



**Canberra Chapter
HOT ISSUES BREAKFAST**

Evaluating for accountability vs evaluating for learning

Thursday 10 March, 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 early autumn it may be chilly)

Chair: Emma Williams

Some evaluations focus on accountability issues, others on identifying how to improve practice and/or policy. Many – perhaps most – evaluations require elements of both. At this breakfast, we will discuss the differences between the two approaches, and how they affect the way in which evaluations are designed, conducted and reported. What techniques work best for each approach? Do ‘accountability’ stakeholders differ from ‘learning’ stakeholders? Are different skill sets required for evaluators who focus on learning issues, and those who focus on accountability? How will the current public service reform processes affect accountability and learning focused evaluations?

About the Chair: Emma Williams heads Maburra Consulting, a Canberra-based research and evaluation consultancy. She has commissioned, received, designed and/or conducted many types of evaluations, including some focused primarily on accountability and others focused on learning and practice improvement.

RSVP

Please RSVP to Graham Smith at grahamsmith@bigblue.net.au or 0449 59 05 52 by COB Tuesday 8 March as table space will be limited.

About Hot Issues Events

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.

In 2011, we propose to alternate between breakfasts and late afternoon meetings. Cost is free, except you buy your own food and drink.

Future Meetings

Any suggestions for future topics, or expressions of interest to chair them, will be welcome. 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.