The Evaluation Center was established in 1965 at The Ohio State University and relocated to Western Michigan University in 1973.

The 2010-11 Evaluation Center annual report was submitted in draft form to Dr. Daniel Litynski, WMU Vice-President for Research on May 24, 2011. The final version is available on The Evaluation Center’s’ website at www.wmich.edu/evalctr/about.

The Evaluation Center is a research unit that reports to the Vice-President for Research. The Center itself is not a degree-granting department, but does administer the Interdisciplinary Ph.D. in Evaluation (IDPE) program and has a close, synergistic relationship with it. The Center houses the IDPE program, providing office space for Dr. Chris Coryn, the IDPE program director, and all IDPE students. The Center’s office coordinator and office associate provide administrative support to the IDPE. Three Center senior staff members are associate faculty for the IDPE, serving on students’ dissertation and program committees, supervising field experiences, and occasionally teaching courses. Many IDPE students gain practical experience in evaluation by participating in externally-funded Center projects.

Because of this mutually beneficial, synergistic relationship, this annual report reflects the activities and achievements of both The Evaluation Center and IDPE, with clear indications as to which personnel, activities, and achievements relate to which entity.
Faculty, staff, and student personnel

WMU supports the equivalent of four full-time equivalent (FTE) positions within The Evaluation Center, plus the IDPE director, who is faculty. All other Center staff and operations are funded through externally funded projects, either directly or by indirect costs.

Leadership Team

Stephen Magura, Evaluation Center Director  
Ph.D., Sociology, Rutgers University

Daniela Schröter, Evaluation Center Director of Research  
Ph.D., Interdisciplinary Evaluation, Western Michigan University

Lori Wingate, Evaluation Center Assistant Director  
Ph.D., Interdisciplinary Evaluation, Western Michigan University

Chris Coryn, Director, Interdisciplinary Ph.D. in Evaluation; Associate Professor of Evaluation, Measurement, and Research  
Ph.D., Interdisciplinary Evaluation, Western Michigan University

Research Staff

Anne Cullen, Principal Research Associate (through September 2011)  
Ph.D., Interdisciplinary Evaluation, Western Michigan University

Arlen Gullickson, Emeritus Researcher  
Ph.D., Educational Research, University of Colorado

Stephanie Evergreen, Senior Research Associate  
Ph.D., Interdisciplinary Evaluation, Western Michigan University

Jason Burkhardt, Project Manager  
Doctoral Candidate, Interdisciplinary Evaluation, Western Michigan University

Krystin Martens, Project Manager  
Doctoral Candidate, Interdisciplinary Evaluation, Western Michigan University

Stephanie Means, Project Manager  
Doctoral Candidate, Interdisciplinary Evaluation, Western Michigan University

Kelly Robertson, Project Manager  
Doctoral Candidate, Interdisciplinary Evaluation, Western Michigan University

Support Staff

Barbara Dekoekkoek, Office Associate (through November 2011)  

Joe Fee, Systems Specialist  
B.S., Computer Systems Engineering, Western Michigan University

Emily Leeburg, Office Associate  
B.A., Anthropology, Arizona State University

Mary Ramlow, Office Coordinator  
B.A., Management and Organizational Development, Spring Arbor University

Patricia Negrevski, Budget Analyst  
B.B.A., Business Administration, Western Michigan University
Yulia Roth, Research Assistant  
B.A., Global and International Studies, Western Michigan (April 2013)

**Undergraduate Students**

Ambrosia Neldon—English Practical Writing  
Ashley Quane—Sociology  
Tariana Riley—Psychology

**Doctoral Students**

Students in the IDPE program are listed below. Those whose names appear in **bold** also worked on Center projects during the 2011-12 fiscal year.

**Karen Alexander**—M.S.W., Grand Valley State University  
Faisal Allaboon—M.B.A., Western Michigan University  
**Saeed Almueed**—M.A., Western Michigan University  
**Mohammed Alyami**—M.A., Western Michigan University  
**Ezechukwu Awgu**—M.P.A., Western Michigan University; M.Sc., University of Port Harcourt, Nigeria  
**Lee Balcom**—M.A., Western Michigan University  
Brandy Brown—M.P.A., American University  
**Jason Burkhardt**—M.A., Webster University  
Melissa Borgos-Colon—M.P., University of Puerto Rico  
**Michelle Calco**—M.B.A., Michigan State University  
Tala Davidson—M.S., Temple University  
Steven Dibble—M.S., Western Michigan University  
**Stephanie Evergreen**—M.A., Western Michigan University  
**Jan Fields**—Ed.D., Western Michigan University  
Stacy French—M.A., Siena Heights University  
Otto Gustafson—M.B.A., Western Michigan University  
Todd Harcek—M.S.A., Central Michigan University  
**Julio Hernandez-Correa**—Ph.D., Western Michigan University  
**Kristin Hobson**—M.P.H., Indiana University  
Andrew Huff—M.B.A., Western Michigan University  
Michael Kiella—M.A., Western Michigan University  
Alexander Manga—M.B.A., Western Michigan University  
**Krystin Martens**—M.A., Western Michigan University  
**Pedro Mateu**—B.A., Universidad de Pacifico
Robert McCowen—B.S., Clemson University
Stephanie Means—M.S., Western Michigan University
Lindsay Noakes—M.A., University of Illinois
Kelly Robertson—M.A., Western Michigan University
Diane Rogers—M.S., Western Michigan University
Abhik Roy—M.S., Michigan Technology University
Fayez Shafloot—M.A., Western Michigan University
Corey Smith—B.A., Kalamazoo College
Maran Subramain—M.A., Western Michigan University
Michele Tarsilla—M.S., Georgetown University
Gisele Tchamba—M.A., Andrews University
Ron Visscher—M.M., Northwestern University
Carl Westine—M.S., Carnegie Mellon University
Kurt Wilson—B.A., The Colorado College
Michelle Woodhouse-Jackson—M.B.A., Baruch College

The following are doctoral students who worked on Evaluation Center projects who are enrolled elsewhere at WMU:

Jeff Barney—B.S., Western Michigan University
Amy Bentz—M.A., Wayne State University
Jonathon Engleman—M.A., Western Michigan University
Brooke Isham—M.A., Western Michigan University
Matthew Ludwig—M.S., University of Wisconsin
Activities such as invited scholars/lectures, conferences, symposia, etc.

Visiting Scholar

The Evaluation Center and the IDPE program co-hosted a visit by Dr. Rodney Hopson (Professor, Duquesne University and President-Elect, American Evaluation Association). The visit was made possible by an award from the Provost’s Visiting Scholars and Artists Program, with additional funding from The Evaluation Center; the College of Education and Human Development; the Department of Educational Leadership, the Research and Technology; and the Office of Diversity and Inclusion.

Dr. Hopson was involved in a series of events for staff, faculty, students, and community members, including the following:

**Implications and Opportunities of the Public Statement on Cultural Competency**
September 28 | 9-10:30 am
The Evaluation Center conference room (intended for teams working on Center projects)

**Evaluation & the Public Good**
September 28 | Noon-2 pm:
210 Bernhard Center

**The Elephant in Several Rooms: A Guided Discussion on Social Justice for Faculty and Staff at WMU**
September 29 | Noon-1:30 pm:
The Oaklands

**The Program Evaluation Standards: A Talk with Three Scholars [Rodney Hopson, Daniel Stufflebeam, and Chris Coryn]**
September 29 | 5-7 pm
208-209 Bernhard Center

In addition, Dr. Hopson held “office hours” at The Oaklands for any students wishing to talk with him one-on-one.

Dr. Hopson’s visit was coordinated by IDPE students Stephanie Evergreen, Jason Burkhardt, and Diane Rogers.
Evaluation Café Series

The Evaluation Café is a series of presentations on evaluation topics held weekly at The Evaluation Center during the fall and spring semesters. This was the eighth year of the series. Presenters included a mix of Evaluation Center staff, IDPE students, WMU faculty, and community experts.

**Cross-Lagged Panel Analysis of Alcoholics Anonymous Effects on Drinking**
September 1, 2011
Stephen Magura — Director, The Evaluation Center

**Evaluation and the Public Good**
September 2, 2011
Rodney Hopson — Hillman Distinguished Professor, Duquesne University

**American Evaluation Association Conference Preview Session 1**
October 4 & 11 2011
Jason Burkhardt, Kristin Hobson, Paul Lamphear, Pedro Mateu, Robert McCowen, Maran Subramain, Gisele Tchamba, Kurt Wilson—Interdisciplinary Evaluation Doctoral Students, WMU

**Beer Evaluation**
October 18, 2011
Tim Surprise — Founder & President, Arcadia Brewing Company

**Intellectual Property and Evaluation**
October 25, 2011
Michael Sharer — Director of IP Management and Commercialization, WMU

**Evaluation as a Nonprofit Capacity-Building Strategy**
Meg Blinkiewicz — Principal, Innovatus Consulting

**Lesson in Carefully Managing Resources: A Case Study from an Evaluation of a Local Program**
November 29, 2011
Kristen Hobson & Jason Burkhardt — Project Staff, The Evaluation Center

**Evaluation Of Mobile Clinic & Emergency Department Case Management**
December 6, 2011
Raymond Higbea — Assistant Professor, Public Affairs & Administration, WMU

**A Preview of Evaluation Theory, Models, & Applications (2nd ed.)**
December 13, 2011
Chris Coryn — Director, Interdisciplinary Ph.D. in Evaluation Program, WMU

**Meta-Analysis De-Mystified: A Step-By-Step Guide**
January 17, 2012
Robert McCowen—Interdisciplinary Evaluation Doctoral Student, WMU

**What does it take for an Outsider to Evaluate in Cross-cultural Contexts: What about the Cultural Nuances and Subtleties in Language Dialects?**
January 25, 2012
Tererai Trent—Founder and Principle Evaluator, Tinogona Evaluation and Research Consulting

**Veterans: Understanding and Serving this Unique and Growing Population on Campus**
February 1, 2012
Tracey Moon—Director, Office of Military and Veterans Affairs, WMU
Writing Your HSIB Protocol and the HSIRB Review Process
February 7, 2012
Julia Mays—Research Compliance Coordinator, WMU

Rawlsian Political Analysis and its Links with Evaluation
February 14, 2012
Paul Clements—Professor, Political Science and Director, MIDA Program, WMU

Utilizing the PMBOK and PRINCE2 for Project Evaluation Management
March 13, 2012
Willis Thomas, Ph.D., CPT, PMP—Alumnus, Interdisciplinary Ph.D. in Evaluation, WMU

What is in Question?
March 20, 2012
Lee Balcom—Interdisciplinary Evaluation Doctoral Student, WMU

Pass the Aspirin: When Projects Become Headaches
March 27, 2012
Mary Anne Sydlik—Director, SAMPI, WMU Dr. Bob Ruhf—Senior Research Associate, SAMPI, WMU Kristin Everet—Senior Research Assistant, SAMPI, WMU

A Collaborative Partnership to Define and Measure Empowering Practice within a Domestic Violence Shelter Program
April 3, 2012
Cris Sullivan—Professor, Ecological and Community Psychology and Coordinator, Violence Against Women Research and Outreach Initiative, Michigan State University

Concept of Validity in the Context of Evaluation
April 10, 2012
Brooks Applegate—Professor, Educational Leadership, Research, and Technology and Director, Evaluation, Measurement, and Research, WMU

Evaluation Myths, Misconceptions, and Mistakes
April 17, 2012
Lori Wingate—Assistant Director, The Evaluation Center, WMU

Journal of Multidisciplinary Evaluation

The idea for Journal of Multidisciplinary Evaluation (JMDE) originated with Daniela Schröter and Chris Coryn when they were in the doctoral program. The journal was launched in 2004 under the editorship of Michael Scriven (then director of the IDPE program) and E. Jane Davidson (former IDPE director). Dr. Coryn is the current executive editor and four of the five associate editors are from the Center/IDPE, including doctoral students Kristin Hobson, Lindsay Noakes, Michele Tarsilla, and Carl Westine; and Evaluation Center Director of Research, Daniela Schröter.

www.jmde.com
Research activities performed and disseminated

Publications

The following publications were authored by Center staff and the IDPE director; several include doctoral student coauthors. (**BOLD CAPS** = Center staff; **Bold** = Students):


The following publications are by IDPE students without faculty/staff coauthorship:


**Presentations**

The following presentations were given by Center staff and the IDPE director; several include doctoral student co-presenters. (*BOLD CAPS* = Center staff; *Bold* = Students)


The following presentations were made by IDPE students without faculty/staff copresenters:


Curricular activities and degrees granted

Degrees granted by the IDPE program in the 2011-12 academic year:

**Stephanie Evergreen, Ph.D.** (Fall 2011)  
*The Role of Visual Processing Theory In Written Evaluation Communication*  
Dissertation Committee: Chris Coryn (Chair); Nancy Mansberger, Mary Piontek

**Cristian Gugiu, Ph.D.** (Fall 2011)  
*Summative Confidence*  
Dissertation Committee: E. Brooks Applegate (Chair), Warren Lacefield, David Hartmann

**Brad Watts, Ph.D.** (Fall 2011)  
*The Role of Evaluations in Community Foundations*  
Dissertation Committee: David Hartmann (Chair), Michael Scriven, Kevin Hollenbeck

**Brandon Youker, Ph.D.** (Fall 2011)  
*An Analog Experiment Comparing Goal-Free Evaluation and Goal Achievement Evaluation Utility*  
Dissertation Committee: Chris Coryn (Chair), David Hartmann, Liliana Rodriguez-Campos

Enrollments

In its eighth year of operation, the Interdisciplinary Ph.D. in Evaluation (IDPE) program admitted seven new students for the 2011-12 academic year, for a total of thirty-nine doctoral students enrolled in the program this year (four of whom graduated). Twenty-two IDPE doctoral students worked on Evaluation Center projects this year, in addition to five students from other programs (See list of students on pp. 2-3).
Grants and contracts proposed, submitted and awarded

The Center's portfolio includes twenty-four grant- and contract-funded projects for fiscal year 2011-12. Cumulatively over their total award periods, these projects are worth $7.9 million, with $1,019,714 awarded in the current fiscal year. They span the areas of community development, scientific, social, and educational research; organizational performance; education; energy efficiency; health; international development; and substance abuse and addiction treatment. The Evaluation Center’s clients and funders include federal agencies, universities, local, national, and international organizations, and WMU-based units. Our current externally funded projects are listed below.

Current Grants and Contracts

**AA Effects on Drinking**
Sponsor: National Institutes of Health  
Principal Investigator: Dr. Stephen Magura  
August 2009 – July 2013  
$407,000

**Anchor Organization Network Evaluation**
Sponsor: Heart of West Michigan United Way  
Principal Investigator: Kelly Robertson  
Initial Principal Investigator: Dr. Stephanie Evergreen  
April 2012 – October 2014  
$159,920

**Assessment for Learning Research Scholars: Capacity Building in Mathematics and Science Education**
Sponsor: National Science Foundation  
Principal Investigator: Dr. Steven Ziebarth (Mathematics) (Original PI—Dr. Arlen Gullickson)  
Co-Principal Investigator: Dr. Chris Coryn, Dr. William Cobern (Mallinson Institute), Dr. Katharine Cummings (College of Education and Human Development)  
September 2007 – August 2013  
$1,312,500

**Axiom Training Evaluation**
Sponsor: Axiom  
Principal Investigator: Dr. Daniela Schröter  
January 2012 – July 2012  
$39,100

**Research to Define and Measure Effectiveness of ATE Centers**
Sponsor: University Colorado | National Science Foundation (Advanced Technological Education [ATE] program)  
Principal Investigator: Dr. Stephen Magura  
March 2009 – July 2012  
$112,204

**Efficacy of Dual Focus Mutual Aid**
Sponsor: National Institute of Health  
Principal Investigator: Dr. Stephen Magura  
June 2008 – April 2013  
$1,868,106
Dynasty Foundation Evaluation
Sponsor: The Dmitry Zimin Dynasty Foundation  
Principal Investigator: Dr. Daniela Schröter  
Co-Principal Investigator: Dr. Chris Coryn, Dr. E. Brooks Applegate (Educational Leadership, Research, and Technology)  
April 2012 – December 2012  
$101,901

Critical Review of Evidence-Based Program Registered in Behavioral Health
Sponsor: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services | National Institutes of Health  
Principal Investigator: Dr. Stephen Magura  
Co-Principal Investigator: Dr. Daniela Schröter, Dr. Chris Coryn  
July 2011 – June 2013  
$409,750

EvaluATE: The ATE Evaluation Resource Center
Sponsor: National Science Foundation (Advanced Technological Education [ATE] program)  
Principal Investigator: Dr. Lori Wingate  
Co-Principal Investigator: Dr. Arlen Gullickson  
July 2008 – June 2013  
$2,069,415

Evaluation of programs for the Literacy Center of West Michigan Literacy Programs
Sponsor: Literacy Center of West Michigan  
Principal Investigator: Stephanie Means  
Initial Principal Investigator: Dr. Stephanie Evergreen  
September 2008 – September 2013  
$50,894

Evaluation of RCN-UBE: Microbial Genome Annotation Network
Sponsor: Augustana College | National Science Foundation  
Principal Investigator: Dr. Daniela Schröter  
December 2011 – December 2014  
$60,000

Evaluation of Sobriety Court Program
Sponsor: Muskegon County | U.S. Department of Justice  
Principal Investigator: Dr. Stephanie Evergreen  
October 2009 – November 2011  
$50,000

Evaluation of the Race Exhibit Initiative
Sponsor: Race Exhibit Initiative | Kalamazoo Community Foundation  
Principal Investigator: Dr. Stephanie Evergreen  
December 2010 – June 2011  
$13,150
Improving Student Retention and Connection through Innovative Advising Practices
Sponsor: Kalamazoo College | U.S. Department of Education (Fund for the Improvement of Postsecondary Education)
Principal Investigator: Dr. Daniela Schröter
Co-principal Investigator: Kelly Robertson
July 2011 – December 2013
$75,000

KSO Marvelous Music Program Evaluation
Sponsor: Kalamazoo Symphony Orchestra
Principal Investigator: Dr. Chris Coryn
September 2010 – August 2013
$50,894

Michigan Saves: Evaluability Assessment and Process Evaluation
Sponsor: Public Sector Consultants, Inc. | Michigan Department of Community Health
Principal Investigator: Dr. Daniela Schröter
Co-Principal Investigator: Dr. Anne Cullen
October 2009 – September 2011
$117,690

NRCCTE’s Effectiveness and Performance on GPRA Measures
Sponsor: The National Research Center for Career and Technical Education at the University of Louisville | U.S. Department of Education
Principal Investigator: Dr. Daniela Schröter
Co-Principal Investigator: Dr. Richard Zinser (Career and Technical Education)
August 2009 – July 2012
$406,441

Strategic Evaluation on Research Excellence
Sponsor: International Development Research Centre
Principal Investigator: Dr. Chris Coryn
Co-Principal Investigator: Dr. Daniela Schröter
January 2012 – June 2012
$38,777

Ujima Parents as Teachers Program Evaluation
Sponsor: Ujima Enterprises Incorporated
Principal Investigator: Stephanie Evergreen
May 2011 – April 2012
$10,000

Swiss National Science Foundation Proposal Development and Evaluation Work
Sponsor: Swiss National Science Foundation
Principal Investigator: Dr. Chris Coryn
Co-Principal Investigator: Dr. Daniela Schröter
September 2011 – December 2012
$247,107

Evaluation of Freedom Schools Summer Program
Sponsor: Kalamazoo CDF Freedom Schools
Principal Investigator: Dr. Lori Wingate
April 2012 – October 2012
$2,500
Field-Initiated Research Trauma Informed Juvenile Assessment and Treatment
Sponsor: U.S. Department of Justice
Principal Investigator: Dr. James Henry (Social Work)
Co-Principal Investigator: Dr. Chris Coryn
September 2011 – August 2014
[This was awarded and is administered by WMU’s Children’s Trauma Assessment Center]

Evaluation of Heifer International Projects
Sponsor: Heifer Projects International
Principal Investigator: Dr. Chris Coryn
Co-Principal Investigator: Dr. Michael Scriven (California), Dr. Thomaz Chianca (Brazil)
April 2011 – December 2011
$252,726

Evaluation of CPR Programs
Sponsor: American Red Cross and American Heart Association
Principal Investigator: Dr. Michael Miller (Health, Physical Education, and Recreation)
Co-Principal Investigator: Dr. Stephen Magura
June 2008 – December 2011
$52,321

Submitted Proposals—Notification Pending
The following submitted proposals were submitted in 2011-12, and notification of award status is pending.

CDC University Workshops
Sponsor: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
Principal Investigators: Dr. Daniela Schröter; Dr. Lori Wingate
Submission date: June 7, 2012
$60,549

Education for a Sustainable Future
Sponsor: Center for Student Research and Creativity Indiana State University | National Science Foundation (Transforming Undergraduate Education in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics [TUES] program)
Principal Investigator: Dr. Daniela Schröter
Co-Principal Investigator: Krystin Martens
Submission date: May 21, 2012
$40,000

EvaluATE: The ATE Evaluation Resource Center
Sponsor: National Science Foundation (Advanced Technological Education [ATE] program)
Principal Investigator: Dr. Lori Wingate
Co-Principal Investigator: Dr. Arlen Gullickson
July 2012 – June 2016
Submission date: October 20, 2012
$2,185,660 (Proposal has been recommended for funding and is being processed by NSF’s Division of Grants and Agreements)
**Evaluation of the Center for Research and Education in Optical Sciences and Applications**
Sponsor: Delaware State University | National Science Foundation (Centers of Research Excellence in Science and Technology [CREST] program)
Principal Investigator: Dr. Lori Wingate
Submission date: April 25, 2012
$245,657

**Evaluation of Community Robotics Sports Center**
Sponsor: New York City College of Technology | National Science Foundation (National Robotics Initiative program)
Principal Investigator: Dr. Lori Wingate
Submission date: January 31, 2012
$251,635

**Evaluation of Step To Success Project**
Sponsor: University of North Texas | National Science Foundation (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics [STEM] Talent Expansion Program [STEP])
Principal Investigator: Dr. Daniela Schröter
Submission date: August 24, 2011
$100,000

**Evaluation of the Universal Design Evaluation Checklist Validation Project**
Sponsor: University of Massachusetts | National Science Foundation (Promoting Research and Innovation in Methodologies for Evaluation [PRIME] program)
Principal Investigator: Dr. Lori Wingate
Submission date: January 25, 2012
$53,918

**IntimAge Evaluation**
Sponsor: Science Initiative Lower Austria | European Commission
Principal Investigator: Dr. Lori Wingate
Co-Principal Investigator: Dr. Daniela Schröter
Submission date: February 2, 2012
$26,250

**Media Literacy Evaluation**
Sponsor: Science Initiative Lower Austria | European Commission
Principal Investigator: Dr. Lori Wingate
Co-Principal Investigator: Dr. Daniela Schröter
Submission date: February 2, 2012
$26,250

**Evaluation of the Center for Performative Design and Engineering Technology**
Sponsor: New York College of Technology | National Science Foundation (Transforming Undergraduate Education in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics [STEM] program)
Principal Investigator: Dr. Lori Wingate
Submission date: May 26, 2011
$18,548 (NYCT’s proposal to NSF recently accepted; contract for the evaluation is pending)
PEEPS for PD: Identifying Project Evaluation Effectiveness Principles for Professional Development in Elementary Science Teaching

Sponsor: National Science Foundation (Promoting Research and Innovation in Methodologies for Evaluation [PRIME] program)
Principal Investigator: Dr. Daniela Schröter
Submission date: January 25, 2012
$800,000 (invited to revise to be an exploratory project)

Phaeton Evaluation

Sponsor: Science Initiative Lower Austria | European Commission
Principal Investigator: Dr. Lori Wingate
Co-Principal Investigator: Dr. Daniela Schröter
Submission date: February 2, 2012
$26,250

Social Literacy Evaluation

Sponsor: Science Initiative Lower Austria | European Commission
Principal Investigator: Dr. Lori Wingate
Co-Principal Investigator: Dr. Daniela Schröter
Submission date: February 2, 2012
$26,250

Unlocking the Mysteries of Aging Program Increasing the Diversity of Future Researchers

Sponsor: WMU Center for Gerontology | National Institutes of Health (National Institute for Aging)
Principal Investigator: Dr. Janet Han
Evaluator: Dr. Daniela Schröter
Submission date: January 26, 2012
$87,082 (evaluation only)

WMU Upward Bound Evaluation

Sponsor: WMU Division of Multicultural Affairs | U.S. Department of Education (Upward Bound Program)
Principal Investigator: Dr. Erika Carr
Evaluator: Dr. Lori Wingate
Submission date: January 30, 2012
$50,000 (evaluation only)

Submitted Proposals—Not Funded

The following submitted proposals were submitted in 2011-12. Several of these were contingent on another entity being funded

Agent-Based Modeling (ABM) Simulation of EBP Adoption in Addiction Treatment

Sponsor: U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
Principal Investigator: Dr. Stephen Magura
Submission date: December 1, 2011
$529,090
Status: Funding not likely
Evaluation of New Insights on Large-Scale Turbulence in Combustion Engines from 4D Spatiotemporal Measurements
Sponsor: WMU Department of Mechanical and Aeronautical Engineering | National Science Foundation (Faculty Early Career Development program)
Principal Investigator: Claudia Fajardo
Evaluator: Dr. Daniela Schröter
Submission date: November 27, 2011
$25,000
Status: Dr. Fajardo’s proposal was not funded

Evaluation of East Carolina University's Career Readiness Certification, Advanced Manufacturing Specialist and Advanced Manufacturing Leadership Certification
Sponsor: East Carolina University | U.S. Department of Labor (H-1B Technical Skills Training)
Principal Investigator: Dr. Stephanie Evergreen
Submission date: November 17, 2011
$199,667
Status: ECU’s proposal not funded

Evaluation of the Sustain Our Great Lakes Program
Sponsor: National Fish and Wildlife Foundation
Principal Investigator: Dr. Daniela Schröter
Co-principal Investigators Kohler (Biological Sciences); Carla Koretsky (Geosciences)
Submission date: February 27, 2012
$145,372
Status: Declined

Evaluation of the Long Island Sound Futures Fund
Sponsor: National Fish and Wildlife Foundation
Principal Investigator: Dr. Daniela Schröter
Co-principal Investigators Kohler (Biological Sciences); Carla Koretsky (Geosciences)
Submission date: January 16, 2012
$99,898
Status: Declined

Evaluation of Printed Electronic Smart Sensors Program
Sponsor: WMU Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering | National Science Foundation (Integrative Graduate Education and Research [IGERT] Traineeship)
Principal Investigator: Massood Zandi Atashbar
Evaluators: Dr. Daniela Schröter; Dr. Anne Cullen
Submission date: July 2, 2011
$50,000
Status: Unknown; assumed to have been declined

Evaluation of the Managing Nature Under Global Environmental Change project
Sponsor: University of Notre Dame | Engineering | National Science Foundation (Integrative Graduate Education and Research [IGERT] Traineeship)
Principal Investigator: Dr. Daniela Schröter, Dr. Anne Cullen
Submission date: July 1, 2011
$100,000
Status: Unknown; assumed to have been declined
Sack Supper Program Evaluation
Sponsor: Kids’ Food Basket
Principal Investigator: Dr. Stephen Magura
Submission Date: December 12, 2011
$20,734
Status: Declined
Impact on the academic programs of the University

As evidenced throughout this report, the relationship between The Evaluation Center and the IPDE program is synergistic. Four current IDPE students are employed as project managers at the Center. Additionally, the Center provides numerous students with real-world evaluation experiences on local, national, and international projects—twenty-two students worked part-time on a variety of Center projects this year. In return, the Center’s work is enhanced by the knowledge, skill, and enthusiasm that students bring to their tasks.

Evaluation Center senior staff members Drs. Magura, Schröter, and Wingate serve on students’ program and dissertation committees and supervise field experiences. They have all taught graduate-level evaluation courses in the past.

Through the Center’s Evaluation Café series, eight IDPE students gained experience giving scholarly presentations this year. Moreover, student participation as audience members enriches their academic experience by providing opportunities to hone their skills in engaging academic dialogue and debate.

Community service

Jason Burkhardt
- Program Chair, AEA Graduate Student and New Evaluators TIG

Chris Coryn
- Executive Editor, Journal of MultiDisciplinary Evaluation
- Board member, Michigan Association for Evaluation

Stephanie Evergreen
- Reviewer, American Journal of Evaluation
- Board Member, Human Subjects Institutional Review Board, Western Michigan University
- Reviewer, Journal of Multidisciplinary Evaluation

Stephen Magura
- Consulting editor—Health and Social Work
- Deputy editor—Substance Use and Misuse
- Elected Member, Research Society on Alcoholism (RSA)
- Elected Member, College on Problems of Drug Dependence (CPDD)
- Peer Reviewer, American Evaluation Association—Quantitative Methods TIG and Alcohol, Drug Abuse & Mental Health TIG
- Member—WMU 21st Century Student Steering Committee
- Permanent member—National Institutes of Health peer review committee for Risk, Prevention and Intervention for Addictions (RPIA) Study Section
- Trustee and Secretary, Board of Directors—Eastwood House of Recovery (Kalamazoo Township, MI)
- Member—Zoning Board of Appeals (Cooper Charter Township, MI)
- Pro-bono evaluation consultant for WMU First Year Experience Program
Mary Ramlow
- Member, Human Resources Staff Compensation System Appeal Committee
- Member, Ellsworth Hall Emergency Preparedness Team
- Executive Board Member, WMU’s Administrative Professional Association (APA)
- Chair, Awards and Recognition Committee for WMU’s Administrative Professional Association (APA)
- Co-chair, WMU’s Administrative Professional Association and Professional Support Staff Organization’s annual spring awards luncheon

Daniela Schröter
- Associate Editor, *Journal of MultiDisciplinary Evaluation*
- Associate Member, Joint Committee on Standards for Educational Evaluation
- Book Proposal Reviewer, Elsevier
- Member, National Science Foundation Federal Cyber Service: Scholarship for Service Committee of Visitors
- Member, IDEAS ITIG on Assessment Frameworks for Projects, Programs and Policies
- Appointee to the American Evaluation Association’s Policy Development Committee (2008-12)
- Reviewer/Referee, *Evaluation and Program Planning* and *American Journal of Evaluation*

Lori Wingate
- Reviewer, *Policy & Politics* and *Evaluation and Program Planning*
- Member, Steering Committee for the National Science Foundation Advanced Technological Education Principal Investigator’s Conference
- Proposal review panelist, National Science Foundation Division of Research on Learning in Formal and Informal Settings

In addition to individual service to our profession and respective communities, the Center/IDPE selects a charity each holiday season to contribute to collectively. This year, we selected Loaves and Fishes, a food pantry that serves the Kalamazoo community. Spearheaded by Center project manager/IDPE doctoral student Kelly Robertson, the Center collected more than 150 pounds of food for Loaves and Fishes.

**Future plans**

**Goal 1.** Provide outstanding evaluation, research, and capacity-building services to a broad array of University, public, community-based, national, and international organizations

**Strategy 1.1:** Research staff will continually pursue viable grant and contract opportunities to assure
- continuation and renewal of funding streams
- innovation and learning
- job security for all center staff

**Strategy 1.2:** Evaluation Center administration will provide adequate time and resources for research staff to increase
- funding via grants and contracts
- the number of principal investigators on federal grants
- local, regional, national, and international partnerships and networks
- scholarly publication
**Strategy 1.3:** Evaluation Center administration will further provide adequate resources for
- maintaining and renewing the electronic repository and research infrastructure
- enhancing investment in the professional development of staff
- increasing and training staff as necessary to fulfill the EC vision and mission
- mentoring new staff
- increasing diversity

**Strategy 1.4:** Research and support staff will use awarded resources to maintain and enhance
- high-quality evaluation, research, and capacity-building
- learning from inquiry, collaboration, and innovation
- sharing of knowledge and lessons learned with the academic and
- the visibility of WMU and OVPR
- opportunities for engaging doctoral students in evaluation in hands-on learning experiences from
- practice

**Strategy 1.5:** Evaluation Center staff will assist a wide range of organizations to
- improve their programs
- promote research and evaluation
- stimulate learning and discourse about research and evaluation

**Goal 2. Engage in academic leadership**

**Strategy 2.1:** Research staff will publish in the peer-reviewed literature to increase the
- visibility and competitiveness of the EC and WMU
- professional profile of individual EC staff
- opportunities for extramural funding

**Strategy 2.2:** Research staff will present at academic and professional conferences to
- learn from other academics and professionals to improve our work
- share knowledge and lessons learned from our work
- increase visibility and network building

**Strategy 2.3:** Research staff will provide service to professional organizations and scholarly journals

**Goal 3. Enrich the experience of students in the IDPE program by providing opportunities for students to put their academic knowledge into real-world practice**

**Strategy 3.1:** Research staff will engage outstanding IDPE students in Center project work to
- prepare students to be successful in real-world research and evaluation contexts
- provide hands-on learning experiences
- promote the interdisciplinary nature of evaluation work
- ensure a firm foundation in evaluation practice
- enhance evaluation, research, and communication competencies
- provide financial support when possible

**Strategy 3.2:** The leadership team will serve on program and dissertation committees to contribute to WMU’s academic community

**Strategy 3.3:** Support staff will provide administrative services to the IDPE to assure that
- budgets are tracked and appropriately allocated
- students are informed of operational procedures and policies
- student paperwork is up to date and, as appropriate, submitted to the necessary parties
- applications are processed in a timely matter
- applications are reviewed by appropriate parties in a timely manner
- board meetings are scheduled twice annually
Strategy 3.4: Center staff will ensure a synergistic, mutually beneficial relationship between IDPE students and Center staff by honoring values of integrity, respect, diversity, and commitment to excellence.

Problems to be addressed

The Center's technological infrastructure is in need of upgrading. A separate document detailing the specific needs is being prepared.

Other: Alignment with WMU’s vision and strategic plan

In this section we discuss how The Evaluation Center and IDPE program’s activities during the 2011-12 have supported and are aligned with the University’s three Pillars of Vision and five strategic planning goals (see www.wmich.edu/strategic).

Pillars of WMU’s Vision

Learner Centered

The Evaluation Center supports the academic and professional development of IDPE students by encouraging and supporting their engagement in the Evaluation Café series, employing them on projects, and senior staff providing instruction and mentoring activities. Likewise, the IDPE program supports students to attend annual AEA conference, where they give presentations, engage in leadership roles for the organizational topical interests groups, and build their professional networks beyond WMU.

With many IDPE students’ learning extending beyond traditional coursework, they have opportunities to developing and improve the “softs skills”—e.g., communication, management, critical thinking—that are essential for competent evaluation work.

Discovery Driven

The Evaluation Center is engaged in twenty-four projects supported by external grants and contracts. The total value of these awards is $7.9 million. These grants and contracts enable the Center to provide evaluation services to local, national, and international organizations, as well as to advance the science of program evaluation.

Consistent with the Center’s mission to advance the theory, practice, and utilization of evaluation, we have a strong dissemination focus: Center staff and faculty generated 13 publications and 28 presentations this year; IDPE students authored an additional 4 publications and 15 presentations.

Globally Engaged

The Evaluation Center has a long history of working across borders. This year, we provided evaluation services to the Swiss National Science Foundation and the Dynasty Foundation of Russia. We collaborated with Science Initiative Lower Austria on their proposals to the European Union for three lifelong learning projects (notification of award pending).

Nine international students are enrolled in the IDPE program from Italy (1), Malaysia (1), Nigeria (1), Peru (1), Saudi Arabia (4), and Trinidad and Tobago (1).
WMU's Strategic Planning Goals

1. Ensure a distinctive learning experience and foster the success of students

All IDPE students are required to complete nine credits of practical evaluation experience. Placements on Evaluation Center projects are common. This year, twenty-two students worked on Center projects as part of the field experience requirements or otherwise. These experiences afforded them real-world experience, such as

- managing, analyzing, and reporting on data from a survey of NSF program grantees that has been conducted annually since 2000
- transcribing interview data and analyzing rich qualitative data from interviews and document reviews
- developing relational databases for multiple
- conducting interviews with college students about advising practices and their influence on high impact practices, self-authorship, and retention and graduation
- conducting extensive literature and document reviews
- developing and implementing evaluation management plans
- developing survey instruments and protocols for interviews and focus groups
- managing logistics for data collection via field visits
- leading internal evaluation work for a large-scale project

Awards to IDPE students evidence their distinction within the University and beyond:

- P. Cristian Gugiu—Michael Scriven Dissertation Award for Outstanding Contribution to Evaluation Theory, Method, or Practice (2011)
- Kristin Hobson—Western Michigan University Departmental Graduate Research and Creative Scholar Award (2012)
- Maran Subramain—Western Michigan University Graduate Student Assessment Grant (2012)
- Lindsay Noakes—Western Michigan University Graduate Student Assessment Grant (2012)

Success is also measured by post-graduation achievement. All four IDPE students who graduated this year have secured positions related to their degrees, including Assistant Professor of Quantitative Research, Evaluation, and Measurement at Ohio State University’s School of Educational Policy and Leadership; Assistant Professor of Social Work at Grand Valley State University; Senior Research Scientist at the University at Albany’s Center for Human Services Research; and Senior Research Associate at The Evaluation Center at WMU.

2. Promote innovative learning, discovery, and service

Students engaged with IDPE faculty and Center staff in developing numerous scholarly publications and presentations (see publication and presentations), and both staff and students are encouraged to participate in professional conferences and take leadership roles in professional organizations. Center staff’s engagement in and service to the evaluation profession is evidenced by their various contributions listed in the Community Service section of this report.

3. Advance WMU as a major research university

WMU is an evaluation powerhouse in terms of scholarship, service, and education. The Evaluation Center is without peer in terms of its longevity as a center dedicated to evaluation. The IDPE is unique in the world in terms of the interdisciplinary nature of its doctoral degree. The Center has competed successfully to obtain grants and contracts for major federal and international research sponsors, including the National Institutes of Health (National Institute on Drug Abuse and National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism); the National Science Foundation; the U.S.
Department of Education, the Swiss National Science Foundation, the Dmitry Zimin Dynasty Foundation (Russia), Heifer Projects International, and the International Development Research Center.

4. Ensure diverse, inclusive, and healthy community

Through the Evaluation Café series, the Center and IDPE calls attention to matters related to diversity and inclusion. In addition to Dr. Hopson’s presentation on cultural competence in evaluation, for example, Evaluation Café presenters addressed evaluation in cross-cultural contexts, advice for evaluators/researchers who need to collect data from veteran students, defining and measuring empowerment of women in domestic shelters. The Center also conducted an evaluation of the Race Exhibit Initiative, sponsored by the Kalamazoo Community Foundation.

Diversity at The Evaluation Center is greatly enhanced by the presence of students in the IDPE program. Of the thirty-nine IDPE students, fifteen are white males, nine minority males, nine are white females, and six and minority females. Of the fifteen Center staff members, nine are white females, five are white males, and one is a minority female.

5. Advance social, economic, and environmental sustainability practices

By sharing technology, facilities, and intellectual and human resources, The Evaluation Center and IPDE program both operate in a more efficient and sustainable manner.