



# OREGON PROGRAM EVALUATORS NETWORK

May 2024 Newsletter

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### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear OPEN Members,

So much has been happening to prepare for the AEA conference that will be here before we know it! AEA staff members Zachary Gray and Nicki Sheffield attended our AEA conference planning meeting. This monthly meeting is for committee leads to share information and collaborate across committees. Zachary and Nicki shared updates about conference planning, including a great opportunity for students to receive a waived conference registration in exchange for volunteering at the conference. This opportunity opens when registration begins this summer, exact date to be announced later.

A big shout out to our amazing Communications Manager, Beryl Neequaye. She will be posting on OPEN's [LinkedIn](#) and [Facebook](#) pages about what OPEN is up to, so be sure to check it out! And, please add to the conversation.

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](mailto:chari@evaluationintoaction.com)

Thank you,  
Chari Smith, OPEN President 2024

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### EVENTS

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#### EnCompass Learning Center courses

##### **Organizational Capacity Assessment**

**Instructor:** Scott Chaplowe

**When:** May 7, 9, & 14, 2024

**Time:** 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM (EDT)

**Location:** Online via Zoom

Organizations deliver the interventions (e.g. programs, strategy, policy) that we evaluate. Therefore, the ability to assess, understand, and advise organizational capacity development in relation to these interventions is an important skill set in the evaluator's toolbox. This workshop will bridge theoretical concepts with practical, hands-on guidance for organizational capacity assessment (OCA), stressing a heuristic, systemic approach that can be adapted to different organizational contexts.

[More info here](#)

## **Mixed Methods Research and Evaluation**

**Instructor:** Cherie M. Avent

**When:** May 20, 21, & 22, 2024

**Time:** 12:00 PM - 3:00 PM (EDT)

**Location:** Online via Zoom

This course introduces evaluators and researchers to mixed methods inquiry. Combining mixed method approaches can allow for better understanding and solving complex problems. Further, mixed methods engage diverse viewpoints. We will explore the nature and purpose of mixed methods, techniques for designing and conducting a mixed-method study, and strategies for reporting findings.

[More info here](#)

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## **AEA & AFFILIATES EVENTS**

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### **Organizational Learning & Evaluation Capacity Building TIG**

#### **Learning At the Center of Organizational Success: How To Create and Use an Organizational Learning Plan**

**When:** Wednesday, May 8, 2024

**Time:** 12PM (EST)

**Location:** Virtual

**Presenters:** Katherine Haugh & Lia Mayka Mumbo

Do you hear the term "learning culture" and feel a mix of confusion and excitement? Yes, it sounds great, but what does a learning culture actually entail? And what types of practices, mindsets and behaviors actually support a learning culture? That's where an organizational learning plan comes in. We know from literature and experience that organizational learning plans help organizations and teams facilitate a true learning culture.

**Here's what will be covered in the session:**

1. What an organizational learning plan is, what the key components are, and why your organization or team needs one;
2. How to actually create an organizational learning plan that works for your organization or team;
3. Common challenges faced by organizations when putting their learning plan into action and what to do about them;
4. Platforms for creating and managing your organizational learning plan and practical examples of what organizational learning plans look like.

This will be a highly interactive 60-min workshop led by Katherine Haugh, CEO and Founder of The Convive Collective and Lia Mayka Mumbo, Independent Consultant & Learning Experience Designer at The Convive Collective.

[Register Here!](#)

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## **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](#)

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## Evaluation24 Committees: Lead Volunteer Spotlight

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### Welcoming Committee for



#### What is the Welcoming Committee doing?

- Developing a guide to popular, quirky, and fun things for conference attendees to do in the Portland area. They are striving to give attendees a great impression of Portland that is inclusive and value-aligned with AEA. The guide will be available online and in print to all conference attendees.

#### Meet the leads coordinating the welcoming committee: Justin & Alexis



#### Why they volunteer to lead the welcoming committee:

- Justin believes connection is an integral part of any professional conference, and he wants to help to facilitate that connection by linking people to great social spaces in Portland.
- Alexis cannot wait to share the many ways she stays entertained in Portland. She spends her free time finding new restaurants on social media and inviting people in her life to tag along. In between meals, she loves attending live shows and musicals, floating in lakes and rivers, and browsing through strange finds in used bookstores.

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## 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@natlsea.org](mailto:tryce.taylor@natlsea.org)*

## OPPORTUNITIES

### **OPEN DEIJ 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 be 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](mailto:info@oregoneval.org). Please note, all submissions are subject to OPEN Council approval.

## From the Job Board ( Jobs, RFPs, & Internships: March & April)

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**

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### Call for OPEN Committee Members & Presenters

Do you want to help make OPEN a vibrant community? We need your help! We're looking event presenters and ideas, committee members to organize events, 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!

If you no longer wish to receive these emails you can [unsubscribe](#) at any time.