



Fall 2008 Newsletter

International Program for Development Evaluation Training (IPDET)

Carleton University | Ottawa, Canada | June 8 – July 3, 2009

Greetings

This is our first newsletter in what will be a quarterly publication. You are welcome to submit brief articles or items (e.g., promotions). Please send them to Paul Glover at paul_glover@carleton.ca

IPDET Curriculum Recognized for Academic Credit

Carleton's new Graduate Diploma in Public Policy and Program Evaluation means that IPDET participants can earn up to four of eight of the credits required for the diploma. In some cases, diploma grads may be able to use their credits toward a Master's degree.

The DPE is designed to accommodate full-time working professionals. Courses are offered in modular form during the academic year (usually eight consecutive days together of classroom time to earn a credit), and distance courses are being developed for international participants unable to complete their credits in Ottawa. Expect further information by May 2009.

Registration in the diploma program is a separate procedure from enrolling in IPDET. Because space in the diploma program is limited, acceptance into IPDET does not necessarily ensure entry into the academic program. IPDET 2009 participants wishing to enroll in the diploma program must apply to the Carleton School of Public Policy and Administration by May 1, 2009. To date, five IPDETERS are working on their diplomas.

To find out whether you are eligible and to learn more about the application process, please check the school's website at http://www.carleton.ca/sppa/Programs/GD/dip_pppe.htm.

IPDET's Online Book Club launched-

We are pleased to announce the launch of our first book group discussing Robert Stake's Standards-Based and Responsive Evaluation. The Book Club allows members to log in to a secure site and post questions and responses regarding current issues in development evaluation and topical professional literature.

A second alumni book group is in the works. Please visit the IPDET website (www.ipdet.org), and click on Book Club for more information.

What's New for IPDET 2009?

You asked for it-

Past participants have pointed out the need for written summaries of comments by the experts who review Core participants' final group presentations. Our 2009 panels of experts will provide the written summaries immediately following the sessions.

Workshops-

IPDET's most popular workshops will again be offered. These include designing and building results-based monitoring and evaluation systems; performance budgeting; conducting international joint evaluations; understanding World Bank country, sector, and project evaluation approaches focus groups; and using a results-based framework for evaluating technical assistance.

Facilities-

2009 participants will notice a slightly cosier feel to the graduate resident suites as Carleton University updates its facilities to stay 'executive' class.



Dr. Ray C. Rist, IPDET Co-Director, is President of the International Development Evaluation Association (IDEAS). IDEAS will be holding this year's Global Assembly in South Africa in March 2009.

Visit www.ideas-int.org for information on the Assembly and how to propose a paper or panel.

A Follow-Up Study

In 2007, Rahel Kahlert, a past participant and University of Texas doctoral student is doing her dissertation on professionalization and the use of evaluation tools, IPDET is one of her cases. If you attended IPDET in 2007 and have not yet filled out Rahel's survey, please contact her at kahlert@mail.utexas.edu.

Registration-

Information on the 2009 program will be posted on our website around mid-December. We will accept registrations starting in mid-January 2009. Demand was very heavy last year. Don't be disappointed—register early.

Visit the website www.ipdet.org for the latest information on the coming year's program.

To Our Sponsors

A special word of thanks to IPDET's 2008 scholarship donors, which include the African Development Bank (AfDB), the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), the Danish International Development Agency (Danida), the Department for International Development (DFID), the Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (NORAD), Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC), and the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida). Their financial support enabled 63 participants from Southern governments and international NGOs to participate in the program. Six hundred applications were received for scholarships.

The presence of our sponsors goes a long way to ensuring that IPDET remains relevant to development practitioners and managers from various sectors and responsive to the real and complex challenges of making a difference in the world.

Recent Activities: Expanding IPDET's Reach

CZECH DET-

At the initiative of an IPDET alumnae, Daniel Svoboda, the second annual Czech Development Evaluation Training program (CZECH DET) took place during the week of September 14–20, 2008. It was attended by sixty-five participants from eight countries, including the

Czech Republic, Poland, Slovenia, and Slovakia. CZECH DET is cosponsored by the Czech Republic Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Development Worldwide (DWW), the International Development Evaluation Association (IDEAS), and the Czech Evaluation Society.

SHIPDET-

Held semiannually in Shanghai, China, this year's autumn installment of the Shanghai International Program for Development Evaluation Training (SHIPDET) took place October 9–20, 2008. SHIPDET is jointly sponsored by the Ministry of Finance of the People's Republic of China, The World Bank, the Asian Development Bank, and the Asian Pacific Development and Finance Center. Seventy participants from six countries, including the Philippines, Indonesia, and South Africa attended the fall 2008 offering.

Alumni Meet at EES Conference-

At this year's European Evaluation Society (EES) Conference in Lisbon, more than 24 past participants enjoyed a reunion over dinner. There was a lively exchange about the impact IPDET has made to their professional lives as past IPDET participants introduced themselves and formed new connections.

As more conferences take place, more of these get-togethers will be planned. Alumni are asked to continue to monitor the IPDET Listserv for details.

IPDET Happenings

Job changes / promotions-

Gene Swimmer, highly popular Quantitative Data Analysis Instructor, has taken over management of Carleton's Graduate Diploma in Public Policy and Program Evaluation (DPE). Please contact him at gene_swimmer@carleton.ca if you're interested in more information.