

Evaluation Case Competition 2003

Concours de simulation d'évaluation 2003

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About the Competition

Since 1996, the Canadian Evaluation Society has presented an annual bilingual **Evaluation Case Competition** where teams of three to five students from post-secondary institutions compete in the analysis of an evaluation case file. Students from all disciplines and all levels of post-secondary studies in academic institutions across Canada are invited to participate.

In a preliminary qualifying round, teams receive an evaluation case file at their home institution and have five hours to prepare an analysis and submit it for review by a bilingual panel of judges. The three top-rated teams are then invited to participate in the final round held at the CES conference, where they must analyze a new case and present their analysis before judges and a live audience.

This Year's Competition

This year there were twelve teams, representing seven universities across Canada and involving 56 student team members and their coaches, participating in the preliminary round of the Case Competition. Each team selected a secret team code name, received the evaluation case via email, and had five hours to prepare an analysis and submit it by e-mail for judging by a panel of bilingual experts.

From this, three teams were selected to participate in the final round in Vancouver. Two teams are from the Centre for Research on Community Services, in the department of Psychology at the University of Ottawa, and the other team is from the Applied Health Sciences department at the University of Waterloo.

À propos du concours

Depuis 1996, la Société présente un **Concours annuel bilingue de simulation d'évaluation** où des équipes de trios à cinq étudiants du niveau universitaire s'affrontent dans l'analyse d'un cas d'évaluation. Des étudiants et étudiantes de n'importe quelle discipline et niveau d'éducation post-secondaire provenant d'institutions à travers le Canada sont invités à participer.

Lors d'une ronde préliminaire qualifiante, les équipes reçoivent un dossier d'évaluation à leur institution et ont cinq heures pour préparer une analyse et la soumettre à un panneau de juges. Les trios équipes jugées les meilleures sont invitées à la conférence de la SCÉ pour analyser un nouveau cas et présenter leurs trouvailles devant des juges et des spectateurs.

Le concours de cette année

Cette année, douze équipes (56 étudiants et entraîneurs) représentant sept universités canadiennes ont pris part à la ronde préliminaire du concours «Simulation d'évaluation». Chaque équipe a sélectionné un nom de code secret, a reçu un dossier d'évaluation par courrier électronique et disposait de cinq heures pour préparer une analyse et l'envoyer par courriel à un panel d'experts bilingues.

Après la première ronde, trois équipes ont été sélectionnées pour participer à la ronde finale à Vancouver. Deux des équipes proviennent du Centre de recherche sur les services communautaires du Département de psychologie de l'Université d'Ottawa, et l'autre du Département des sciences de la santé appliquées de l'Université de Waterloo.

The Teams / Les équipes

Focus Five Consultants

Psychology, Centre for Research on
Community Services

Matt Jacques

Matt Jacques is currently enrolled in his third year of Ph.D studies (clinical psychology) at the University of Ottawa. Matt has program evaluation experience in training and evaluation, population health, mental health and community psychology. His research interests are in the area of cognitive science and include heuristics and biases of judgment, risk perception, and decision-making.

Sandra Naaman

Sandra Naaman is a doctoral candidate in clinical psychology from the Adler Graduate School of Professional Psychology, with a specialization in Trauma. Ms. Naaman's current research is in the area of psycho-oncology, particularly mapping out psychological correlates of cancer progression and evaluating the efficacy of current psychosocial interventions. Ms. Naaman has experience in the field of evaluation and has carried out needs assessments for the Ministry of Health and evaluated the effectiveness of existing programs in helping patients who have sustained Traumatic Brain Injuries.

Audrey Wexler

Audrey Wexler is a Ph.D. candidate in Clinical Psychology at the University of Ottawa. She has a Master's degree in Forensic Psychology from Carleton University. Audrey is currently in a year long training program with the Centre for Research on Community Services (CRCS) at the University of Ottawa, with Tim Aubry. Through her involvement with CRCS, she has had the opportunity to assist in the development and evaluation of several community support services as well as to co-facilitate workshops about program logic models and evaluation.

Sophie Coté

Sophie Coté is a senior Ph.D candidate at the University of Ottawa, Faculty of Social Sciences, School of Psychology. Her research interests include anxiety disorders and virtual reality. During her Ph.D studies, she taught research methods at the undergraduate level at the Université du Québec en Outaouais and attended several local, national and international conventions, in which she presented many workshops and posters on anxiety and virtual reality.

Rebecca Nemiroff

Rebecca Nemiroff is a Ph.D. candidate in Clinical Psychology at the University of Ottawa. Her research interests are in community psychology, focusing on issues related to homelessness and community mental health. She has completed graduate-level course work and had hands-on experience in program evaluation in these areas. This year, she was awarded a doctoral scholarship from the *Fonds de recherche sur la société et la culture du Québec* for a three-year period. Prior to beginning her studies in psychology, Ms. Nemiroff completed a BA in Creative Writing at Concordia University in Montreal.

Coaches: Tim Aubry and Bob Flynn

Bright Consulting

Applied Health Sciences, University of
Waterloo

Graham Whitelaw

Graham Whitelaw is a Ph.D. candidate at the University of Waterloo, Faculty of Environmental Studies, School of Planning. His research interests include environmental and community based planning. Prior to starting his Ph.D. studies, he worked for the Ontario Ministry of the Environment for ten years. He is also an Honorary Director of the Canadian Biosphere Reserves Associations and Director of the Watershed Report Card.

Andrea Grunier

Andrea Grunier is a graduate student at the University of Waterloo in the Department of Health Studies and Gerontology. She is currently completing her master's thesis, which looks at depression in patients with advanced illness. In September, Andrea will be starting her Ph.D. in Epidemiology at Brown University. This is Andrea's first Case Competition and she is honoured that her team was chosen to compete in the final round.

Shannon Hebblethwaite

Shannon Hebblethwaite has been a Therapeutic Recreationist at Baycrest Centre for Geriatric Care in Toronto for four years. She is currently a graduate student in the Department of Recreation and Leisure Studies at the University of Waterloo. Her master's thesis is focusing on community integration of older adults with mental health issues. Her primary interest areas are mental health and aging, as well as qualitative research.

Ada Wong

Ada Wong is completing her MSc. in the Department of Health Studies and Gerontology at the University of Waterloo. Her recent research endeavours included working as a Research Assistant on an effectiveness and practicality assessment of a youth self-help smoking cessation program at the Centre for Behavioural Research and Program Evaluation. Ada is currently conducting her thesis project, which examines the expectations women with breast cancer have on a peer support program in Ontario. She is happy to have the opportunity to compete in the final round of the CES' Student Case Competition.

Chris Perlman

Chris Perlman is a student at the University of Waterloo in Applied Health Sciences.

Coaches: Anita Myers and Mark Seasons

Dynamic Evaluation Solutions Consulting

Psychology, Centre for Research on Community Services, University of Ottawa

Gordon Josephson

Gordon Josephson is a student at the University of Ottawa in the Department of Psychology for Research on Community Services.

Julie Perkins-Mangulabnan

Julie Perkins-Mangulabnan is a fourth year Ph.D. student enrolled in the Clinical Psychology program at the University of Ottawa. The focus of her clinical work is child and family psychology. Julie is particularly passionate about helping adolescents struggling with eating disorders and has spent the last year and a half training at the Children's Hospital of Eastern Ontario's (CHEO) Eating Disorders Program. Her doctoral thesis is also related to child and family psychology but in a very different way. It seeks to ascertain the influence of parenting on children who have been removed from families, and specifically to determine whether foster children who have been removed from their biological families because of typically abusive or aversive life circumstances derive important psychological benefits from being placed in foster care. Julie's experience in program evaluation began in January 2003 when she took a graduate course on the topic. A course requirement was that students participate in the CES case competition and her team managed to make it to the final round. Though her main career objective is to be a clinical psychologist working in the area of eating disorders, she remains interested in program evaluation and will look to pursue this type of activity as a professional.

Heather MacIntosh

Heather MacIntosh has completed the third year of the M.A. / Ph.D. program in clinical psychology at the University of Ottawa. Her research focused on trauma and, in particular, her doctoral thesis work examines the use of Emotionally Focused Therapy for couples dealing with the experience of childhood sexual abuse in one of the partners. She comes to the instruction of program evaluation with the eye of a feminist researcher seeking solutions to funding crises and programming challenges on the front lines of services for women and children seeking respite from violence and abuse. Her current work outside of the Ph.D. program focuses on providing mental health education for future health care professionals and an avid closet career as a musician.

Angela Stewart

Angela Stewart has a B.A. from the University of Ottawa and a B.Sc. from Carleton. She is in her third year of the clinical Ph.D. program in Psychology at the University of Ottawa. Angela's dissertation involves investigating the short and long term cognitive effects of adjuvant treatment (e.g., chemotherapy) among breast cancer survivors.

Corien Peeters

Corien Peeters is a second year Doctoral Student in Clinical Psychology at the University of Ottawa. Corien's research area is in Health Psychology. For a doctoral thesis, Corien is looking at the psychological impact of genetic testing for hereditary cancer. Corien has worked as a Research Assistant (at the Research Institute, Children's Hospital of Eastern Ontario) for a team evaluating Genetic Counseling Services in Ontario.

Coaches: Tim Aubry and Bob Flynn

The Judges / Les juges

Steve Montague

Partner
Performance Management Network

Mike Kalnay

Director of Community Governance
Department of Municipal and Community
Affairs, Government of the Northwest
Territories, in Yellowknife

Shannon Townsend

Team Leader, Evaluation
Corporate Services, Policy, Planning and
Assessment
National Research Council

The Organizers / Les organisateurs

Lisa Fairweather

Lisa Fairweather is the Carleton University student board member on the Canadian Evaluation Society, National Capital Chapter. While completing a Masters of Public Administration (grad 2002), Lisa worked as an evaluation consultant and researcher for Performance Management Network, and as a developer of an evaluation training program at Health Canada. She presently works with the Department of Finance as a policy analyst in the field of labour markets, employment, and learning.

François Dumaine

François Dumaine is a senior associate with Prairie Research Associates. He graduated from Carleton University with a Master's degree in Political Science and holds a Civil Law degree from the University of Ottawa. François has designed and managed numerous program evaluations and other research assignments for federal and provincial governments, as well as non-profit organizations. These projects address various dimensions of official languages, labour market, justice, and Aboriginal issues.

Amna Khan

Amna Khan is a student at the University of Victoria in British Columbia.

Mary Kay Lamarche

Mary Kay Lamarche is a graduate of Laurentian University and Georgian College with a combined B.A. in Sociology and Law and Justice (1998) and a post-graduate diploma in Research Analysis (2000). Her career started in the field of market research, though she is now employed as a research analyst with Performance Management Network.

During her time at PMN, Mary Kay has obtained experience in performance measurement, evaluation, and the development of Results-based Management and Accountability Frameworks (RMAFs). Her areas of specialization include survey and market research, performance measurement, program evaluation and RMAF development. She has also played a key role in the preparation and delivery of workshops.

Lisa O'Reilly

Lisa O'Reilly is a consultant with Performance Management Network, who has experience in surveys, performance measurement, evaluation and the development of Results-based Management and Accountability Frameworks (RMAFs) with various government departments. Areas of specialization include online surveys and research, market analysis, performance management, program evaluation, RMAF development, training, and workshop management.

A graduate of Simon Fraser University and the British Columbia Institute of Technology, Lisa has undertaken Master's courses at the University of Ottawa, which focused on program evaluation. Academic studies include a look at evaluating online services, measuring user needs, web-based surveys, and meta-evaluation. Included in the meta-evaluation, was a look at the horizontal nature of the evaluation in question and the shared evaluation responsibilities with coordinating departments.

Afroditi Tsarouhas

Afroditi Tsarouhas is presently working on completing her Master of Arts in Education with a concentration in the area of Measurement and Evaluation. Her area of interest is in the evaluation of training. She is presently doing a multi-site exploratory study within the mental health sector in order to better understand organizational contexts and their likelihood in successfully implementing the intended evaluation of training outcomes.

Afroditi is also the student representative for the University of Ottawa, and one of the organizing committee members in this year's student case competition. She presently has a student placement position in the Policy and International Relations Division in the Natural Sciences and Engineering Council (NSERC). She is also a research assistant at the University of Ottawa, working on various evaluation projects.

Getting Involved

There are many benefits associated with getting involved in this annual event!

Sponsors gain recognition for supporting and potentially recruiting bright future evaluators.

Coaches have a chance to raise the profile of evaluation on their campus through their students.

Students obtain first-hand experience in evaluation, while also networking with future colleagues and employers.

Organisers get to meet some talented students, network with sponsors and evaluators and develop organizational skills.

Get involved! Visit our web site at <http://competition.evaluationcanada.ca> and contact one of the organizers.

Special thanks to:

- The National Capital Chapter of CES for their strong support
- The CES Travel Scholarship Fund, including Heather Perkins (Treasurer) and Kathy Jones (Executive Secretary) for assisting finalists in attending the conference
- Karen Stierhoff (CES Conference Chair), Kathy Jones and Sue Ryan (The Willow Group) for helping us coordinate the co-location of the Competition with the CES Conference
- Steve Montague, Kim Scott, and Shannon Townsend for judging the preliminary round submissions
- Isabelle Bourgeois and NSERC for providing material for the final round case and Laura Ruzzier and Canadian Heritage for the preliminary round case
- Michael Obrecht for creating this competition
- Benoît Gauthier of Circum Network Inc. for designing and managing the Case Competition website

S'impliquer

Le concours pose plusieurs avantages à ceux qui désirent s'y impliquer:

Les commanditaires du Concours ont l'occasion d'appuyer et de recruter de futurs évaluateurs.

Les entraîn ont l'occasion d'augmenter le profil de l'évaluation au sein de leur université grâce à la participation de leurs étudiants.

Les étudiants obtiennent de l'expérience pratique en évaluation tout en réseautant avec des collègues et employeurs futurs.

Les organisateurs ont la chance de rencontrer des étudiants talentueux, se faire des contacts avec les commanditaires et des évaluateurs et de développer des habiletés d'organisation d'événements.

Impliquez-vous! Visitez notre site web:

- <http://simulation.evaluationcanada.ca> et contactez un des organisateurs.

Remerciements spéciaux à :

- La Section de la capitale nationale de la SCÉ pour son appui indéfectible
- Le Fonds de bourses de voyage de la SCÉ, notamment Heather Perkins (trésorière) et Kathy Jones (secrétaire de direction) pour avoir aidé les finalistes à participer au congrès
- Karen Stierhoff (présidente du congrès de la SCÉ), Kathy Jones et Sue Ryan (The Willow Group) pour nous avoir aidés à coordonner la tenue du concours «Simulation» dans le cadre du congrès de la SCÉ
- Steve Montague, Kim Scott et Shannon Townsend pour avoir jugé les analyses dans la première ronde de compétition.
- Isabelle Bourgeois et le CRSNG pour avoir fourni le dossier pour la dernière ronde; Laura Ruzzier et Patrimoine Canadien pour avoir fourni le dossier pour la ronde préliminaire
- Michael Obrecht pour avoir créé ce concours.
- Benoît Gauthier du Réseau Circum Inc. pour avoir conçu et géré le site Web du concours.