



aes23

International **Evaluation** Conference

Conference workshops 25 & 26 September

Conference 27-29 September

Brisbane | Australia

COMMITTED TO MENTORING

Thursday 28 September, 3.30-4.30 pm (Room: B2)

on the traditional lands of the
Jagera and Turrbal peoples

WHAT THIS SESSION COVERS



What is the AES Group Mentoring Program all about?



World Café – help us continue to improve the program

BACKGROUND



Responds to membership survey findings



Co-designed



Supports mentee's professional development

HOW IT WORKS



Two mentors work with groups of mentees



Shared professional development goals



Groups meet monthly via Zoom



June 2023 – April/ May 2024

EVALUATION



Evaluation reports (2021 & 2022) on AES website



Learnings incorporated into 2023 design



2023: monitoring

WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS?

- ✓ Inclusive – people from all locations can join
- ✓ Builds confidence
- ✓ Develops soft skills and broadens knowledge
- ✓ Group of trusted peers to test ideas and problem-solve
- ✓ Extend facilitation skills
- ✓ Enjoyable conversations
- ✓ Giving back to the evaluation community



WHO BENEFITS MOST?

Members who:

- ✓ Want to connect with other evaluators
- ✓ Actively participate and share their ideas
- ✓ Have the time
- ✓ Are flexible to accommodate the needs of others
- ✓ Currently working in evaluation
- ✓ Experience some professional isolation



ONLINE GROUP MENTORING

Multi-directional relationships – mentors and peer group

Flexible and lower-pressure

Guided exploration

Not didactic

The social contract matters

Structured around themes

Inclusive across locations

Builds reflective practice

Can be less goal-oriented than 1:1 mentoring

2023 GROUPS

1. Mathea Roorda and Kim Grey: ***Evaluative reasoning – Getting to defensible evaluative judgments***
2. Judy Oakden and Kara Scally-Irvine: ***Managing evaluation in complexity: linking theory and practice in our choices***
3. Rick Cummings and Cat Street: ***Emerging talents***
4. Duncan Rintoul and Alex Lorigan: ***Youngbloods***
5. Liam Downing and Kate Randall: ***Evaluation Capacity Building united: 2023 edition***
6. Charlie Tulloch and Lydia Phillips: ***Careers for evaluators***



QUESTIONS?



WORLD CAFE



How do we keep the program relevant, dynamic and sustainable?



1. Who are we?



2. Why you are here?

What interests you about the AES online group mentoring program?



3. What could we do so that the program meets your PD needs?



4. What themes would you like to see in the future?

Methods

Practice

**Evaluation
theory**

ECB

**Introduction
to evaluation**

5. How could we help you to get involved in the future?



- ✓ As a mentee?
- ✓ As a mentor?
- ✓ As a member of the working group?

What we've heard...



THANK YOU



Get in touch: mentoring@aes.asn.au

More info: www.aes.asn.au/evaluation-learning/group-mentoring