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**Using creative nonfiction to make qualitative evaluation reports less Boring**

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In general I find evaluation reports boring to read, including qualitative evaluation reports. I have yawned my way through numerous evaluation reports, half read, half scanned. Reporting qualitative evaluation results via creative nonfiction is very likely to make reports less boring. The paper will describe and illustrate various fiction techniques used to write creative nonfiction. Truth and rigor in creative nonfiction will be discussed.

Creative nonfiction arose in the 1960s when it was called "The New Journalism." At the moment there is much talk of the film *Capote* which describes the writing by Truman Capote of the great nonfiction novel *In Cold Blood*. Within the last decade creative non fiction has become popular and quite common in the United States. Creative nonfiction tells a story using facts, but uses many of the techniques of fiction for its compelling qualities and emotional vibrancy. Creative nonfiction doesn't just report facts; it delivers facts in ways that move the reader toward a deeper understanding of a topic. Creative nonfiction requires the skills of the storyteller and the evaluator. Creative nonfiction writers must not only understand the facts and report them using quotes, they must also see beyond them to discover their underlying meaning, and they must dramatize that meaning in an interesting, evocative, informative way – just as a good teacher does.

The audience for the paper presentation will be able to read a number of examples of creative non-fiction illustrating a number of techniques. Questions from members of the audience will be answered especially questions regarding truth and rigor of creative nonfiction.