

SEEN

Student and Emerging Evaluator Network

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**Monthly SEEN
update**

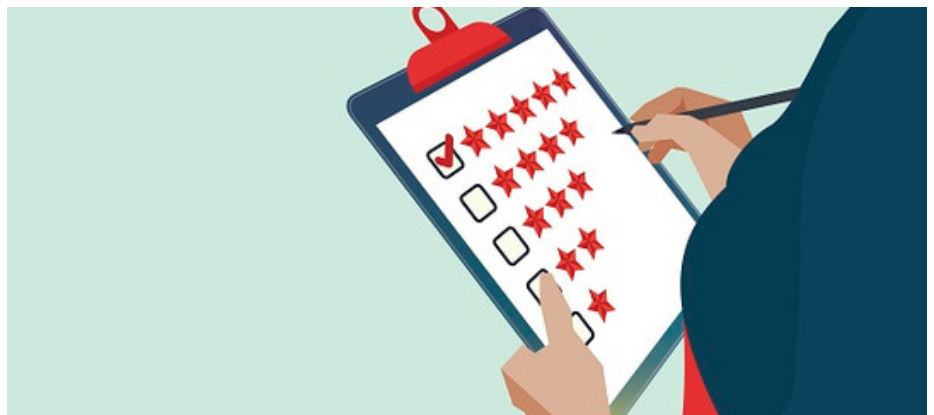
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March SEEN Update

Hello and welcome to SEEN's first newsletter! SEEN is an exciting new network dedicated to connecting emerging evaluators to evaluation resources, content, and each other.

Please join us March 31st at 7:00pm EST for the **first ever virtual National SEEN meet up**. This is an opportunity to learn more about evaluation and evaluation practices, network with other new evaluators in the field, and begin your evaluation journey by becoming part of our community.

[Click Here to Register](#)



Meet the Evaluator

Dr. Christine Sheppard

1. What is your professional background and how does your current role incorporate program evaluation?

I am a social work researcher and I conduct applied research and evaluation to help community-based organizations and policy makers design, implement and evaluate programs and services that foster social inclusion and health equity for older adults. Evaluation is integral to that work and I firmly believe my training in evaluation is the reason I am able to foster successful partnerships with stakeholders across sectors and have an impact in my work.

2. How and why did you decide to pursue a career in program evaluation?

It was an accident, really! Like many others, I fell in love with evaluation when I participated in the CES Case Competition! For me, this was the missing piece in my research training – it offered me the skills I needed to build partnerships, and have a meaningful impact in my community.

3. What do you enjoy most and what are some of the biggest challenges you've faced as an evaluator? I enjoy working with my stakeholders and producing useful knowledge products that guide their work. It makes me so excited to see my work in action and how it impacts programs and people. The biggest challenge also relates to stakeholders – it can be very difficult and time consuming to cultivate and maintain meaningful partnerships and ensure that all partners are having their needs met.

4. What advice would you give to an emerging evaluator? Find different mentors and get involved with different evaluation projects as your capacity allows. This is critical for building your network, which can offer an immense amount of support and new opportunities. Also, many community-based organizations would also love and benefit from your growing expertise – join a board of directors, volunteer some evaluation support, and put yourself out there. Lastly, take as many opportunities as you can to sharpen your skills - join webinars and take workshops – they are a great way to expand your network while learning some new skills!

Social Media

Tweet of the month from [@EvalAcademy](https://twitter.com/EvalAcademy)

EvalAcademy is a one-stop shop for all things evaluation. This Canadian organization seeks to empower everyone to evaluate! Check them out for podcasts, articles, courses and more.

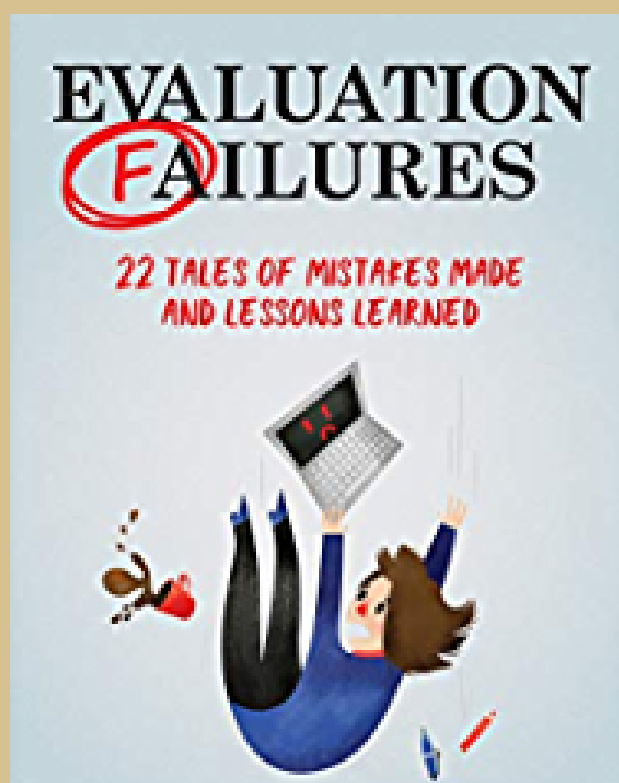


Eval Academy
@EvalAcademy

We've added a bunch of new templates and tip sheets to our Evaluation Tools page to make your role as an [#evaluator](https://twitter.com/EvalAcademy) that much easier! Check them out 📌



Resources — Eval Academy
evalacademy.com



Book of the Month

Evaluation Failures
by Kylie Hutchinson

"The Hutchinson book (on failures) is my favourite – it's so humbling, and such a good reminder for emerging evaluators that it's OK to fail, and even really seasoned evaluators make mistakes"- Dr. Christine Sheppard

Available Resources

We are working to expand resources for Emerging Evaluators and look forward to having more to share with you in the coming months! For now, check out these webinars, discounted for students:

http://comm.eval.org/coffee_break_webinars/coffeebreak

Engagement and Opportunities

Tune in next month for opportunities to engage with the Evaluation community including jobs, volunteering, events, networking and more!

For example, EvalPartners invites interested individuals to contribute to their Strategic Plan and Stocktaking session!

EN- March 21st at 9:00am EST register [here](#)

FR- March 19th at 10:00am EST register [here](#)

Find more from us next month!

- Your Communications Team

