

Fall 2022

# Newsletter

NON-PROFITS AND FOUNDATIONS  
TOPICAL INTEREST GROUP



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# Business Co-Chair Column

John Byrnes and Emily Kalnický



Overdue welcome to 2022! As we are closer to the annual conference and the last quarter of 2022, we owe a long overdue welcome to our new leadership! We all will continue to do our best to provide information, share experiences, and let everyone know of professional development opportunities to our TIG members and to the organizations we serve.

The 2022 Leadership Elections are coming up and we would like to thank everyone for volunteering to become a team member. The existing leaders who are moving up are:

Emily Kalnický	Co-Chair	<a href="mailto:ekalnický@ourpublicservice.org">ekalnický@ourpublicservice.org</a>
Rhonda Williams	Program Co-Chair	<a href="mailto:rwilliams_903@msn.com">rwilliams_903@msn.com</a>
Sylvia Pu	Co-Webmaster	<a href="mailto:sylvia@sylviapu.com">sylvia@sylviapu.com</a>
Bernadette Wright	AEA 365 Co-Chair	<a href="mailto:bernadette.wright@yahoo.com">bernadette.wright@yahoo.com</a>
Eva Chavez	Leadership Council	<a href="mailto:echavez@proyectopastoral.org">echavez@proyectopastoral.org</a>

The following positions are open for election and anyone who is interested in applying should contact John Byrnes or Emily Kalnický to be included in the upcoming election ballots:

Program Co-Chair	Co-Webmaster
Newsletter	Leadership Council (2 openings)

The ballots plus a description of each position's roles and responsibilities will be sent to all TIG members following the annual business meeting on November 15th.



**Our 2022 Strategic Goals** continue to focus on providing better services to our TIG members and other AEA members. 2022 has been an eventful year for Non-Profit organizations and Foundations, just like much of the world. The ongoing shifts and restructuring from the restrictions and advancements made because of the COVID pandemic, as well as the increasing emphasis on impact management and Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) issues has placed new challenges to all of us who work in these areas. These trends also increase the need for a forum for communication and sharing experiences, ideas, and new developments. That is what our TIG tries to deliver.

To better achieve this, we are starting an updated TIG Strategic Planning process to better understand what you want from your TIG membership and how we can more effectively deliver the benefits of belonging to AEA and our TIG to address your needs.

The first phase of this effort is a survey that will be coming out shortly asking for your membership goals and inputs on how best to achieve them. Please respond to this survey as soon as possible so we can discuss the results in our annual Business Meeting on November 15, 2022.



## UPCOMING EVENTS



### AEA 365

Our AEA 365 team members worked diligently to participate in the April 2022 AEA365 week. If you missed it, please search the archives for some great posts connecting non-profit and foundation work to DEIA initiatives.

### TIG MEMBERSHIP QUARTERLY MEETINGS

Our next membership meeting will take place after the AEA annual conference on November 15, 2022, from 5:00 to 6:00 pm ET. If you are interested in joining this session, please register [here](#).

Another important item in our annual meeting will be the election slate for new committee leadership for the coming year.

Participation on the Leadership Council is critical for the ongoing effectiveness and viability of our TIG.

We will send an email following the annual meeting listing the leadership positions, the participants for the past several years, and the definition of each position's activities and responsibilities.

Please think about your ability and desire to actively participate in TIG leadership and help us continue to grow and provide benefits to the Non-Profit/ Foundation community.



## Upcoming Events



### AEA ANNUAL CONFERENCE

We hope to visit with some of you during the upcoming AEA annual conference and would enjoy meeting with you and discussing these issues in person. Please attend our TIG Fair Reception scheduled for Thursday 11/10, from 6 pm – 7:30 pm. We will be at Table 5.

### “HOT TOPICS” DISCUSSIONS

Based on the enthusiastic results and participation on last year’s Hot Topics sessions, we plan to continue them in 2022 and 2023. We held a great session in August titled, “The Quest for the Holy Grail. Shared Data Collection and Evaluation in Collective Impact Contexts.” Here is a [link](#) to the recording.



Please share your thoughts for how we can make your TIG membership more valuable to you! Please email either John Byrnes ([jbyrnes@csaco.org](mailto:jbyrnes@csaco.org)) or Emily Kalnicky ([ekalnicky@ourpublicservice.org](mailto:ekalnicky@ourpublicservice.org)) with your suggestions and comments.

# Program Co-Chair Column

Loraine Park and Rhonda Williams



Our TIG has been busy, getting ready for the for this year's conference (re)shaping evaluation together. We want to express our deep gratitude to those of you who submitted a proposal for this year's conference and those who volunteered to score proposal. We received a total of 72 thoughtful proposals and had 43 volunteers who supported the scoring process.

**Conference Sessions:** For those of you who are able to attend the conference in New Orleans, LA, we have provided a listing of the sessions sponsored by the Nonprofit and Foundations TIG by date and time. **Please click on the session names for more information.**

Wednesday, 11/09 4:15 – 5:15 pm CST

- Can we measure our way to equity? Lessons learned at the Barr Foundation
- Reshaping Leadership Development Evaluation to Meet 21st Century Leadership Needs

Wednesday, 11/09 5:30 – 6:30 pm CST

- From product to process: Reshaping evaluation practice at a community foundation
- Sharing Power when Stakes Are High: Trust-Based and Equity-Focused Grant Evaluation in Post-Disaster Contexts
- The Weight of Power

## CONFERENCE SESSIONS

Thursday, 11/10 10:15 – 11:15 am CST

- (How) has evaluation practice been transformed during the pandemic?
- The Ignored Essentials: Practical guidance for evaluating intangible outcomes like hope, trust, agency and faith

Thursday, 11/10 2:15 – 3:15 pm CST

- Moving beyond disparities and disproportionalities: Centering equity in the identification, collection, analysis, reporting, and use of data
- Take Stock and Reshaping Complex Community Change Evaluations: Exploring Innovative Methods & Tools for Causal Analysis

Thursday, 11/10 3:30 – 4:30 pm CST

- Reshaping Power Dynamics in Evaluation: Designing Low Burden, Inclusive Processes to Support Learning
- Under Pressure: How the pandemic and the racial uprising forced equitable change among grantees, funders, and evaluators -- shifting our practice for good

Thursday, 11/10 4:45 – 5:45 pm CST

- Developmental Evaluation and Participatory Practices through the Greater Together Community Funds
- What does it take to invest in effective learning and knowledge infrastructure that grows community power?



## CONFERENCE SESSIONS



Friday, 11/11 8:00 – 9:00 am CST

- Participatory Evaluation Design with New Social Funders
- Re)Shaping Accountability Together: How a Health Foundation Works with Grantees to Promote Accountability

Friday, 11/11 9:15 – 10:15 am CST

- Trust-based Philanthropy and Robust Learning & Evaluation: Oil and Water or a Match Made in Heaven?

Friday, 11/11 10:30 – 12:00 pm CST

- Let's practice together: An invitation to explore how the Equitable Evaluation Framework™ is reshaping evaluation within philanthropy

Friday, 11/11 2:00 – 3:00 pm CST

- Lost Causal: Together, how can we overcome myths about causal analysis in philanthropy?

Friday, 11/11 3:15 – 4:15 pm CST

- (Re)shaping power imbalances to advance justice and equity: Evaluators role in helping funders cede power to communities
- How Participant Feedback Can Lead to Better Outcomes
- Where do we start? Defining and measuring “infrastructure” that is needed for a more equitable and sustainable future

Friday, 11/11 4:30 – 5:30 pm CST

- In 2022, what, why and how should foundations evaluate?
- Shifting Accountability from Grantees to Funding Partners



## CONFERENCE SESSIONS



Saturday, 11/12 8:00 – 9:00 am CST

- A Logic Model Can't Buy You a Coffee: Putting Human Relationships Back into the Evaluation Equation.
- Evaluation in the service of equity: Moving from problem diagnosis to action

Saturday, 11/12 9:15 – 10:15 am CST

- Journeying to the Roots of Inequity
- Reflecting on the state of social movements: A strategy tool for social movement actors and funders

Also, feel free to stop by our table and chat with members of our TIG leadership during the TIG Fair and Reception on Thursday, 11/10 from 6:00 to 7:30pm. We would love to share more about our TIG and how you might get involved.

## ANNUAL TIG BUSINESS MEETING

Unlike previous years, AEA is decoupling the TIG annual business meetings from the conference. Please join us on Tuesday, 11/15 from 5:00 to 6:00 pm EST to learn more about our TIG and opportunities to get involved. We are excited about this change in format and hoping that the virtual gathering will allow more people to participate. If you are interested in joining this session, please register [here](#).

# Tips for First-Time Conference Attendees

Sylvia Pu



Is this your first time attending the AEA conference? Here are some tips to help you better navigate it. These wonderful tips represent the collective input by, in chronological order, Veena Pankaj, Ann Price, Katie Fox, Morgan Buras-Finlay, Nina Sabarre, Susan Wolfe, Michelle Molina, Thomas Kelly, Lisa Kaczmarczyk, Joelle Greene, Pieta Blakely, Eric Barela, and Sylvia Pu.

## PLANNING YOUR CONFERENCE EXPERIENCE

With so many sessions scheduled, how do you decide which ones to attend? Here are some tips:

- **Leverage the technology.** Check out AEA's conference [app](#) and [website](#) to peruse sessions and save the ones you're interested in attending.
- **Less is more.** Although it is tempting to zigzag across the agenda and attend many interesting sessions, pick one or two a day that you feel you must attend, and then wing it with the rest. That will allow you to be surprised with new and unexpected people and things to learn.
- **Deepen the interactions.** Consider staying within 1-2 themes or TIGs for one conference. You get to engage with some of the same people multiple times and have deeper conversations.

## TIPS FOR FIRST-TIME ATTENDEES



- **Mix it up.** Check out workshops, demonstrations, and round tables in addition to panel discussions. Attend sessions both in and out of your wheelhouse, or current area of expertise/work. A blend of session types and topics will keep you from feeling overloaded.
- **It's OK to leave.** Feel free to move on to other sessions if the one you're in ends up not being a good fit.
- Interested in a session but can't attend? **Use the conference contact info** to reach out and request papers or presentations from sessions you miss.

## NETWORKING

Excited to meet people at the conference but don't know where to start? Follow these actionable suggestions:

- Reach out to folks beforehand & set up coffee chats.
- Make use of all the formal and informal networking opportunities. Attend social events (such as the [Nonprofits and Foundations TIG social hour](#)) & wander open spaces - like poster sessions, TIG tables, exhibition booths!
- Introduce yourself to people whose work you've enjoyed and admired. Introduce yourself to the people sitting next to you, walking by you, or really, anyone.
- Don't be afraid to talk to presenters even if you don't have a burning question. If you like someone's framework or can think of some uses for the information you receive, let the presenter know.
- Make a note as to where you met someone then follow up.
- Need a bit more help with networking? Here is a [video](#) recorded by Ann Price.

## TIPS FOR FIRST-TIME ATTENDEES

### SELF-CARE TIPS

Conferences can be overwhelming. Follow these tips to prioritize your (mental) health:

- Take care of yourself! Eat well, sleep well, stay hydrated, do everything else you need to take care of yourself. Give yourself permission to take a break at any moment and go recharge if you need it. Even if that means skipping a few sessions or taking a midafternoon nap. The conference will still be there when you're done napping.
- Get outdoors every day to clear your head and explore the surroundings. Try to get into the host city, visit a museum, or go for a walk around town.
- Wear a mask whenever and wherever you feel it's needed.





# LEADERSHIP TEAM 2022

John Byrnes, Community Services Analysis - Business Co-Chair

Emily Kalnicky, Partnership for Public Service - Business Co-Chair

Loraine Park, ECMC Foundation - Program Co-Chair

Rhonda Williams, Communities Foundation of Texas - Program Co-Chair

Asma Ali, AA & Associates - Co-Webmaster

Sylvia Pu, Sylvia Pu Consulting - Co-Webmaster

Bernadette Wright, Meals on Wheels America - AEA 365 Co-Chair

Eva Chavez, Proyecto Pastoral - AEA 365 Co-Chair

## Leadership Council

Morgan Buras-Finlay, Salesforce

Joelle Greene, Harder+Company Community Research

Chris Kirk, Norwescap

Kim Manturuk, Duke University

Laura Pinsoneault, Evaluation Plus