

EVALUATORS' KNOWLEDGE BASE?

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[new] evaluator

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CONTENTS

- How do new I/UCRC evaluators learn?
 - How do new centers learn?
- Where is all the I/UCRC evaluation knowledge stored?
- How do I access I/UCRC evaluation knowledge?
- What's a knowledge base and is it right for us?
- How might we do such a thing?

LEARNING MODELS

Cognitive model

- Classroom instruction
- Planned curriculum
- Transmission and absorption of ideas
- Know-what

Community of practice

- Situation-based
- Observation and participation
- Learning as a social process
- Know-what and know-how

Adapted from Cox, A. (2005). What are communities of practice? A comparative review of four seminal works. Journal of Information Sciences, 31 (6), pp 527 – 540.

LOTS OF I/UCRC LITERATURE...

Managing the Industry/University Cooperative Research Center
A Guide for Directors and Other Stakeholders
Dennis O. Gray

Cooperative Research Centers and Technical Innovation
Government Policies, Industry Strategies, and Organizational Dynamics
Craig Boardman - Denis O. Gray
Drew Rivers Editors
Springer

Handbook on the Theory and Practice of Program Evaluation
Edited by Albert M. Link • Nicholas S. Vinturas

| Resources for I/UCRC Evaluators | | | | Resources for I/UCRC Program Stakeholders | | | |
|---------------------------------|-------|----------|---------|---|-------------------------|---------------------------|---------|
| About Us | Tasks | Timeline | Surveys | Reports, Presentations & Publication | Center Management Tools | Current & Recent Research | Contact |

Industry/University Cooperative Research Centers Program Evaluation Project

Introduction

This is the official website for the National Science Foundation (NSF)-sponsored Industry/University Cooperative Research Centers Program Evaluation Project. It provides detailed guidelines, procedures, instruments and other resources for local evaluator I/UCRC evaluation. For local evaluators: Please see contact information if you need clarification on anything contained others. While these materials are intended for use by NSF I/UCRC evaluators, we have not copyrighted our questions or forms. However, we would appreciate your contacting us if you choose to do so.

The Goals of the I/UCRC Evaluation Project are:

Primary

- 1) To help NSF and local centers objectively evaluate their impact by documenting I/UCRC outcomes and accomplishments.
- 2) To promote continuous improvement by giving actionable, timely, data-based (formally collected and observational) advice to NSF and local centers;

Secondary

- 3) To identify and communicate information about I/UCRC best practices to NSF and local centers;

Industry-Nominated Technology Breakthroughs of NSF Industry/University Cooperative Research Centers

2012

Shared Space for I/UCRC Evaluators

Search the workspace

To join this workspace, create an account.

Already have an account? Log In

Links of Interest

New Documents in This Space

Evaluators' Home at NSF

National Science Foundation I/UCRC Assessment

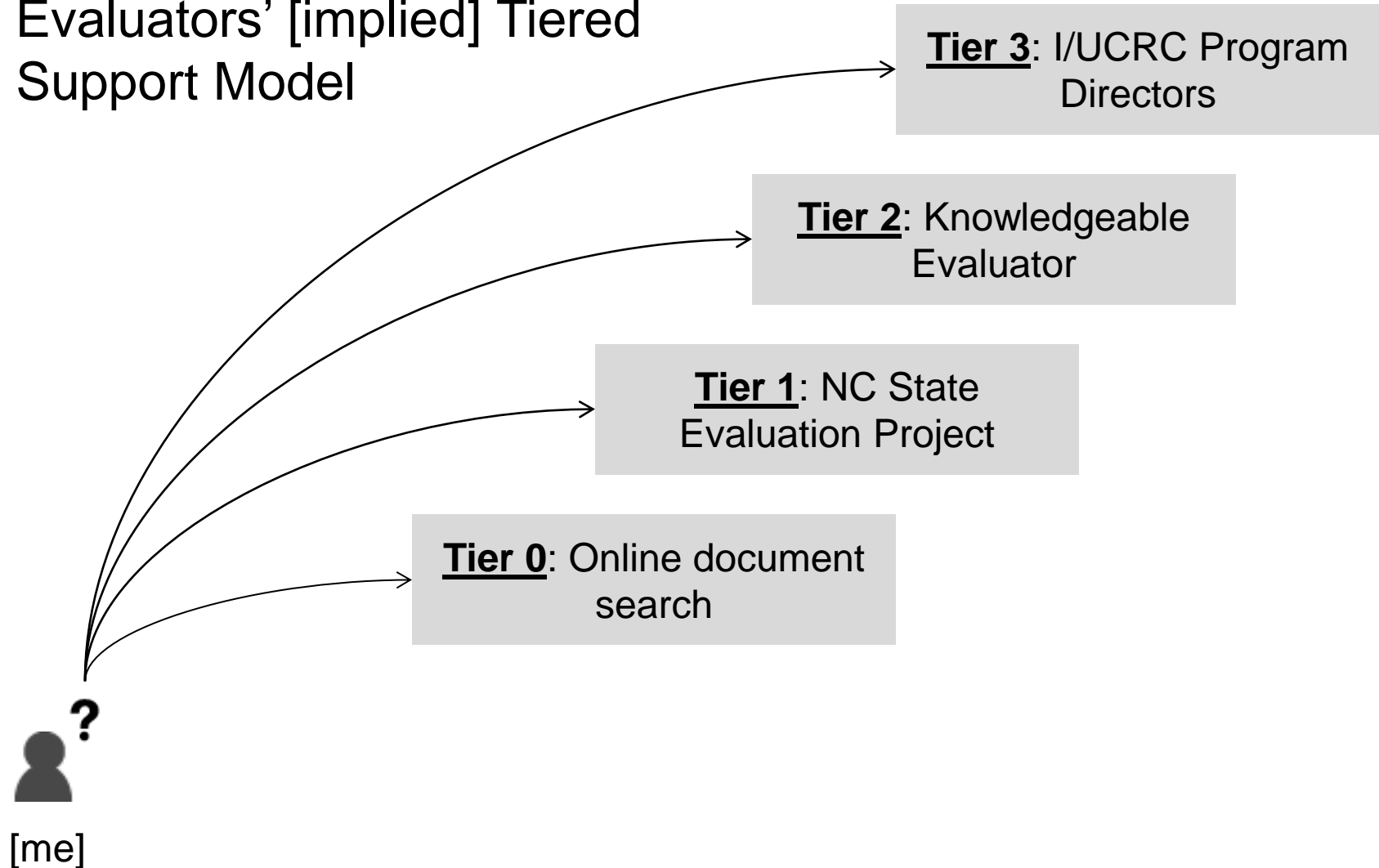
Introduction to National Science Foundation I/UCRC Program Index

How to Contact Us

4:12 PM 6/6/2013

BUT HOW DO I LEARN THE PRACTICE OF I/UCRC EVALUATION?

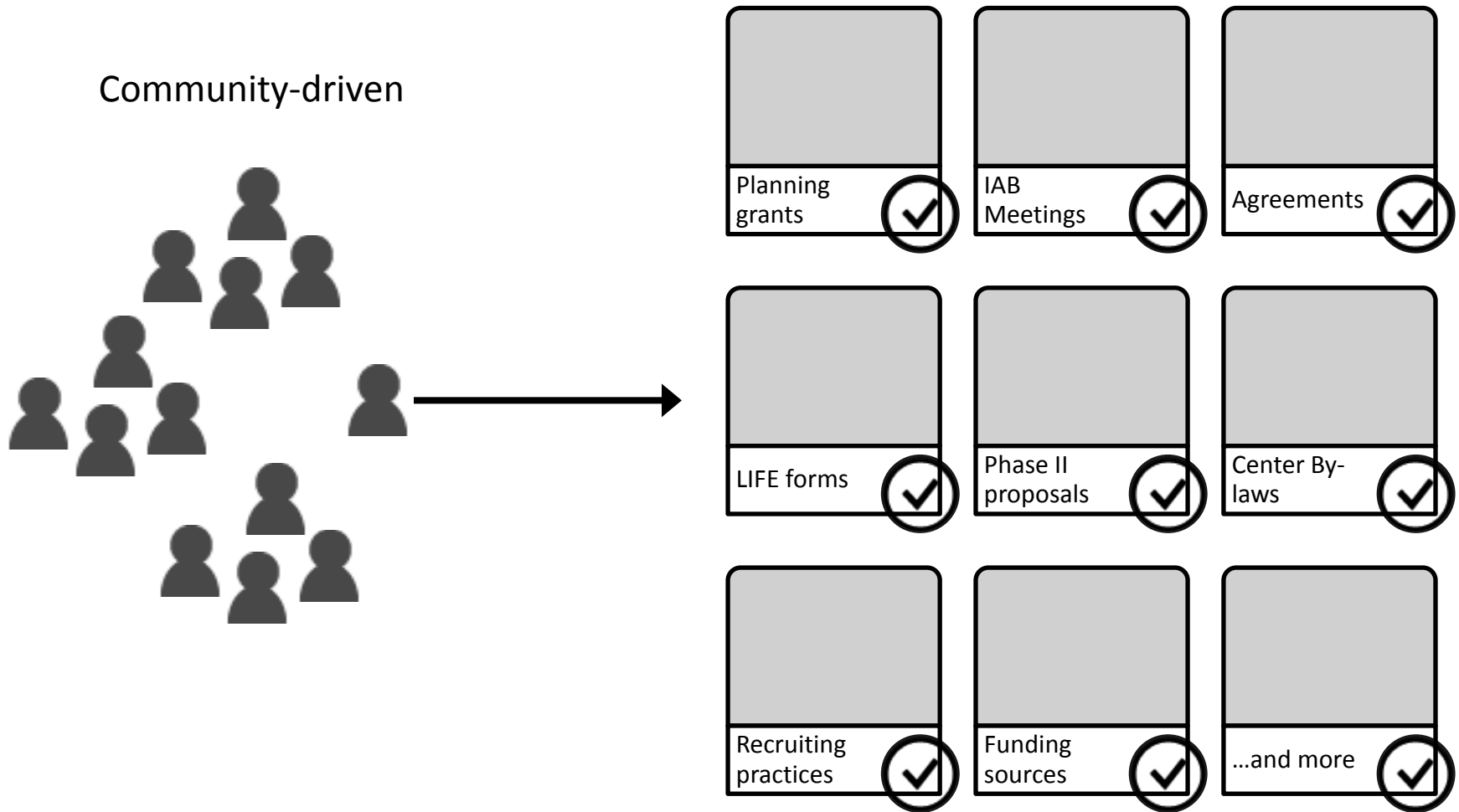
- Evaluators' [implied] Tiered Support Model



CHALLENGES WITH TIERED SUPPORT MODEL

- One question, multiple sources of information
- Redundancy in questions asked
- Inconsistency of information
- Not easily accessible
- No shared learning space
- Not a good training mechanism for new evaluators

WHAT IF WE HAD A KNOWLEDGE BASE?



SEARCHABLE INFORMATION REPOSITORIES

| | Focus | Orientation | Content |
|-------------------------|---------------|--------------------|----------------|
| Blog | Author | Opinion | Personal |
| Wiki | Document | Neutral | Encyclopedic |
| Discussion forum | Topic/ thread | Unstructured | Anything goes |
| FAQs | Question | Canonical | Short answer |
| Knowledge base | Article | Practical | Structured |

BENEFITS – WHY SHOULD WE DO THIS?

- Capture information and knowledge related to the practice of I/UCRC evaluation
- Centralized and searchable repository that could:
 - Promote consistency in evaluator communications
 - Minimize redundancy and burden on the ‘tiered support’
- Learning space for new and even established evaluators

PROTOTYPE (TECHNOLOGY READINESS LEVEL: 7)

Features

- Searchable
- RSS feeds
- Author recognition
- Gamification
- Comments on articles
- Security / user levels
- Mobile device ready
- Image, video ready
- Widget ready
- User-friendly

The screenshot shows the 'Evaluator's KB' website. At the top right, there are navigation links: 'Resources / NCSU Eval Page / NSF Program Tools'. The main header features a globe icon and the text 'Evaluator's KB'. Below this is a search bar with the placeholder text 'Have a question? Ask or enter a search term.' and a blue 'SEARCH' button. The main content area is divided into two columns. The left column is titled 'Article Categories' and lists four categories with their respective article counts: '1-General topics (3)', '2-NSF Timelines (4)', '3-Planning Grants (13)', and '4-Membership Agreements (3)'. Each category has a list of article titles. The right column is titled 'What's the KB?' and contains a paragraph explaining the knowledge base. Below this is a 'Categories' section with a list of categories and their counts: '3 1-General topics', '4 2-NSF Timelines', '13 3-Planning Grants', '3 4-Membership Agreements', '8 5-Semi-annual Meetings', '2 6-Process/Outcome Surveys', '2 7-Economic Impact Assessments', and '1 8-Uncategorized'.

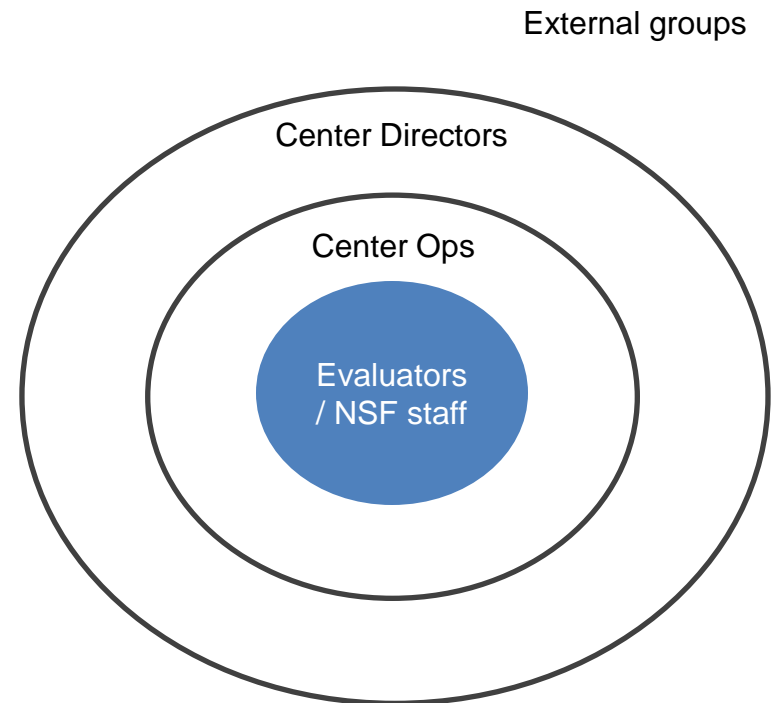
lucrc.c-research.net

WHAT WILL IT TAKE?

- Define/ implement the knowledge structure
- Establish processes for building and maintaining the KB
 - Submitting questions / article topics
 - Writing and publishing articles
- Logistics
 - Locating the KB (i.e., NCSU)
 - Learning the KB technology
 - Training “authors” to publish articles
- On-going maintenance – Community-owned
 - Rotating group of ‘managers’ to manage content, review new questions, request authors, review articles, etc.

LONG-TERM VISION

- Dynamic and centralized knowledge source I/UCRC evaluator-related topics.
- Article contributions and participation by other I/UCRC stakeholders
 - Center operations staff
 - Center directors
- A recognized and trusted information source for external groups engaged in CRCs or policy



FEEDBACK? QUESTIONS?