



Please forward this announcement to any of your students or other individuals who may be interested in attending.

Announcing the 2005 Oregon Program Evaluators Network (OPEN) Student Event

Wednesday, May 4, 12-2 p.m., Portland State University (Room to be announced)

Cost: Free (includes lunch)

Please join us for a discussion about program evaluation and careers. In the midst of the accountability era, most professions involve judgments of quality, worth, or impact of a program. Whether by choice or circumstance, more and more professionals are conducting evaluations. Explore the field of evaluation through a discussion of the “basics” of being an evaluator, including ethics, methods, and philosophies of practice. Representative evaluators will share their stories about how they got into the field, why they chose (or were chosen) to become evaluation professionals, and how they apply their knowledge and skills in their work.

During this presentation you will:

- Learn about the general principles of evaluation practice.
- Hear about the value of evaluation research methods and skills in your career.
- Learn how to make program evaluation a part of your skill set, as a way to increase your marketability in your chosen field.
- Discover resources available for evaluation-related work.

Employers are increasingly interested in finding employees who have evaluation research skills, and existing employees are being asked by employers to develop and expand their professional skill set in this area. A new climate of accountability now requires that employees make knowledgeable decisions about the efficacy and effectiveness of the projects/programs they are involved in, something that evaluators do everyday. Thus, the skills that evaluators use are not only valuable in traditional evaluation practice but also in other, more general areas of professional work, as employees are increasingly being asked to determine whether that projects/programs in which they are involved are successfully achieving their intended goals.

If you are interested in attending this program or have any questions, please contact the OPEN Student Representative, Bob Linhares, at rdlinhar@indiana.edu, 971-221-3489. The exact location of the event will be provided to those who RSVP this message. Also, for those individuals living outside of Portland, we will be working to arrange carpools with other individuals in your area.

We look forward to seeing you there!