

CONFERENCE HANDBOOK

ACCESSIBLE FORMAT

AES24 INTERNATIONAL EVALUATION CONFERENCE

18 to 20 September 2024
Melbourne | NAARM, Australia

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WELCOME

Dear colleagues

Welcome to the Australian Evaluation Society (AES) 2024 International Evaluation Conference in Melbourne | Naarm, Australia.

We meet on the traditional lands and waterways of the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung people of the Kulin nation and pay our respects to ancestors and elders, past and present. We also acknowledge all the First Nations people joining us. The conference venue sits next to Birrarung Marr (Yarra river). In our logo, developed by Indigenous designers Rebecca and Sarah Hunt, you can see the eagle 'Bunjil' flying over these waters.

WAYFINDING

Wayfinding is an ancient process for navigating unfamiliar territory towards an intended destination. It encompasses ways to identify cues, interpret our surroundings, and navigate through complex spaces. At aes24 we will focus our attention on evaluation across four areas:

- **Destination:** exploring evaluation that contributes to societal and planetary health
- **Footprints:** critical inquiry considering equity, decolonisation and the environment
- **Tools:** their role, benefits and risks
- **Journey:** how we learn and adapt in complex settings, shift how we show up, and determine the skills, knowledge, and expertise we need today and in the future.

The aes24 Committee is excited to provide an extensive program of speakers with diverse experiences across disciplines, sectors, and cultural perspectives. With provocative keynotes, panel discussions, papers and skill-building sessions, we have crafted aes24 to be a welcoming and stimulating complement to our collective and individual wayfinding in evaluation thinking and practice. We invite you to share your views and build connections with others considering these critical questions:

What purposes does evaluation serve in this context of global challenges? How is evaluation helping address systemic problems and contributing to efforts to improve societal and planetary wellbeing? How is this affecting and affected by the definition and positioning of evaluation?

The program is supported by the wonderful AES CEO and our committed conference committee – to whom we express our deepest gratitude.

Jess Dart, Conference Co-Convenor

Amy Gullickson, Conference Co-Convenor

Matt Healey, Co-Program Chair

Donna Loveridge, Co-Program Chair

Bill Wallace, Conference Director / CEO

Fiona Zlotnik, Conference Manager / Events Executive

CONFERENCE INFORMATION

DATES

Conference workshops

Monday 16 and Tuesday 17 September 2024

Conference

Wednesday 18 to Friday 20 September 2024

LOCATION

Melbourne Convention Exhibition Centre (MCEC)
1 Convention Centre Place, South Wharf

Registration Desk

Location: Level 1 Foyer

Wednesday 18 September	7:30am–4:00pm
Thursday 19 September	7:30am–3:30pm
Friday 20 September	8:00am–2:00pm

ACCESSIBILITY

Conference handbook

Please contact the Registration Desk for an accessible version of this program book.

Presentations

This year's Plenary presentations will include closed captioning. All other sessions in Plenary 1 will be captioned for access on individual devices.

Venue

MCEC has accessibility options – more info on the 'Plan your visit' page of the Convention Centre website link: <http://www.mcec.com.au/plan-your-visit>.

SPEAKER SUPPORT

Location: Level 1 Foyer

This room will be available for all presenters to upload their presentations with the assistance of the audio visual technician. The technician will be in attendance during the times indicated as follows.

Speaker support access hours

Wednesday 18 September	8:00am–4:00pm
Thursday 19 September	8:00am–3:00pm
Friday 20 September	8:00am–2:30pm

Presenters are required to visit the speaker support room and provide their presentation in MS PowerPoint format, aspect ratio 16:9, on a USB drive to the technician at least two hours prior to the commencement of their session (except for early morning sessions, which is one hour prior). This will ensure that the technician has met with all presenters and are fully aware of your presentation requirements. It is our objective that presentations operate as smoothly as possible.

FIRST NATIONS CREATION SPACE

Location: Level 1

Presented by our exclusive aes24 First Nations Partners, Kowa Collaboration and Gilibanga

WIFI INTERNET AT THE VENUE

Complimentary wireless internet is available at the venue for delegates.

SSID/User: **aes_2024**

Password: **Melb_2024**

CONFERENCE MANAGERS

The 2024 AES International Conference is managed by:

Australian Evaluation Society Limited

425 Smith Street, Fitzroy Vic 3065, Australia

Email Conference Managers: conference@aes.asn.au

ONLINE PROGRAM / CONFERENCE APP

Follow these simple steps to install the conference app on your device:

Download from the App Store – link: <https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/sched/id6621186916>

Download from Google Play – link: <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=com.sched.aestwofour>

Ensure you log in on all your devices to utilise all the features (including syncing your schedule) and set your profile to public (not private). If your profile is private you will be unable to fully participate and will miss important announcements.

Alternatively, access the web portals:

Link to mobile version: <https://aes24.sched.com/mobile>

Link to desktop version: <https://aes24.sched.com>

HEALTH AND SAFETY

AES will be guided by government health and safety measures and will work closely with the venue and all suppliers to plan and implement as safe a conference as is possible.

The AES asks delegates to consider their own and other delegates' safety. If you don't chose to wear a mask we ask that you respect those delegates who do. Convention Centre staff regularly clean presentation equipment.

PROGRAM CHANGES AND MESSAGES

All program changes will be communicated via notification to the aes24 app and by email. Delegates can be messaged within the app.

CHARGING STATIONS

Charging stations are available opposite the Registration Desk (Level 1) and a second station in the Exhibition area (Level 1 Foyer). Charging stations are sponsored by Rooftop Social.

QUIET AND PRAYER ROOMS

Please ask at the Registration Desk. Location of prayer rooms can be found on the 'Plan your Visit' of the Convention Centre website – link: <http://www.mcec.com.au/plan-your-visit>. The quiet room is a space an attendee can retreat to whenever they feel overwhelmed or overloaded from the event environment. It is a space to decompress and regulate. This is not available to be used for work and/or meetings.

CHALK WALL: HELP US CREATE A COLLABORATIVE ARTWORK

Slow down and embrace your creativity. Take time to share your perspectives through words and images on the chalk wall located in the Exhibition on Level 1. Contribute to a snapshot of our collective thoughts, feelings and ambitions!

SOCIAL MEDIA

#aes24MEL is the official social media hashtag.

LinkedIn

We encourage delegates to post daily updates and highlights using #aes24MEL and mention @Australian Evaluation Society so we can re-share your thoughts with the wider evaluation community. Follow @Australian Evaluation Society for photos and updates – LinkedIn link: <https://www.linkedin.com/company/australian-evaluation-society/>.

Facebook

Check out Facebook to view a daily snapshot of photos from the conference. Facebook link: <http://www.facebook.com/evalsociety>

A NOTE ON PHONES AND TIME

As a courtesy to fellow delegates and speakers, please ensure your mobile phones are silent during conference sessions and that you are seated before the advertised start time for each session. Entry doors will be closed at that time.

AES COMMITTEES/SIGS

AES member groups can meet during lunch breaks – these meetings will either be planned or ad hoc. For ad hoc meetings please check with the Registration Desk to see if there is a room available.

REFRESHMENT BREAKS

All refreshment catering breaks will be served in the Exhibition area (Level 1 Foyer). Refreshment breaks are sponsored by ACIL Allen.

SPECIAL DIETARY REQUIREMENTS

If you have advised us of special dietary requirements, please speak to a member of the venue staff during refreshment breaks to locate the dietaries table. The menu on offer will cater for a variety of dietaries. Catering staff have a full list of delegates with special dietary requirements, as advised on registration.

INSTANT RESPONSE SURVEY

Please help improve this year's conference evaluation by telling us what you think of the conference presentations you attend. Go to the aes24 app, open the presentation you have attended, and rate it in the 'Rate This' section.

MEET THIS YEAR'S CONFERENCE EVALUATOR

Ruth Walker is leading the evaluation of aes24 as part of her capstone project for the Master of Evaluation at the University of Melbourne. While new to evaluation she has a solid background in the vocational education sector.

NAME BADGES

All participants will receive a name badge and lanyard upon registration. Name badges are required at all times for identification purposes and admission to sessions, exhibition, catering breaks and the Gala Awards Dinner, if opted into at registration. Name badges are sponsored by Urbis.

PRIVACY

The AES respects your right to the privacy and confidentiality of your personal information. We observe and comply with all relevant government legislation, regulations and industry codes of practice.

Information collected in respect of proposed participation in any aspect of the conference will be used for the purposes of planning and conduct of the conference and may also be provided to the organising body or to the organisers of future Australian Evaluation Society International Conferences.

PHOTOGRAPHY AND FILMING

The Australian Evaluation Society (AES) might record or photograph you during the conference and associated events that you attend and you grant the AES a non-exclusive, royalty-free, perpetual license and permission to use your image, visual likeness or your voice.

Should you prefer not to have your photograph taken or your image recorded at the time of the conference or associated events, it is your responsibility to communicate this preference to the photographer/videographer at the time of the event.

aes24 photographer: Albie Colvin (he/they)

Albie is a graphic design social impact sole trader with 15+ years experience working with not for profit groups, community organisations, government and social enterprises.

Committed to helping others make a positive difference by providing the creative services and supports they need to reach their full potential (branding, reports, infographics, photography and more).

Albie is passionate about accessibility, inclusion and social justice. They are the proud founder of 'Colour Them Safe', an organisation using art to improve the wellbeing of young people with mental health challenges.

SMOKING POLICY

Smoking and e-cigarettes are not permitted inside the venue.

CLOAKROOM

The Customer Service desk at the Convention Centre Place provides cloakroom services.

PERSONAL PROPERTY

Please take good care of your personal belongings. Do not leave them unattended. The venue and organisers will not be responsible for any loss or damage to your personal properties.

CASHLESS VENUE

MCEC operates as an entirely cash-free venue, and visitors are asked to exclusively use electronic payment.

DISCLAIMER

The printed program is correct as of 6 September (cut-off date for producing this publication). The most up-to-date program is available online and on the conference app. The AES reserves the right to cancel, delete, modify or alter items from the program or to delete, modify or alter any aspect of the conference timetabling and delivery at their sole discretion and without notice.

Neither the host organisation nor the meeting organisers or their contractors will accept any liability for any loss or inconvenience caused to any party consequent to such changes.

The views and opinions expressed at the conference are those of the presenters and participants and are not necessarily endorsed by the Australian Evaluation Society (AES).

VENUE LOCATION | GETTING AROUND MELBOURNE

The MCEC is located in the bustling South Wharf precinct with the city centre just a short walk or tram ride away.

TRANSPORT

Public transport

The venue is well served by public transport – visit the ‘Plan your visit’ page of the Convention Centre website (link: <http://www.mcec.com.au/plan-your-visit>) and the Public Transport Victoria website (link: <http://www.ptv.vic.gov.au>) for information.

Taxi/Uber

There is a taxi rank outside the MCEC on Convention Centre Place by the Novotel Melbourne South Wharf hotel entrance.

Parking

Wilson Parking operates a secure underground car park at the MCEC. There is also additional secure car parking available around the venue.

KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

JUNE OSCAR

**Inaugural Chair, The Wiyi Yani U Thangani
Institute for First Nations Gender Justice**

OPENING KEYNOTE

June Oscar AO is a proud Bunuba woman from the remote town of Fitzroy Crossing in Western Australia's Kimberley region. She is a strong advocate for Indigenous Australian languages, social justice, women's issues, and has worked tirelessly to reduce Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD). June has held a raft of influential positions including Deputy Director of the Kimberley Land Council, chair of the Kimberley Language Resource Centre and the Kimberley Interpreting Service and Chief Investigator with WA's Lililwan Project addressing FASD. She led a successful community driven campaign for alcohol restrictions in Fitzroy Crossing and is an international advocate on the impacts of intergenerational trauma and the need to restore societal wellbeing through the revitalisation of cultural practices, languages and connection to land and water.

In 2013 June was awarded an Officer of the Order of Australia for distinguished service to the Indigenous community of Western Australia, particularly through health and social welfare programs. In 2015, June received the Menzies School of Health Research Medallion for her work with FASD. In 2016, she was the recipient of the Desmond Tutu Global Reconciliation Award, she was named NAIDOC person of the year in 2018, and in 2019 she was bestowed the honorary role of a Distinguished Fellow of ANZSOG.

June completed her seven-year term as Australia's Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Justice Commissioner in April 2024. As Commissioner she published the landmark Wiyi Yani U Thangani (Women's Voices) Report in December 2020. In March 2024, June launched the Wiyi Yani U Thangani Institute for First Nations Gender Justice, based at the Australian National University. The Institute, a global first, will continue the vital work of Wiyi Yani U Thangani and advance and respond to the rights and aspirations of First Nations women and girls, inclusive of cis and trans women and gender diverse mob.



INDY JOHAR

RIBA register architect, serial social entrepreneur, and Good Growth Advisor to the Mayor of London, UK



KEYNOTE

Indy Johar is an RIBA register architect, serial social entrepreneur, and Good Growth Advisor to the Mayor of London. Indy was born in Acton, West London and is a lifelong Londoner. He is focused on the strategic design of new super scale civic assets for transition – specifically at the intersection of financing, contracting and governance for deeply democratic futures.

Indy is co-founder of Dark Matter Labs and of the RIBA award winning architecture and urban practice Architecture00. He is also a founding director of Open Systems Lab, seeded WikiHouse (open source housing) and Open Desk (open source furniture company). Indy is a non-executive international Director of the BloxHub, the Nordic Hub for sustainable urbanization. He is on the advisory board for the Future Observatory and is part of the committee for the London Festival of Architecture. He is also a fellow of the London Interdisciplinary School.

Indy was 2016-17 Graham Willis Visiting Professorship at Sheffield University. He was Studio Master at the Architectural Association (2019–2020), UNDP Innovation Facility Advisory Board Member 2016–2020 and RIBA Trustee 2017–2020. He has taught and lectured at various institutions from the University of Bath, TU-Berlin, University College London, Princeton, Harvard, MIT and New School. He was awarded the London Design Medal for Innovation in 2022 and an MBE for Services to Architecture in 2023.

JAMES COPESTAKE

Professor, International Development,
University of Bath, UK



KEYNOTE

James Copestake is Professor of International Development at the University of Bath in the UK, where he is also Director of Studies for the Doctorate in Policy Research and Practice at the Institute of Policy Research.

His publications range broadly across international development evaluation, finance, management, political economy and theory. They draw on collaborative research conducted particularly in Bolivia, Britain, Ethiopia, Ghana, India, Malawi, Peru and Zambia.

His recent work has focused on mixed methods impact evaluation, particularly incorporating use of the Qualitative Impact Protocol (QUIP) and based on evaluation work conducted through Bath Social and Development Research Ltd, a social enterprise he co-founded in 2016 (Bath Social and Development Research website link: <http://www.bathsdr.org>). He is also currently a trustee of Opportunity International UK.

ELIZABETH HOFFECKER

Lead Research Scientist, Local Innovation Group,
Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT),
US



KEYNOTE

Elizabeth Hoffecker is a social scientist who researches and evaluates processes of local innovation and systems change in the context of addressing global development challenges. She directs the MIT Local Innovation Group, an interdisciplinary research group housed at the Sociotechnical Systems Research Center at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in the US, where she has held the position of research scientist since 2017.

Elizabeth's work focuses on developing and putting into use methods for understanding, assessing, and learning from change processes in complex systems, or what she calls 'complexity-aware' approaches to evaluation. She develops and uses these approaches to evaluate complex, system-level interventions into complex local systems such as agricultural systems, innovation systems, and educational systems, with current projects in northern India and Guatemala.

Over the past ten years, Elizabeth has led a portfolio of research projects across five continents and has translated insights from her research into teaching at multiple levels, from undergraduates to professionals. She is a co-creator of the Lean Research approach for improving the experience of research participants in international development and humanitarian work and is a 2019 recipient of MIT's Infinite Mile Award for Innovation and Creativity.

JOHN GARGANI

President of Gargani + Company, former President of the American Evaluation Association, US



CLOSING KEYNOTE

Dr John Gargani is an evaluator with 30 years of experience and eclectic interests. He is President of the evaluation consulting firm Gargani + Company, served as President of the American Evaluation Association in 2016, co-authored the book *Scaling Impact: Innovation for the Public Good*, and has directed evaluations ranging from multi-site randomised controlled trials to early-stage innovation design. He is eager to engage conference participants in discussions related to impact, scaling, value, value for money, and AI in evaluation.

John spends most of his time conducting research, writing, speaking, and teaching on topics related to impact, scaling, and value. He believes evaluations should reflect and advance the diverse values held by the people affected. Perhaps controversially, he argues that quantitative methods can help evaluators achieve this by deepening their qualitative understanding of program impacts. He is putting this philosophy to the test by researching how AI may be used to evaluate the quality of classroom instruction and developing new methods for evaluating 'value for money' from multiple perspectives without measuring value in monetary units (the latter will be discussed in a panel during the conference).

John teaches graduate students about evaluation, social entrepreneurship, program design, and impact measurement, most recently at Claremont Graduate University and University of Pennsylvania. He also offers professional development workshops around the world on a variety of topics, including how to scale the impact of social innovations.

CONFERENCE SPONSORS AND PARTNERS

CUBE GROUP

PLATINUM SPONSOR – GALA AWARDS DINNER



Robust yet practical, the Cube Group evaluation practice combines technical qualitative and quantitative analysis, respectful and sensitive engagement, and actionable insights.

A Certified B Corp, we work exclusively with purpose-driven organisations who share our commitment to creating public value.

The need for evidence-based policy and programs has never been greater. Understanding what works, why and for whom is crucial to equipping organisations with the insights they need to improve their services and maximise public value.

We're proud of our work helping organisations understand the value they deliver and how they can enhance their impact in complex and dynamic environments.

Link to 'Evaluation and Reviews' section of the Cube Group website:

<http://www.cubegroup.com.au/services/evaluations-reviews/>

TETRA TECH INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

DIAMOND SPONSOR – EXCLUSIVE WORKSHOP PARTNER



Tetra Tech International Development is a leading global development consulting firm with more than 40 years' experience providing practical and sustainable international development services in more than 80 countries.

We work with people and communities to achieve a positive impact by delivering intelligent and co-created solutions across the development sphere to support thriving people, thriving communities and a thriving planet.

Link to Tetra Tech International Development website: <https://intdev.tetratechasiapacific.com/>

KOWA COLLABORATION AND GILIBANGA

aes24 FIRST NATIONS PARTNER



We are excited to announce Kowa Collaboration and Gilibanga as the First Nations partners for the aes24 International Evaluation Conference. This partnership brings together Kowa's expertise in UMEL, First Nations Data Sovereignty and Governance and First Nations place-making with Gilibanga, a network who are pioneering the amplification of First Nations leadership in evaluation spaces. Together, we will ensure that First Nations perspectives are celebrated and woven into the fabric of the conference and provide a Culturally safe space for all First Nations attendees to connect and create.

Link to Kowa Collaboration website: <http://www.kowacollaboration.com>

AUSTRALIAN HEALTHCARE ASSOCIATES

GOLD SPONSOR – COFFEE BAR



AHA is Australia's largest specialist health and human services consulting firm. Now in our 33rd year, we partner with governments to deliver evaluations, reviews, program administration and advisory services. We're committed to improving the health of Australians across our diverse landscapes and communities.

We collaborate with our clients to design and implement evaluation frameworks, tailoring our approach to maximise stakeholder engagement. Our skilled evaluators are experts in navigating complexity to deliver meaningful insights and practical recommendations.

Visit ahaconsulting.com.au to learn about our successful track record and how we can work with you.

Link to AHA website: <http://www.ahaconsulting.com.au>

ARTD

GOLD SPONSOR - MEMOBOTTLE



ARTD supports government agencies and not-for-profits to use evaluative thinking to design and refine action for the public good. We are collaborative, creative and critical thinkers who deliver evaluations that are engaging, robust and impactful. From co-designed and lived experience led evaluations to causal inference and quasi-experimental designs, we have the experience and flexibility to tailor our teams to meet your specific needs. When you choose to work with ARTD, you tap into 35 years of practical experience evaluating Australian policy and programs and the wisdom and passion of our whole team.

Link to ARTD website: <http://www.artd.com.au>

URBIS

GOLD SPONSOR – DELEGATE LANYARDS



As evaluators within the multidisciplinary Urbis family, our goal is to improve lives through social and economic inclusion.

We define complex problems through applied research, evidence capture and inclusive consultation.

We generate real-world answers through co-designing systems, services and programs.

We make things better through results-driven evaluation.

By working in partnership with clients who share our values, and leveraging a multidisciplinary team of curious minds, we catalyse innovation and learning in service of positive social impact.

Link to Urbis website: <http://www.urbis.com.au/service/policy>

POLICY PERFORMANCE

SAPPHIRE SPONSOR – WELCOME FUNCTION



Policy Performance wishes all delegates an amazing experience, especially those attending their first AES conference! You will engage with innovative ideas and approaches, while forming lasting connections with like-minded people.

Look out for Charlie Tulloch, Director, and new recruit Arun Callapilli, Research and Evaluation Consultant, who provide governments with qualitative and quantitative-oriented evaluation projects and skills training.

As Sapphire Sponsor, we look forward to welcoming you to the AES24 at the MCG opening reception!

Contact Charlie Tulloch via email: charlie@policyperformance.com.au

Link to Policy Performance website: <http://www.policyperformance.com.au>

ACIL ALLEN

SILVER SPONSOR – REFRESHMENT BREAKS

ACIL ALLEN

ACIL Allen is a leading independent economics, policy and strategy advisory firm, dedicated to helping clients solve complex issues. We are committed and passionate about providing rigorous independent advice that contributes to a better world. We use leading qualitative and quantitative techniques to inform decision making that helps make the world a better place.

Our evaluation practice brings advanced expertise in strategic reviews, meta-evaluations, evaluation design and co-design, stakeholder engagement, evidence-based research, cost-effectiveness analyses and capacity building. We work across a range of sectors, including health and mental health, education, community services, justice and public safety.

Link to ACIL Allen website: <http://www.acilallen.com.au>

GROSVENOR

SILVER SPONSOR – DIGITAL



Embark on a transformative journey with Grosvenor, where expertise meets integrity, and passion fuels purpose in supporting Australia's public sector. As seasoned navigators, we bring practical knowledge and independent advice, leaving footprints of positive impact along the way through services including program evaluation, performance measurement, strategy, governance, capability, and service delivery improvement. Grosvenor's Evaluation team stands out for their ability to understand your present challenges and future-state aspirations, delivering tailored solutions and offering invaluable evaluation tools, including a DIY Evaluation Kit that will help you get to your desired destination. We hope you can wayfind your way to Grosvenor's aes24 stand – just follow the footprints – or journey to one of our presentations to meet our Experts without Attitude!

Link to Grosvenor website: <http://www.grosvenor.com.au/public-sector-advisory/program-evaluation/>

ROOFTOP SOCIAL

SILVER SPONSOR – CHARGING THE CONFERENCE

RooftopSocial

Rooftop Social is a leading provider of evaluation, research, and facilitation services in Australia.

We bring specialist skillsets in:

- the design of evaluation and learning frameworks, systems, and tools
- building evaluation capacity, providing training, coaching and other support to help organisations strengthen and use their evidence base
- facilitating participatory design processes for innovation in social policy, programs and services.

Established in 2013, our mission is 'evidence for good'. This shapes:

- who we work with – government and for-purpose organisations that care about people and the planet
- how we work – we are inclusive, flexible, creative, balanced, and transparent
- the sectors we work in – including education, justice, environment, health and human services
- the projects we take on – assignments where we know we can make a real contribution to things that matter.

Our core team is based in NSW and Victoria, with a network of subject matter experts and colleagues nationwide.

Link to Rooftop Social website: <http://www.rooftopsocial.com>

CLEAR HORIZON

SILVER SPONSOR – RECHARGE BREAKFAST

Clear Horizon

Clear Horizon is a women-led, values-driven company dedicated to empowering communities and organisations to create change. Our vision is one where every change endeavour not only achieves its full potential but fosters improved outcomes for individuals, communities, and the planet at large.

Specialising in bespoke consulting services, cutting-edge educational offerings, and customised digital solutions, Clear Horizon serves a diverse clientele including non-profits, government agencies, philanthropic foundations, social entrepreneurs, and purpose-driven enterprises. Our multi-layered expertise encompasses strategy development, change architecture, impact measurement, program evaluation, and systemic transformations. Clear Horizon is B-Corp certified and passionate about social and environmental justice.

Link to Clear Horizon website: <http://www.clearhorizon.com.au>

PAUL RAMSAY FOUNDATION

SILVER SPONSOR – FIRST NATIONS CSG AND NEW DELEGATE BREAKFAST



Paul Ramsay Foundation is a philanthropic foundation. We work for a future where people and places have what they need to thrive. With organisations and communities, we invest in, build, and influence the conditions needed to stop disadvantage in Australia.

Link to Paul Ramsay Foundation website: <http://www.paulramsayfoundation.org.au>

WELCOME TO COUNTRY CONFERENCE OPENING

WELCOME TO COUNTRY AND SMOKING CEREMONY

Wurundjeri Elder Perry Wandin

CONFERENCE OPENING

AES President Kiri Parata officially opens the conference



OPENING KEYNOTE ADDRESS

June Oscar AO, Inaugural Chair, The Wiyi Yani U Thangani Institute for First Nations Gender Justice

Title: 'Wiyi Yani U Thangani - re-imagining evaluation with a gender justice lens'

June will explore how she, as the first woman to be the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Justice Commissioner, led the ground-breaking national project, Wiyi Yani U Thangani (Women's Voices). In March 2024, the Wiyi Yani U Thangani Institute for First Nations Gender Justice was launched at the Australian National University to carry the legacy of the project – which has gathered a powerful evidence base of the rights, issues and aspirations of thousands of First Nations women and girls.

The Institute is developing an applied measurement, evaluation and learning approach formed by the voices and cultures of First Nations women and girls. This approach will guarantee that women can own their own evidence and identify areas of research which respond to their strengths and priorities. June will explore this unique approach and how evaluation methods shaped by women's voices can lead to systemic transformation benefiting all Australians.

June is a proud Bunuba woman from the remote town of Fitzroy Crossing in Western Australia's Kimberley region. She is a strong advocate for Indigenous Australian languages, social justice, women's issues, and has worked tirelessly to reduce Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD).



CONFERENCE SUPPORT GRANTS FOR EMERGING INDIGENOUS EVALUATORS

In 2024 we are pleased to award grants to support 30 Indigenous evaluators from the Australasian region to participate with us in Melbourne | Naarm.

We welcome our grant recipients and hope you thoroughly enjoy this opportunity.

As well as developing recipients' capacity, the support grants strengthen the knowledge base of the evaluation sector by bringing the grantees' knowledge and understanding to experienced evaluators.

Thank you to those who helped publicise the grants and encourage prospective applicants. Thank you also to the panel who volunteered their expertise and time to select this year's grantees.

This year's program has been supported by:

- Australian Government National Indigenous Australians Agency
- Pacific Community
- Australian Government Australian Centre for Evaluation
- Paul Ramsay Foundation, Institute for Social Science Research (The University of Queensland)
- Ninti One Limited
- Rick Cummings
- AES members
- and the generosity of conference delegates.

SOCIAL PROGRAM

TUESDAY 17 SEPTEMBER 2024

Welcome Reception

6.30–8.30pm at the Australian Sports Museum, Melbourne Cricket Ground (MCG)

Proudly sponsored by Policy Performance

Option: Exclusive tour of the MCG from 5.30–6.30pm, limited spaces

WEDNESDAY 18 SEPTEMBER 2024

New Delegate and CSG recipient networking breakfast

8.00–8.45am (invitation only)

Proudly sponsored by Paul Ramsay Foundation

THURSDAY 19 SEPTEMBER 2024

Gala Awards Pre-reception

6:00pm at The Edge, Federation Square

Join Delegates for a chance to unwind and network in this quintessential Melbourne space with canapés and drinks.

Gala Awards Dinner

7:00pm at Zinc, Federation Square

Note: Opt in registrations are only available until allocation is exhausted due to capacity.

Proudly sponsored by Cube Group

FRIDAY 20 SEPTEMBER 2024

Recharge Breakfast

8:00am – Start your final day of the conference with a Recharge Breakfast, a blend of energy-boosting nutrients designed to fuel your mind and body for a day of meaningful connections and insightful learnings.

Proudly sponsored by Clear Horizon

SPECIAL PROGRAM

PLANNING YOUR CONFERENCE VOYAGE: KEY EVALUATION CONCEPTS FOR NOVICE SAILORS

Wednesday 18 September, 11.00am–12.00pm, Plenary 1

This workshop, presented by Charlie Tulloch from Policy Performance, is targeted at new and emerging evaluators who are seeking to build their familiarity with the key concepts and language used in evaluation and the main elements of evaluation project delivery. The session is grounded in theory, drawing on leading thinkers and methods that are central to our practice. Key concepts to be covered include: What is evaluation? Why should we evaluate? What can be evaluated? When to evaluate? How to evaluate? Where can I learn more about evaluation?

AES ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Wednesday 18 September, 5.30pm–6.15pm, Plenary 1

Join the AES Board as we celebrate another year's achievements by members of the AES and introduce newly elected Board members.

PERSPECTIVES ON THE APPROPRIATE USE OF RCTS IN EVALUATION

Thursday 19 September, 1.30pm–3.00pm, Plenary 1

The aim of the session is to explore the appropriate use of RCTs in evaluation studies of public policy in Australia. The strategy is to commence a communication process on this key topic between the Australian Centre for Evaluation (ACE) and the evaluation community as represented by the AES. Ideally, this will lead to collaboration between ACE and the AES to improve evaluation practice in Australia.

The session will commence with a presentation by a senior staff member of ACE explaining its mandate and outlining its approach to including RCTs in evaluation studies. This will be followed by a panel of evaluators who have experience with RCTs. AES Fellows will act as discussants, responding to the previous presentations with their thoughts on this issue. There will be time for audience members to ask questions.

COMMITTED TO MENTORING

Thursday 19 September, 3.30pm–4.30pm, Room 103

Mentors and mentees from the AES Group Mentoring Program share rich experiences of group learning, knowledge sharing, and reflective practice, exploring the Wayfinding skills, knowledge, and expertise they have found through the program and the valuable lessons learned.

This discussion is for evaluators who are passionate about learning – both their own and that of other AES members! Whether you're a seasoned professional eager to contribute to your community, an emerging talent or a mid-career evaluator navigating contemporary evaluation ecosystems, this session is for you.

THE LEARNING JOURNEY: COMPETENCY SELF-ASSESSMENT FOR PERSONAL LEARNING AND PROFESSION DEVELOPMENT

Thursday 19 September, 3.30pm–4.30pm, Room 105

AES in collaboration with learnevaluation.org offers a competency self-assessment to members. The aim is to help individuals understand their strengths and plan their learning journey, and to help the AES continue to tailor its professional development offerings and develop pathways to professionalisation. In this session, members of the AES Pathways Committee will summarise findings from the self-assessment and invite participants to discuss which competencies are really core and why.

REVIEWING AND WRITING FOR THE EVALUATION JOURNAL OF AUSTRALASIA

Friday 20 September, 10.30am–11.30am, Room 103

The focus of this presentation is on how to write a good review: how to be academically critical, while at the same time providing constructive feedback that will benefit authors and readers. The presenters will offer step-by-step advice on what to look for, how to judge the quality of a manuscript, and how to make constructive suggestions for authors to consider.

The presentation will also explain how reviewing fits within the publication process, from submission to production. It will be most helpful to potential authors and current and potential reviewers. Authors will learn how to prepare their articles so they receive a favourable review, and reviewers will receive clear guidance on presenting their review feedback to authors.

VISIT THE EXHIBITION

The Exhibition will be open in the Level 1 Foyer during breaks:

- Wednesday 18 September, 10:30am–3:30pm
- Thursday 19 September, 10:00am–3:30pm
- Friday 20 September, 10:00am–1:30pm

LIST OF EXHIBITORS

Booth 1: ARTD

Booth 2: Grosvenor

Booth 3: Tetra Tech

Booth 4: Australian Evaluation Society

Booth 5: Cube Group

Booth 6: Clear Horizon

Booth 7 Kowa and Gilibanga

Booth 8: Parenting Research Centre

Booth 9: Murawin

Booth 10: SIMNA

Booth 11: Allen + Clarke

Booth 12: Rooftop Social

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

DAY 1: WEDNESDAY 18 SEPTEMBER 2024

9:00am–10:30am

Plenary: Welcome to Country, Smoking Ceremony and Conference Opening by AES President Kiri Parata

followed by:

Keynote address by June Oscar AO titled 'Wiyi Yani U

Thangani – re-imagining evaluation with a gender justice lens'

10:30am–11:00am

Morning tea sponsored by ACIL Allen

11:00am–12:30pm

Concurrent sessions

12:30pm–1:30pm

Lunch sponsored by ACIL Allen

1:30pm–3:00pm

Concurrent sessions

3:00pm–3:30pm

Afternoon tea sponsored by ACIL Allen

3:30pm–4:30pm

Plenary: Keynote address by James Copestake titled 'What next? From evaluating to anticipating'

4:30pm–5:30pm

Concurrent sessions

5:30pm

AES Annual General Meeting

DAY 2: THURSDAY 19 SEPTEMBER 2024

8:30am–10:00am

Plenary: Keynote address by Elizabeth Hoffecker titled 'Wayfinding tools for learning and evaluation in complex systems' (followed by panel)

10:00am–10:30am

Morning tea sponsored by ACIL Allen

10:30am–12:30pm

Concurrent sessions

12:30pm–1:30pm

Lunch sponsored by ACIL Allen

1:30pm–3:00pm

Concurrent sessions

3:00pm–3:30pm

Afternoon tea sponsored by ACIL Allen

3:30pm–4:30pm

Concurrent sessions

6:00pm

Gala Awards Pre-reception

7:00pm

Gala Awards dinner sponsored by Cube Group

DAY 3: FRIDAY 20 SEPTEMBER 2024

8:00am

Recharge Breakfast sponsored by Clear Horizon

9:00am–10:00am

Plenary: Keynote address by Indy Johar titled 'Navigating transitions through risk and uncertainties'

10:00am–10:30am

Morning tea sponsored by ACIL Allen

10:30am–12:30pm

Concurrent sessions

12:30pm–1:30pm

Lunch sponsored by ACIL Allen

1:30pm–2:30pm

Concurrent sessions

2:30pm–4:00pm

Plenary: Closing keynote address by John Gargani titled 'Finding our way to the future profession of evaluation'

Followed by Panel discussion

Then Closing address by the AES President, Kiri Parata and Handover to aes25 Canberra | Ngambri

FOR YOUR DIARY!

aes25

**Canberra | Ngambri
15–19 September 2025**

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We are grateful to those who volunteered their time and expertise to ensure the success of the conference, including:

AES24 COMMITTEE

Co-Convenors

Jess Dart
Amy Gullickson

Co-Program Chairs

Matt Healey
Donna Loveridge

Ruth Aston
Caroline Henwood
Mohib Iqbal
Qudratullah Jahid
Sonya Krzywoszyja
Niketa Kulkarni
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Stephanie White
Sue Wilson
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Kathleen Stacey
Charlie Tulloch
Carol Vale
Caitlin Vaughan
Carolyn Wallace
Mary Ann Wong

SESSION DETAILS: WEDNESDAY

OPENING PLENARY

9:00am – 10:30am

Welcome to Country followed by June Oscar keynote address titled 'Wiyi Yani U Thangani – re-imagining evaluation with a gender justice lens'

Room: Plenary 1

CONCURRENT SESSIONS 11:00AM TO 12:30PM

11:00am – 11:30am

Evaluation that adds value for people and planet: Perspectives, challenges, and opportunities for Indigenous knowledge systems in Africa

Room: 104; Presenters: Awuor Ponge, Grace Wanjiru Murigo; Sub-theme: Destination

11:00am – 12:00pm

Appreciating First Nations voices: Using appreciative inquiry and participation in the evaluation of Community Justice Groups

Room: 101-102; Presenters: Michael Limerick, Melinda Mann; Sub-theme: Footprints

11:00am – 12:00pm

Design-stage evaluative thinking: Helping NGOs and grant makers learn to love evaluation from the start

Room: 103; Presenters: Duncan Rintoul, Claire Grealy, Jacqueline Webb, Virginia Poggio, Kirsty Burrow, Luciana Campello; Sub-theme: Journey

11:00am – 12:00pm

The psychology of evaluation capacity building: Finding the way with the rider, elephant and the pathway

Room: 106; Presenter: Samantha Abbato; Sub-theme: Journey

11:00am – 12:00pm

Innovating Value for Money: Finding our way to greater value for all

Room 105; Presenters: Julian King, John Gargani, Farida Fleming; Sub-theme: Tools

11:00am – 12:30pm

Planning your conference voyage: Key evaluation concepts for novice sailors

Room: Plenary 1; Presenter: Charlie Tulloch; Special session

11:30am – 12:00pm

Culturally responsive initiatives: Lessons in effective initiative design and evaluation of initiatives that affect First Nations people

Room: 104; Presenters: Steven Legg, Eugenia Marembo; Sub-theme: Journey

12:00pm – 12:30pm

From bottlenecks to breakthroughs: Insights from a teacher workforce initiative evaluation
Room: 104; Presenters: Rhiannon Birch, Hayden Jose;; Sub-theme: Destination

12:00pm – 12:30pm

Warlpiri ways of assessing impact – how an Aboriginal community is defining, assessing and taking action for a good life in their community
Room: 101-102; Presenters: Alex Gyles, Emily Lapinski, Glenda Napaljarri Wayne, Raelene Nangala Jigili, Rhonda Larry Nungarray, Tyrone Japaljarri Spencer; Sub-theme: Destination

12:00pm – 12:30pm

Navigating collaborative practice – the role of evaluation in brokering shared outcomes
Room: 106; Presenter: Caroline Crothers; Sub-theme: Journey

12:00pm – 12:30pm

Enhancing stakeholder engagement through culturally sensitive approaches: A focus on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities
Room: 105; Presenters: Carol Vale, Mark Power; Sub-theme: Tools

12:00pm – 12:30pm

Valuing First Nations cultures in cost-benefit analysis
Room: 103; Presenters: Laura Faulkner, Shaun Cumming; Sub-theme: Tools

CONCURRENT SESSIONS 1:30PM TO 3:00PM

1:30pm – 2:00pm

Enhancing evaluation value for small community organisations: A case example
Room: 104; Presenters: Allison Clarke, Stephanie Button, Carolyn McSporran; Sub-theme: Destination

1:30pm – 2:30pm

Envisioning and encountering relational Aboriginal and Pacific research futures
Room: 105; Presenters: Lisa Faerua, Nathan Sentance, David Lakisa, Alli Burness; Sub-theme: Footprints

1:30pm – 2:30pm

Ignite sessions - Room 103

- Learning from failure at a NFP - pitfalls and pointers; Presenter: Victoria Pilbeam
 - Measuring (in)equity for people with disability: How to do it, and why it is rarely done well; Presenter: Aleisha Carroll
 - No help? No worries! How to find your way on your own; Presenter: Rachel Wilks
 - Revitalising survey engagement: Strategies to tackle low response rates; Presenter: Hannah Nguyen
 - Sign here: Supporting deaf participation in evaluation; Presenter: Susie Fletcher
-

1:30pm – 2:30pm

Beyond numbers: Weaving stories, sculpting change and signal spotting through collaborative impact yarns

Room: 106, Presenters: Katie Stublely, Chloe Wegener, Banok Rind, Sophie Spry, Terri Reid, Niamh Kealy, Skye Trudgett, Sub-theme: Journey

1:30pm – 2:30pm

Cultivating equity: A roadmap for new and student evaluators' journeys

Room: 101-102, Presenters: Ayesha Boyce, Aileen Reid, Sub-theme: Journey

1:30pm – 3:00pm

Link-Up Services and wayfinding: Co-creating and navigating a culturally safe national monitoring and evaluation strategy

Room: Plenary 1; Presenters: Kathleen Stacey, Raelene Rosas, Patricia Thompson AM;

Sub-theme: Footprints

2:00pm – 2:30pm

Evaluation for whom? Shifting evaluation to increase its value for local actors

Room: 104; Presenters: Linda Kelly, Lisa Buggy, Linda Vaike; Sub-theme: Destination

2:30pm – 3:00pm

Navigating a path to system impact: Designing a strategic impact evaluation of education programs

Room: 104, Presenters: Amanda Reeves, Eunice Sotelo; Sub-theme: Destination

2:30pm – 3:00pm

If treaty is like a marriage, state evaluation needs sustained deep work: Evaluation and Victoria's First Peoples Treaty

Room: 105; Presenters: Kate Nichols, Milbert Gaway; Sub-theme: Footprints

2:30pm – 3:00pm

When 'parachuting in' is not an option: Exploring value with integrity across languages, continents and time zones

Room: 106; Presenters: Julian King, Adrian Field; Sub-theme: Footprints

2:30pm – 3:00pm

Elevating evaluation: Practical insights for supporting systems transformation

Room: 101-102; Presenters: Kathryn Erskine, Michael Maher; Sub-theme: Journey

2:30pm – 3:00pm

When speed is of the essence: How to make sure the rubber hits the road

Room: 103; Presenters: Kristy Hornby; Sub-theme: Tools

PLENARY – KEYNOTE

3:30pm – 4:30pm

James Copestake keynote titled 'What next? From evaluating to anticipating'

Room: Plenary 1

CONCURRENT SESSIONS 3:30PM TO 5:30PM

4:30pm – 5:00pm

Wayfinding for integrating social justice and culturally responsive and equitable evaluation practices in meta-evaluation: Learning from the UN evaluation quality assessments

Room: 101-102; Presenter: Sandra Ayoo; Sub-theme: Destination

4:30pm – 5:00pm

Developing a tool for measuring evaluation maturity at a federal agency

Room 105; Presenters: Michael Amon, Anthony Alindogan, Claudia Oke; Sub-theme: Tools

4:30pm – 5:00pm

Uncovering hidden STEM footprints: Leveraging output data from Questacon's outreach programs

Room: 104; Presenters: Jake Clark, Nick Phillis; Sub-theme: Tools

4:30pm – 5:30pm

Evaluation Lab: Using design to solve evaluation challenges

Room: Plenary 1; Presenters: Matt Healey, Shani Rajendra; Sub-theme: Journey

4:30pm – 5:30pm

Navigating the choppy waters of the evaluation landscape in the Pacific

Room: 106; Presenters: Allan Mua Illingworth, Eroni Wavu, Fiona Fandim, Mereani Rokotuibau, Chris Roche; Sub-theme: Journey

4:30pm – 5:30pm

Rebalancing power dynamics: Philanthropy through the lens of First Nations community-driven MEL

Room: 103; Presenters: Skye Trudgett, Rachel Kerry, Tara Leslie; Sub-theme: Journey

5:00pm – 5:30pm

Trigger warnings – do they just trigger people more?

Room: 104; Presenters: Kizzy Gandy; Sub-theme: Footprints

5:00pm – 5:30pm

Development and implementation of a culturally grounded evaluation framework: Learnings from an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peak

Room 101-102; Presenters: Candice Butler, John Prince; Sub-theme: Journey

5:00pm – 5:30pm

Failing your way to better practice: How to tread carefully when things aren't going as planned

Room: 105; Presenter: Stephanie White; Sub-theme: Tools

5:30pm – 6:15pm

AES 2024 Annual General Meeting

Room: Plenary 1; Special Session

SESSION DETAILS: THURSDAY

PLENARY – KEYNOTE

8:30am – 10:00am

Elizabeth Hoffecker keynote titled 'Wayfinding tools for learning and evaluation in complex systems' (followed by panel)

Room: Plenary 1; Presenter: Elizabeth Hoffecker; Panel: Matt Healey, Donna Loveridge, Tony Kiessler, Jess Dart

CONCURRENT SESSIONS 10:30AM TO 12:30PM

10:30am – 11:00am

Evaluating capacity building for sustainability scientists: Pathways for early career researchers

Room: 104; Presenters: Lisa Walker; Sub-theme: Destination

10:30am – 11:00am

Applying outcome harvesting methodology in the media development sector

Room: 103; Presenters: Seila Sar; Sub-theme: Journey

10:30am – 11:00am

National impact, regional delivery - robust M&E for best practice Australian horticulture industry development

Room: 101-102; Presenters: Carl Larsen, Zarmeen Hassan, Ossie Lang; Sub-theme: Journey

10:30am – 11:30am

An evaluator in need of an evaluation

Room: 105; Presenter: Dana Cross; Sub-theme: Tools

10:30am – 11:30am

Navigating the maze of causality: Understanding the relationship between carcinogenic betel nut consumption and learning outcomes

Room: 106; Presenters: Kabira Namit, Kathryn Lee; Sub-theme: Tools

10:30am – 12:00pm

Commissioning evaluations - finding the way from a transactional to a relational approach

Room: Plenary 1; Presenters: Eleanor Williams, Skye Trudgett, George Argyrous, Josephine Norman, Luke Craven, Kristy Hornby; Sub-theme: Journey

11:00am – 11:30am

Learn, evolve, adapt: Evaluation of climate change and disaster risk reduction programs

Room: 104; Presenters: Justine Smith; Sub-theme: Destination

11:00am – 11:30am

Culturally inclusive evaluation with culturally and linguistically diverse communities in Australia

Room: 101-102; Presenter: Lena Etuk; Sub-theme: Journey

11:00am – 11:30am

Our journey so far: A story of evaluation to support community change in South Australia

Room: 103; Presenters: Penny Baldock, Jessie Sleep; Sub-theme: Journey

11:30am – 12:00pm

Bringing the 'human' into measurement: From in-depth inquiry to systemic change

Room: 104; Presenters: Julia Suh, Jessica Leefe; Sub-theme: Destination

11:30am – 12:00pm

'Nothing about us, without us': Developing evaluation framework alongside victim-survivors of modern slavery using representative participatory approaches

Room: 101-102; Presenter: Ellie Taylor; Sub-theme: Journey

11:30am – 12:00pm

Navigating complex government reforms: A tool to examine program theory.

How complete and relevant is government program theory?

Room: 105; Presenter: Nerida Rixon; Sub-theme: Tools

11:30am – 12:30pm

Social impact measurement and evaluation – the similarities and differences that complement our journey to more fit-for-purpose destinations

Room: 106; Presenters: Caitlin Barry, Elliott Tester, Gerard Atkinson, Paula Simões dos Santos, Sandra Opoku; Sub-theme: Journey

11:30am – 12:30pm

A new tool for participatory evaluation: A case study of the process of conducting online workshops with young creators with disabilities to tell stories using virtual reality animation

Room: 103; Presenter: Samantha Abbato; Sub-theme: Tools

12:00pm – 12:30pm

Systems evaluation to the rescue!: How do we use systems evaluation to improve societal and planetary wellbeing?

Room: 104; Presenters: Kristy Hornby, Tenille Moselen; Sub-theme: Destination

12:00pm – 12:30pm

Optimising evaluations of wellbeing programs in schools

Room: 105; Presenters: Tamara Van Der Zant, Katherine Dix; Sub-theme: Footprints

12:00pm – 12:30pm

Getting to the value add: Timely insights from a realist developmental evaluation

Room: Plenary 1; Presenter: Phillip Belling; Sub-theme: Journey

12:00pm – 12:30pm

Navigating the unfamiliar: Evaluation and sustainable finance

Room: 101-102; Presenter: Donna Loveridge; Sub-theme: Journey

CONCURRENT SESSIONS 1:30PM TO 3:00PM

1:30pm – 2:00pm

Man vs. machine: Reflections on machine-assisted and human-driven approaches used to examine open-text progress reports

Room 101-102; Presenters: Kathleen De Rooy, Steph Quail; Sub-theme: Tools

1:30pm – 2:30pm

Evaluation by stealth: Insights from embedded evaluation practice

Room: 104; Presenters: Samiha Barkat, Edgar Daly; Sub-theme: Journey

1:30pm – 2:30pm

Scaling impact: How should we evaluate the success of a scaling journey?

Room: 106; Presenter: John Gargani; Sub-theme: Journey

1:30pm – 2:30pm

A tool for addressing violence against women: An examination of the creation, benefits, and drawbacks of the Evidence Portal

Room: 3; Presenters: Charlotte Louisa Grace Bell, Lauren Hamilton; Sub-theme: Tools

1:30pm – 2:30pm

The art of qualitative sensemaking: Exploring new methods

Room: 105 Presenters: Matt Healey, Sharon Marra_Brown, Monica Wabuke, Alli Burness; Sub-theme: Tools

1:30pm – 3:00pm

Perspectives on the appropriate use of RCTs in evaluation

Room: Plenary 1; Presenters: Eleanor Williams, Wendy Jarvie, Bruce Cunningham, Lisa Cameron, Patricia Rogers, Scott Bayley; Chair: Rick Cummings; Special Session

2:00pm – 2:30pm

Harnessing AI for qualitative data analysis

Room: 101-102; Presenter: Ethel Karskens; Sub-theme: Tools

2:30pm – 3:00pm

Monitoring and evaluation journeys: Making footprints, community-based enterprise in Australian First Nations contexts

Room: 104; Presenters: Sharon Babyack, Donna-Maree Stephens; Sub-theme: Destination

2:30pm – 3:00pm

A long road ahead: Evaluating long-term change in complex policy areas. A case study of school active travel programs in the ACT

Room: 106; Presenter: Mallory Notting; Sub-theme: Journey

2:30pm – 3:00pm

Our new ways: Reforming our approach to impact measurement and learning

Room: 105; Presenters: Kaitlyn Scannell; Sub-theme: Journey

2:30pm – 3:00pm

An update on practical applications of machine learning in evaluation

Room: 101-102; Presenter: Gerard Atkinson; Sub-theme: Tools

2:30pm – 3:00pm

Where next? Evaluation to transformation

Room: 103; Presenter: Rachel Wilks; Sub-theme: Tools

CONCURRENT SESSIONS 3:30PM TO 4:30PM

3:30pm – 4:30pm

Constructing a wisdom base: A hands-on exploration of First Nations knowledge systems

Room:106; Presenters: Skye Trudgett, Levi McKenzie-Kirkbright, Haley Ferguson, Tara Beattie, Jess Dart; Sub-theme: Destination

3:30pm – 4:30pm

Ignite sessions - Room 104

- Charting the course: Measuring organisational evaluation capacity building; Presenter: Rochelle Tobin
- Journey mapping: Visualising competing needs within evaluations; Presenter: Jolenna Deo
- Reflections by a non-analyst on the use of state-wide data sets and modelled data in evaluation; Presenter: Gabby Lindsay-Smith
- The evolution of evaluation: Retracing our steps in evaluation theory to prepare for the future; Presenter: James Ong
- There and back again: A digital journey from outcomes to dashboards (and back!); Presenter: Nicola Sloan

3:30pm – 4:30pm

From KPIs to systems change: Reimagining organisational learning

Room: 101-102; Presenter: Katrina Barnes; Sub-theme: Journey

3:30pm – 4:30pm

Growing Australia's future evaluators: Lessons from emerging evaluator networks across the Asia Pacific

Room: Plenary 1; Presenters: Qudratullah Jahid, Eroni Wavu, Amanda Mottershead; Sub-theme: Journey

3:30pm – 4:30pm

Committed to mentoring

Room: 103; Presenters: Julie Elliott, Rick Cummings, Martina Donkers, Lydia Phillips; Special session

3:30pm – 4:30pm

The learning journey: Competency self-assessment for personal learning and profession development

Room: 105; Presenters: Amy Gullickson, Taimur Siddiqi; Special session

SESSION DETAILS: FRIDAY

PLENARY – KEYNOTE

9:00am – 10:00am

Indy Johar keynote titled 'Navigating transitions through risk and uncertainties'

Room: Plenary 1

CONCURRENT SESSIONS 10:30AM TO 12:30PM

10:30am – 11:00am

Involving children and young people in evaluations: Equity through active participation

Plenary 1; Presenters: Sharon Marra-Brown, Moya Johansson, Mitchell Rice-Brading;

Sub-theme: Footprints

10:30am – 11:00am

Following the (matched) data to understand impact: Adventures in quasi-experimental evaluation

Room: 101-102; Presenters: Kira Duggan, Mohib Iqbal, Ben McNally; Sub-theme:

Tools

10:30am – 11:00am

To tinker, tailor, or craft from scratch? The tension in using validated tools in novel contexts

Room: 104; Presenters: Matt Healey, Tenille Moselen, Alicia McCoy; Sub-theme: Tools

10:30am – 11:30am

The Road Home – an evaluation journey to discover and demonstrate a new and exciting way to deliver a crisis housing response

Room: 105; Presenters: Anne Smyth, Lesley Thornton, Kym Coupe, Caroline Lynch;

Sub-theme: Journey

10:30am – 11:30am

Walking together: First Nations participation, partnerships and co-creation in Evaluation

Room: 106; Presenters: Alice Tamang, Tony Kiessler; Sub-theme: Journey

10:30am – 11:30am

Reviewing and writing for the Evaluation Journal of Australasia

Room: 103; Presenters: John Guenther, Anthea Rutter, Yvonne Zurynski, Jeff Adams;

Special session

11:00am – 11:30am

Participatory analysis workshops: A novel method for identifying important factors across diverse projects

Room: 104; Presenters: Martina Donkers, Ellen Wong, Jade Maloney; Sub-theme: Tools

11:00am – 12:00pm

Impact evaluation: Bringing together quantitative methods and program theory in mixed method evaluations

Room: 101-102; Presenters: Harry Greenwell, Vera Newman; Sub-theme: Tools

11:00am – 12:30pm

Value propositions: Clearing the path from theory of change to rubrics

Room: Plenary 1; Presenters: Julian King, Adrian Field; Sub-theme: Destination

11:30am – 12:00pm

Our five guiding waypoints: Y Victoria's journey and learning from applying organisation-wide social impact measurement

Room: 103; Presenters: Caitlin Barry, Ian Boorman; Sub-theme: Journey

11:30am – 12:00pm

Reflections on a developmental evaluation of a traditional healing service model for the Kimberley region of Western Australia

Room: 106; Presenters: Tammy Solonec, Gillian Kennedy, Eva Nargoodah; Sub-theme: Journey

11:30am – 12:00pm

The ACT Evidence and Evaluation Academy 2021-24: Lessons learned from a sustained whole-of-government ECB effort

Room: 105; Presenters: Duncan Rintoul, George Argyrous, Narina Dahms; Sub-theme: Journey

11:30am – 12:00pm

Gamified, flexible, and creative tools for evaluating a support program for palliative children and their families

Room: 104; Presenter: Erika Fortunati; Sub-theme: Tools

12:00pm – 12:30pm

Designing a baseline research for impact : The SKALA experience

Room: 101-102; Presenter: Johannes Prio Sambodho; Sub-theme: Destination

12:00pm – 12:30pm

Embracing the L in 'MEL': A journey towards participatory evaluation in government programs

Room: 103; Presenter: Milena Gongora; Sub-theme: Journey

12:00pm – 12:30pm

If the destination is improvement, recommendations are the signpost

Room: 106; Presenters: Larissa Brisbane, Laura Baker; Sub-theme: Journey

12:00pm – 12:30pm

Place-based evaluation: Collaborating to navigate learning in complex and dynamic contexts

Room: 105; Presenters: Sandra Opoku, Kate Matthies-Brown; Sub-theme: Journey

12:00pm – 12:30pm

A sprint, not a marathon: Rapid evaluation as an approach for generating fast evidence and insights

Room: 104; Presenter: Marnie Carter; Sub-theme: Tools

CONCURRENT SESSIONS 1:30PM TO 2:30PM

1:30pm – 2:00pm

From evaluation to impact-practical steps in a qualitative impact study

Room: 101-102; Presenters: Linda Kelly, Elisabeth Jackson; Sub-theme: Destination

1:30pm – 2:00pm

Fidelity to context: A realist perspective on implementation science

Room: 105; Presenter: Andrew McLachlan; Sub-theme: Journey

1:30pm – 2:00pm

Finding ways to empower multicultural survivors of violence through evaluation: Strategies, learnings and reflections

Room: 104; Presenter: Lydia Phillips; Sub-theme: Tools

1:30pm – 2:30pm

Learning from the past: Reflections and opportunities for embedding measurement and evaluation in the national agenda to end violence against women and children

Room: 106; Presenters: Lucy Macmillan, Tessa Boyd-Caine, Micaela Cronin; Sub-theme: Destination

1:30pm – 2:30pm

Navigating ethics dilemmas when evaluating for government: The good, the bad and the ugly

Room: Plenary 1; Presenters: Mandy Charman, Kristy Hornby, Eleanor Williams; Sub-theme: Footprints

1:30pm – 2:30pm

Ignite sessions - Room 103

- Exploring the potential of qualitative sketch mapping in evaluation: Mapping fear of crime; Presenter: Nicola Sloan
- Investment logic mapping or evaluation logic modelling? Similarities and differences; Presenter: Charlie Tulloch
- Measuring impact through storytelling: Using Most Significant Change to evaluate the effectiveness of QHub for LGBTIQ+ young people; Presenters: Gina Mancuso, Arielle Donnelly
- Program evaluation fundamentals in the NSW Department of Planning, Housing and Infrastructure: An eLearning course on evaluation; Presenter: Anabelle (Pin-Ju) Chen
- Putting values on the evaluation journey map; Presenter: Samantha Abbato
- Squaring up with rubrics; Presenter: Josh Duyker
- Voices of the future: Elevating First Nations leadership in the evolution of educational excellence; Presenters: Sharmay Brierley, Skye Trudgett

2:00pm – 2:30pm

A practical approach to designing and implementing outcome measures in psychosocial support services

Room: 101-102; Presenter: Lauren Gibson; Sub-theme: Destination

2:00pm – 2:30pm

In the spotlight: An arts industry-led approach to evaluation

Room: 105; Presenter: Kirstin Clements; Sub-theme: Journey

2:00pm – 2:30pm

Introducing a trauma informed AI assessment tool for evaluators of AI (artificial intelligence) assisted programs and services

Room: 104; Presenter: Lyndal Sleep; Sub-theme: Tools

CLOSING PLENARY

2:30pm – 4:00pm

John Gargani keynote titled 'Finding our way to the future profession of evaluation'

Followed by

- Panel discussion with John Gargani, James Copestake, Doyen Radcliffe, Elizabeth Hoffecker, Kiri Parata
- Conference close by the AES President, and handover to aes25 Ngambri/Canberra

Room: Plenary 1

WAYFIND. EXPLORE, ENGAGE, AND WIN!

Take a journey through the aes24 Exhibition, meet our exhibitors and discover what they're working on and go in the running to enter our prize draw!

HOW TO PARTICIPATE

Explore: Visit each exhibitor booth and discover what they have to offer.

Engage: Collect the unique code word from each exhibitor and note it on corresponding card attached to the back cover of the printed conference handbook.

Enter to win: Once you've gathered all the codes, submit your completed card to the registration desk. The prizes will be drawn at the final closing plenary.

WHAT ARE THE PRIZES?

1st Prize: Complimentary registration for aes25!

2nd Prize: \$200 debit card

3rd Prize: \$100 debit card

ABOUT THE CONFERENCE LOGO

Bunjil (creation spirit for Aboriginal Victorians) flies over Naarm watching over people gathered around the Birrarung with emus (representing Boon Wurrung peoples) nearby. Known for its coffee, art and cultural fusion, Naarm is a meeting place for people from all walks of life.

Bunjil, the Eagle, created the peoples, animals, plants, skies, waters and all of Naarm. He watches over us and the ways we respect each other and the lands.

The Birrarung is a precious part of Wurundjeri Dreaming; its spirit flows through Naarm where our peoples (the Eastern Kulin Nation) have gathered for centuries. Contemporarily, the Birrarung continues to be a wayfinder for all peoples in Naarm.

ABOUT THE DESIGNERS

Designed by Melbourne based designers Rebecca and Sarah Hunt, proud Yorta Yorta, Wemba Wemba and Barapa Barapa women.

AES CONTACT DETAILS

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