



Canberra Chapter

HOT ISSUES BREAKFAST: Internal and External Evaluation Thursday November 4, 7:30 a.m. – 9:00 a.m.

**Mint@Forrest Café, Minter-Ellison Building,
National Circuit and Sydney Avenue, Forrest <http://mintatforrest.com/>
(outside in the tent – even in November it can be a little cool)**

Chair: Susan Garner

An ongoing issue for discussion is the respective roles and relations of external evaluation – performed by consultants external to an organisation – and internal evaluation – conducted by employees of organisations. Some particular issues that arise are:

- Resourcing: is there a critical mass to get an effective in-house evaluation unit?
- In what circumstances is an evaluation better conducted externally?
- Independence: What are the threats to independence in both internal and external evaluations?
- How can we teach organisations to be wise buyers? - and external evaluators to be a wise providers?

About the Chair: Susan Garner is particularly well-placed to lead this conversation. She has been an internal evaluator and commissioner of evaluations within a range of Australian Government Departments, and in recent years, as a private consultant, has undertaken a number of independent evaluations for government and non-government organisations. Susan has therefore experienced both models of evaluation and brings a practical perspective to this next Hot Issues Breakfast.

Susan is the current chair of the Canberra region of the AES and was convener of the 2009 AES Conference in Canberra, *Evidence and Evaluation*.

RSVP

Please RSVP to Graham Smith at grahamsmith@bigblue.net.au or 0449 59 05 52 by COB Tuesday November 2 as table space will be limited.

About Hot Issues Breakfasts

These events are designed to encourage networking between members. The format will be to have monthly round-table discussion on issues of general concern to evaluators. However, wide-ranging discussion 'off-topic' of issues of concern will be welcome. Cost is free, except you buy your own breakfast.

Future Meetings

This is planned to be the last breakfast meeting for the year.

Any suggestions for future topics in 2011, or expressions of interest to chair them, will be welcome. Chairs get a free breakfast! Please pass suggestions to Susan Garner at susangarner@grosvenor.com.au or Graham Smith as above.

Other suggestions for lunchtime or afternoon seminars or workshops are also welcome.