Getting Started with Your ATE Evaluation

ATE PI CONFERENCE | October 2016

www.evalu-ate.org
Evaluation basics

It’s a Fan!
It’s a Spear!
It’s a Wall!
It’s a Snake!
It’s a Tree!

Image source: expertcytometry.com
It’s research!

It’s our advisory committee’s feedback!

It’s someone else saying if we met our goals!

It’s a survey!

It’s course evaluations!

It’s the NSF annual report!

EVALUATION

A systematic determination of a project’s quality and effectiveness.
1. Ask important questions about a project’s processes and outcomes.

2. Gather evidence that will help answer those questions.

3. Interpret findings and answer the evaluation questions.

4. Use the information for accountability, improvement, and planning.
IMPROVEMENT

ACCOUNTABILITY
“The most important purpose of evaluation is not to prove, but to improve.”
— Daniel Stufflebeam
How to use evaluation results?

- Feedback to project staff and stakeholders
- Annual report to NSF
- Annual ATE survey
- New proposals

Feedback to Project Staff and Stakeholders

- EVALUATOR
- PI
- PROGRAM OFFICER
- OTHER PROJECT STAKEHOLDERS e.g., partners, advisors, participants
Annual Report to NSF

- Goals
- Activities, Objectives, Results, and/or Outcomes

ATE Annual Survey
2016 Report

evalu-ate.org/survey
New Proposals: Results from Prior NSF Support

“specific outcomes and results including metrics to demonstrate the impact of the project”

—ATE Program Solicitation

3 Working with your evaluator
Make sure your evaluator’s contract is in place

Assign a point-person for evaluation matters
Schedule a recurring meeting with your evaluator

Meet with your college’s data person
Set up a timeline for your evaluation

Commit to using the evaluation results
Identifying Stakeholders and their Roles in an Evaluation

An “evaluation stakeholder” is someone with a stake in a program and its evaluation. It is considered good practice to involve stakeholders in an evaluation, but there are not firm rules about who should be involved and how. This worksheet is intended to guide evaluators and program personnel in identification and decision making around their roles.

1. Who needs to be involved to ensure the evaluator’s useability, feasibility, propriety, and utility? (list names or at least position titles)

Utility: Whose involvement is a support or necessary to increase the chances that the evaluation will be used?
Feasibility: Whose cooperation is needed to implement or otherwise administrate the evaluation?
Propriety: Who has a right to be involved in aspects of the evaluation?
Useability: Who’s expertise on the context and evaluation content is needed to ensure the evaluator will interpret results?

2. Transfer the name above to the cells below that best describe the person’s role in relation to the program and then have this list expanded to be included in the evaluation. Cross what you know about the program and its evaluation, do you have direct experience in the right cell? (Use: 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 10, 100, etc.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Stakeholders</th>
<th>Impact on stakeholders involvement in the evaluation</th>
<th>Purpose to the program</th>
<th>Investment in the program</th>
<th>Direct and current contact about the evaluation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monitor</td>
<td>0 – 2</td>
<td>1 – 3</td>
<td>0 – 2</td>
<td>0 – 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Facilitator</td>
<td>2 – 3</td>
<td>3 – 4</td>
<td>1 – 2</td>
<td>3 – 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contact</td>
<td>3 – 5</td>
<td>4 – 5</td>
<td>3 – 4</td>
<td>5 – 10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Co-Chair</td>
<td>1 – 2</td>
<td>2 – 3</td>
<td>1 – 2</td>
<td>2 – 3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Available from evalu-ate.org
Information Cards

GETTING STARTED INFORMATION CARD

Name: ____________________________

Project Title: ______________________

Evaluator’s Name: __________________

Evaluator’s Email: __________________

I agree to have my evaluator’s information shared on the ATE Central site □

Question about evaluation:

___________________________________________

___________________________________________

___________________________________________

___________________________________________
FALL NEWSLETTER
now available

Changing Focus Mid-Project
Asa Bradley
Rebranding the 21st Century IT Technician

Breaking Up is Hard to Do
Mike Lesiecki
Maricopa Advanced Technological Education Center

3 Inconvenient Truths about ATE Evaluation
Lori Wingate
EvaluATE
A Practical Approach to Outcome Evaluation: Step-by-Step

Thursday at 4:45 – 5:15 p.m.
Capitol Room