



2008 OPEN Council

President

Tanya Ostrogorsky has been involved with OPEN since 2002. Currently, she is working at the OHSU School of Nursing Office of Academic Affairs as the Manager of Policies, Procedures, and Program Evaluation. Prior to coming to OHSU School of Nursing she worked at the PSU Regional Research Institute, PSU Survey Research Laboratory, and several other departments within PSU. Ms. Ostrogorsky has earned a master degree in psychology and a master degree in administration of justice from PSU where she developed both qualitative and quantitative research and analysis skills. Ms. Ostrogorsky currently serves as an external reviewer for the Oregon DHS Evidence-Based Practice Initiative and has worked as a private consultant to educational systems, non-profit consortiums, and foundations in the local area. Her area of practice include evaluation capacity-building, focus groups, survey methods, and is focused on the utilization of evaluation data to improve programs and practice.

President-Elect

Michael Sikes is a Portland-based evaluation consultant. Before relocating to Oregon, he taught educational research at Antioch University Santa Barbara. Dr. Sikes has evaluated several international projects, including international cultural exchanges sponsored by the U.S. Department of Education and the U.S. Department of State; school-improvement programs focused on standards-based instruction; environmental education programs; arts and cultural programs, including a partnership between the Smithsonian Institution and Washington, DC, schools; and professional development initiatives around the country. His areas of expertise include evaluation and research design and methodology, evaluation theory, Participatory Action Research, qualitative and ethnographic methods, the teaching of evaluation, and Positive Organizational Scholarship. He holds a Ph.D. and a certificate in program evaluation from Florida State University.

Secretary

Kelly Smith has been involved with OPEN since 2006. She is currently a full-time student in the Master of Public Administration program at Portland State University, and plans to graduate in June 2008. She has an undergraduate degree in Economics with a minor in Sociology from University of Oregon. Early in her career she worked as a research analyst for a local economics consulting firm and as a benefit/cost analyst for Kaiser Permanente in Southern California. Most recently, she worked as a government relations assistant at Oregon Education Association before deciding to pursue her professional interests in program evaluation and policy analysis, with a focus on human services delivery in the public and non-profit sectors. Kelly has several years of experience serving as secretary in non-profit organizations, and looks forward to contributing to OPEN.

Financial Officer

Carolyn Manke holds a BS in Education from the University of Maine and a MS in Sociology from Portland State University. Ms. Manke's career began providing direct services in educational settings, after completing graduate school her focus shifted to Research and Program Evaluation. Ms. Manke is currently working for *Friends of the Children* – National as the Manager of Evaluation. Ms. Manke's principal project is the design and implementation of a web-based program database system for the *Friends of the Children* network.

Communications Team:

Pamela Clark's current work focuses on helping researchers disseminate their work and build research related skills, and also on marketing and communications for a variety of sport and health non-profits. In the past two

months, she has planned and/or marketed a blood drive, a preschool forum, two surf contests, and the work of a Portland photographer. Every day is different which is great! Her last full time research job was as the Chief Drug and Alcohol Research Analyst for the then Oregon Office of Mental Health and Addiction Services. In 2008 she will be the Communications Director for OPEN and is excited about the new events we have for the year.

Chari Smith has been OPEN newsletter editor since 2002! She has enjoyed watching OPEN change and grow over the last few years. Currently, she is the principal in CRSmith Consulting (www.crsmithconsulting.com) offering strategic planning for small businesses and nonprofits. Prior to consulting, she worked at the NW Regional Educational Laboratory as a program evaluation associate. She had the opportunity to work on multiple projects including Washington Reading First, Chess for Success, and the Corrections Learning Network. Her current consulting business focuses on a variety of strategic tools including program planning/evaluation, marketing, brand development, writing, and research. She looks forward to another OPEN year!

Juna Snow has been involved with OPEN since 2003 and continues to serve as the OPEN webmaster from outside of Oregon. Currently, she is principal consultant of InnovatEd Consulting (www.innovatedconsulting.com), a faculty member at the University of Illinois and the University of Central Missouri, and a member of the American Evaluation Association. Before founding her consulting business, Dr. Snow served on the Boston University faculty in the Office of Educational Research and Evaluation. With a Ph.D. from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Dr. Snow possesses more than 10 years of experience in education as a curriculum designer, technology developer, and instructional trainer and teacher in formal and nonformal settings. During the past eight years, she has honed her expertise in applied social science research including learning assessment, outcomes measurement, and program evaluation. InnovatEd Consulting emphasizes innovation design and diffusion services in educational, social, and environmental programs with a science and technology specialization and mixed-method design expertise in research and program evaluation.

Ryan Bliss has been involved with OPEN since 2007. Ryan currently works as a Project Director for Research Into Action where he assists with project management and conducts research in support of evaluation and market research projects. Prior to joining Research Into Action, Mr. Bliss worked for more than 15 years conducting health issues related research as a biostatistician and project development manager. He has an MA in psychology from the University of Minnesota and a BA in psychology from Cornell University.

Student Representative

Gina Magharious has been involved with OPEN since 2006. Gina received a Bachelor of Science in Psychology from the University of Georgia. Before applying to graduate schools, Gina worked for a non-profit organization, and this experience helped her decide that instead of working for non-profit organizations, she wanted to help other non-profit organizations improve their services through evaluation. Gina is receiving her PhD in Applied Psychology from Portland State University. Gina is tailoring her education for a career in program evaluation by receiving a minor in research methods, along with a major in social psychology, and receiving her practicum and internship credits in program evaluation.

AEA Affiliate Representative:

Elizabeth Bamberger has been involved with OPEN since 2004, serving on the Member Services Committee for several years. She also contributed to OPEN's cultural competency initiative and student outreach efforts. She worked with community development NGOs in Latin America for several years. After relocating to the USA, she earned a PhD in Sociology at the University of Maryland. For several years she conducted evaluations of community-led substance abuse prevention programs for the Pacific Institute for Research and Evaluation. Most recently, prior to retiring, she worked as a consultant to the World Bank, evaluating international development projects for their performance in areas such as gender equity and community participation. Her efforts with the AEA Local Affiliates Cooperative will focus on developing methods to increase

communications between Affiliates, to facilitate discussion of common challenges and share strategies for success.