The FHVR is providing study programmes especially in the field of public administration, European policies, law, justice and public safety. Special emphasis is laid on innovative training methods such as e-learning and long-distance training. Multidisciplinary modules, work experiences and international orientation form an integral part of the study programmes and help to strengthen the competences and professional skills of the students.

The main theme of the EES conference 2004, “Democracy, Governance and Evaluation” corresponds immediately to the scientific interests of the FHVR Berlin. The FHVR was the first University in Germany which established in 1994 a study programme in public management which proved to be one of the catalysts for the reform of the public sector with elements of governance and evaluation being innovative parts of this modernization process.

One of the aims of the EES conference 2004 in Berlin is to bridge between Western Europe, the accessing countries to the European Union and other countries in Eastern Europe. This issue is on the agenda of the FHVR Berlin, too. The University runs a multi-national master-programme on European administrative management together with the Adam-Mickiewicz-University in Poznan/Poland and an expanding network with affiliated partners from other European countries (for example the Southbank University London) as well.

In research the university has established prominent profiles in the fields of administration sciences, European integration, development of public policies, justice and crime and is well known for its high academic standards and its international networking. For many years FHVR Berlin has been involved in the evaluation of European Structural Fund interventions, covering European wide Community Initiatives as well as re

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The German Evaluation Society
„Deutsche Gesellschaft für Evaluation“ (DeGEval)

The German Evaluation Society was founded in 1997. In 2004, the German Evaluation Society is supported by more than 300 individual members and more than 50 institutional members.

Aims and working areas of the DeGEval are:
1. Consolidation of Different Perspectives
2. Professionalisation of Evaluation
3. Promotion of Information and Interchange

Thus the German Evaluation Society is strongly committed
- to enforce obligatory standards of evaluation including regulations for “Self Evaluation”
- to promote high quality training programmes according to the “guidelines for evaluation training”
- to communicate the results of sophisticated evaluations to clients, evaluator and to those who are subject to evaluations

To reach these goals the German Evaluation Society
- Organizes annual meetings
- Supports the German Evaluation Journal (“Zeitschrift für Evaluation”)
- Organizes and supports a E-mail service and a mailing list that create a forum for information about evaluation

National and international cooperation
Ever since the foundation, the German Evaluation Society fosters the exchange with significant national institutes and organisations, who have different functions in the field of evaluation. These contacts cover political departments, universities, evaluation agencies and companies. A main goal of future work is the extension of international contacts, e.g. to the European Evaluation Society (EES) and relevant political sectors in Europe.

Organization
The German Evaluation Society is registered as an incorporated association. In addition to the executive board, which is supported by a managing office, the society receives support from the topical interest working groups.

Members of the executive board
Univ. Prof. Dr. Dr. Christiane Spiel (President)
Günter Tissen (Vice-President)
Dr. Wolfgang Beywl
Dr. Alexandra Caspari
Dr. Uwe Schmidt

Topical Interest Groups
Training of evaluation; Vocational education and training; Developmental Policy; Health Higher Education; Research, Technology and Innovation Policy; Media; Schools; Social Services; Urban and Regional development; Structural Policy; Environment Administration

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Special issue of the journal Evaluation on the Fifth EES Conference 2002

The first issue of the journal, Evaluation, for 2004 (Volume 10.1) includes highlights from the Proceedings of the EES Conference held in Seville in October 2002. Articles include:

- What shapes European Evaluation: Introductory remarks by Elliot Stern
- Theory-based Evaluation: a binding perspective for a learning government by Peter van der Knaap
- The Mechanisms and Outcomes of Evaluation Influence by Mel Mark and Gary Henry
- Theory-based Evaluation and Various Types of Complexity by Nicoletta Stame
- Exploring Popper’s Relevance for the Evaluation Community by Olaf Rieper
- Scale, Complexity and the Representation of Theories of Change by Rick Davies

Remember:
the journal is included in your membership – another reason to join!
The EES board composition

Nicoletta Stame (ITALY), President, is a Professor of Social Policy at the University “La Sapienza”, Rome. She was a co-founder and first president of the Italian Evaluation Association, has served on the EES board since 1998, and is member of the board of IDEAS (international development evaluation association). She is associate editor of “Evaluation” and a member of the editorial board of “Rassegna Italiana di valutazione”. Her main research interests include evaluation theory and methodology, and its relationship with the social sciences; socio-economic local development and international development; social policies, small firms and family strategies. nstame@aiconet.it

Peter Dahler-Larsen (DENMARK), Vice-President, Ph.D. He is Professor at the Department of Political Science and Public Administration, Southern Denmark University. His research interests include cultural and institutional perspectives on evaluation. He has published in Evaluation, Evaluation and Society, Studies in Educational Policy and Educational Philosophy, and in Sociologia e Ricerca Sociale and in Danish books and journals. He has done international fieldwork in Estonia, Transylvania, Moldova, and Namibia and has helped ministries in Denmark develop evaluation. He organized the first EES professional workshop in Odense together with Nicoletta Stame and Elliot Stern. pdl@sam.sdu.dk

Richard Boyle (EIRE), Treasurer, works as a senior research officer in the Institute of Public Administration in Dublin. Richard has a long-standing interest in the theory and practice of evaluation. He has a particular interest in evaluation capacity development, both within organizations, and more broadly within governmental systems. Internationally, he is an active participant in EES activities, a member of the international evaluation working-group (Inteval), and has contributed to EU, OECD and World Bank initiatives on evaluation practice. At home in Ireland, he has carried out evaluation studies, published widely on evaluation, provided support for the EU/Irish evaluation of structural funds assistance to Ireland, and is the chair of a coordinating committee that established an Irish evaluation network in 2002. Rboyle@ipa.ie

Sandra Speer (GERMANY), General Secretary, is a Partner of Univation - Institute for Evaluation and Training - a Cologne-based private consultancy. The focus of her work is on national and international evaluation research for public agencies like the Federal Ministry of Health and Social Security as well as evaluations in the fields of vocational education and training, labour market and social policy. She is interested in fostering relations between different European evaluation cultures and networks. One of her specializations is in evaluation methodology, the relationship of different preordinate and emergent evaluation models. She worked as a researcher at the Seminar of Social Sciences, University of Cologne. Currently she is a part-time- lecturer in economics at the Universities of Applied Sciences in Gummersbach and Dortmund. sandra.speer@netcologne.de

Board Members

Maurice Baslé (FRANCE) is a University professor in Economics, Jean Monnet chair in European integration and specialized in regionalized policy evaluation methodology. Based in University of Rennes in France, he was also director of a doctorate school of economics and now director of a master in Evaluation and financial analysis. He was a member of the National scientific Council of Evaluation (1995-1999), and has been elected as first president of the new French evaluation society (1999-2002). Now, he is in charge of a regional scientific council in evaluation in Brittany. His publications are consecrated to some theoretical debates and the comparative advantages of different approaches in Evaluations but also to case studies of sector or thematic evaluations of public policies. His new center of interest is in knowledge and data bases as preludes to the writing of terms of reference. maurice.basle@univ-rennes1.fr

Marta Foresti (ITALY/UNITED KINGDOM) is working as senior policy and evaluation adviser for the Department of Economic and Social development at the Ministry of Economics and Finance in Rome. She is also collaborating with international development and human rights agencies on research, policy and evaluation issues. Her main areas of interest are: international development policies with a particular focus on human rights and child rights; evaluation of economic and social development policies, role and accountability of civil society; institutionalisation and promotion of evaluation culture within international and local agencies; participatory and inclusive approaches to evaluation. Marta has been a member of the EES Board for the past two years and is a member of the Italian and UK Evaluation Societies. Marta_foresti@yahoo.co.uk

bernard.perret@equipement.gouv.fr

Carmen Vélez Méndez (SPAIN), (33 years old) is a researcher at the Instituto de Desarrollo Regional, University Foundation in Spain, coordinating the area of Public Policy Evaluation. She has performed evaluation tasks for the European Union as well as for the Spanish's Central Government, for the Regional Government of Andalusia and for different Local Governments (Municipalities, Districts and Provincial Governments) regarding different projects, programmes, initiatives, etc. She has been included in the database of experts regarding the domain of plan appreciation and evaluation of Community structural interventions in 1999 created by the Directorate General XVI. Also, she has recently published a handbook on evaluation tools and methodology and is the General Secretary of the Spanish Evaluation Society. She is currently working in her Ph.D. thesis on Public Policy Evaluation and is teaching Economy in the Higher School of Industrial Engineering, University of Seville.
carmenvelez@idr.es

Thomas Widmer (SWITZERLAND) is a lecturer and the head of the Research Unit on ‘Policy Analysis & Evaluation’ at the University of Zurich’s Department of Political Science. He was born in Switzerland in 1963 and received his M.A. (1991) and Ph.D. (1995) in political science from the University of Zurich. During the 2002/2003 academic year, he was a Visiting Scholar at Harvard University. Widmer has been working in the area of evaluation since the late eighties. Since his main interest lies in the area of evaluation quality, he has worked in the field of meta-evaluation and evaluation standards for many years. As head of the Research Unit on ‘Policy Analysis & Evaluation’, he currently manages evaluation and research projects on public health, education, foreign policy, right-wing extremism and institutional reform. He is involved in the Swiss Evaluation Society as a member of the Board and as the head of the Task Force on Evaluation Standards. thow@pwi.unizh.ch

Co-opted members

Murray Saunders is Director of CSET [Centre for the Study of Education and Training] and Professor of Evaluation in Work and Education at Lancaster University, UK. He has acted as a consultant to, and has undertaken a wide range of evaluation projects for, the British Council, DfES [Department for Education and Skills], DFID [Department for International Development], ESRC [The Education and Social Research Council] and HEFCE [Higher Education Funding Council]. He has carried out evaluation and research projects in a wide range of cultural contexts, including China, Japan, Singapore, Tanzania, Jordan, Russia and Ethiopia as well as in other member states of the EU. He is past president and Council member of the UK Evaluation Society, was chair of the coordinating committee for the establishment of the IOCE [International Organisation for Cooperation in Evaluation] and is associate editor of the only international multidisciplinary academic journal in the field - Evaluation. m.saunders@lancaster.ac.uk

Ulrich Schiefer (GERMANY/PORTUGAL) is Professor at the Higher Institute for Labour and Business Studies, (ISCTE), Lisbon, Portugal and Privatdozent at the University of Münster, Germany. He currently lectures Sociology and Social Anthropology and teaches Planning, Evaluation and Organizational Development in Master’s courses. His work includes research, evaluations and consultancy for international development organisations, for ministries, local government and civil sector organizations. His main areas of interest are: The influence of external development interventions on societies and institutions and the role of (participatory) evaluation on institutional and social change. He is currently assisting the setting up of institutional networks with integrated planning and evaluation components in the social sector in Portugal.
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http://www.europeanevaluation.org/

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The EES first professional development workshop, Odense, October 2003

The EES organized its first professional development workshop in Odense, Denmark, in October 2003. 25 participants from 14 countries actively participated in lectures, group work and discussions around the themes of theory and participation in evaluation. Internally renowned experts, Ray Pawson, Evert Vedung, and Christina Segerholm gave lectures. The event was evaluated positively. The participants enjoyed the program and the opportunity to meet other aficionados of evaluation across the boundaries of nations, policy sectors, and gender. The workshop provided a set of experiences, which will be used in the planning of future training activities and workshops. The EES has organized a working group to look at these possibilities. Nicoletta Stame, Elliot Stern, and Peter Dahler-Larsen arranged the workshop.

EES Membership

Anyone who is interested in evaluation will benefit from an EES membership, including those commissioning, managing, conducting and using evaluations. EES members come from different communities of evaluation practice and research, including national and local public administrations, universities and research institutions, professional and sectoral organisations, international agencies, European institutions and NGOs.

As a member of EES, you will therefore have the opportunity to take part in the Society’s efforts to build bridges between different institutions and specialists and facilitate exchanges between different cultural and national traditions. As an EES member you will be entitled to several benefits, including

- The EES Newsletter
- One year subscription to "Evaluation: the International Journal of Theory, Research and practice". (5 copies for institutional member)
- Substantial reductions on EES Conference fees.

Membership fees:
Individual membership 95 EUR (2004)

New secretariat and new contact information

The EES gratefully acknowledges the generosity and professionalism, which has characterized the secretarial support provided by the Belgian Court of Audit for a number of years. However, all good things have an end.

Beginning on January 1st, 2004, the Department of Political Science and Public Management at the University of Southern Denmark now hosts the secretariat. Our administrative officer is M.Sc Ane Møller. Her contact information is:

E-mail: ees@sam.sdu.dk
Phone: (+45) 6550 3275
Fax: (+45) 6550 2280

Ane Møller speaks English and Spanish fluently.

EES is looking forward to cooperating with the University of Southern Denmark in order to prepare an optimal secretarial arrangement for the next era in the history of EES. The new secretarial arrangement will end no later than December 31, 2007.

Thanks to the Belgian Court of Audit

The Belgian Court of Audit has hosted the EES secretariat for three years. We acknowledge the generous support that we have received and we wish to thank in particular Franz Wascotte, Court Chancellor who has been EES General Secretary during this period, and Jacques Cornet and Annie Berckmans who have performed administrative tasks in a competent, responsible, creative and warm way.

They have been our precious partners in the daily life of the society, in the organization of big events, and recently in taking up responsibilities for making the transition to the new Secretariat an effective process.

The Belgian Court of Audit is an appreciated institutional member of the EES, and in expressing our thanks we look forward to new ways of collaboration and exchange.
JOIN THE EUROPEAN EVALUATION SOCIETY

The EES is open to all persons interested in evaluation, professionally or academically. Experiences from the evaluation societies in all the regions of the world show that members may come from a wide range of disciplines. We hope you too want to participate! As a member, you will receive our Newsletter, a one year subscription to "Evaluation: the International Journal of Theory, Research and Practise" and benefit from reductions on EES Conference fees and other activities.

The Society's primary goal is to promote theory, practice and utilisation of high quality evaluation especially, but not exclusively, within the European countries. This goal is obtained by bringing together academics, policy makers and practitioners from all over Europe and from any professional sectors, thus creating a forum where all participants can benefit from the cooperation and bridge building.

The individual membership fee is EUR 95 and the institutional membership fee EUR 1200. Only the members who have paid their membership 2004 will receive the Evaluation Journal and reductions on the Conference fees or other activities.

If you decide on joining the EES, we kindly ask you to register and pay on our website: http://www.europeanevaluation.org/

You may also use the form in this newsletter. Fill in the required information and mark off how you would like to pay your membership fee. For administrative reasons, we would very much appreciate your payment by credit card.

If you have any questions regarding EES or how to become a member, please feel free to contact our Administrative Officer:

Ane Møller
E-mail: ees@sam.sdu.dk
Fax: +45 6550 2280

We look forward to hearing from you!

Have you read the Newsletter and decided that you want to join the European Evaluation Society?

Please register and pay online on our website: http://www.europeanevaluation.org/ or you might prefer to fill in the form below and send it to:

European Evaluation Society

c/o University of Southern Denmark, Campusvej 55
DK 5230 Odense M
Fax: +45 6550 2280

☐ Yes, I want to become an individual member of the EES - Membership fee 95 EUR

☐ Yes, we want to become an institutional member of the EES - Membership fee 1200 EUR

☐ I would like to pay the membership fee for 2004 as follows:

☐ Please send me an invoice.
☐ Please charge my Credit Card
  ☐ Visa ☐ Eurocard
  ☐ Mastercard ☐ Am Ex

Credit card number:

Date of expiry:

Signature

Name:
Function:
Institution:
Address:

Phone:
Fax:
E-mail: