Mini Track on AI and Educational Research and Researchers

Mini Track Chairs: Belinda Gimbert with Raelal Moore, Dustin Miller, Dean Cristol and Nick Giester. The Ohio State University, Columbus Ohio, USA

This mini-track session explores the dynamic intersection of AI and educational evaluation from diverse perspectives. It will delve into the transformative potential of AI in revolutionizing the research process and enhancing researchers' skills. Discover how AI algorithms can refine research questions, analyse vast datasets, and augment evaluation methodologies, leading to deeper insights and more impactful outcomes. Explore innovative techniques for optimizing survey questions and methodologies, leveraging AI's analytical prowess to unlock new avenues of understanding in educational project evaluations. Additionally, critique the realm of AI-driven skill enhancement for researchers. Uncover strategies for leveraging AI to improve interviewing techniques, refine researcher performance, and cultivate a culture of continuous improvement. Learn how AI-powered tools can provide invaluable feedback, aiding in the optimization of evaluation procedures and fostering collaborative learning approaches among researchers. Join us as we navigate the cutting-edge applications of AI in educational project evaluation, empowering researchers to ask better questions, analyse data more effectively, and continuously refine their skills for enhanced evaluation outcomes. We are inviting submissions of abstracts for presentations including the following:

- Explore how AI algorithms can assist in refining and optimizing research questions for educational project evaluations, leading to more focused and insightful investigations.
- Investigate innovative AI-driven data analysis techniques tailored for educational project evaluation, including machine learning algorithms and natural language processing methods.
- Examine how AI can enhance traditional evaluation methodologies, such as surveys and interviews, by automating processes, improving accuracy, and uncovering hidden patterns in data.
- Discuss strategies for using AI-powered tools to enhance researchers' skills in conducting evaluations, including improving interviewing techniques, data interpretation, and feedback analysis.
- Explore how AI-driven insights can facilitate collaborative learning and knowledge sharing among researchers, fostering a culture of continuous improvement and innovation in educational project evaluation practices.

Submission details

In the first instance a 300 word abstract is required, to be received by 15th May 2024.

Submissions must be made using the online submission form at https://www.academic-conferences.org/conferences/icair/icair-call-for-papers/

If you have any questions about this track, please email the mini track chair: gimbert.1@osu.edu

See more about ICAIR at https://www.academic-conferences.org/conferences/icair/
Mini Track Chair Biographies

**Belinda G. Gimbert**, Ph.D., associate professor, Educational Administration, Department of Educational Studies, The Ohio State University, Columbus, OH. Her research addresses a broad array of human capital policies that impact talent management in low performing K-12 school systems and influence the composition, distribution, and quality of educators in the workforce. Gimbert teaches courses related to human resource administration, introduction to educational administration, and K-12 instructional supervision focusing on using AI and mobile learning technologies. She also directs two national projects sponsored by the U.S. Department of Education’s Office of English Language Acquisition.

**Raeal Moore**, Ph.D., Executive Director of Evaluation Data Solutions, LLC. She specializes in providing comprehensive, high-quality research, evaluation, and assessment services to deliver reliable and accurate information about the implementation and outcomes of programs and projects. She uses mixed methods approaches to answer programmatic questions. She understands that a credible and comprehensive evaluation is critically important to provide program decision-makers with timely, evaluation results. With 20 years’ experience, Raeal spends time strengthening the evaluation capacity and practice of organizations. Moore earned an M.A. and Ph.D. in Quantitative Research, Evaluation, and Measurement at Ohio State University.

**Dustin Miller**, Ph.D., clinical assistant professor, Educational Administration, Department of Educational Studies, The Ohio State University, Columbus, OH. His research interests focus on principal professional learning, leading in times of crises, and creating supportive LGBTQ+ environments for school leaders and teachers. He teaches courses on leadership, professional learning, and human resource management. Miller spent 20 years in k-12 as a high school principal, middle school principal, and director of secondary education. He currently serves as the plenum representative for the University Council for Educational Administration. He also served as president of the Ohio Association of Secondary School Administrators.

**Dean Cristol**, Ph.D., associate professor, Department of Teaching & Learning, The Ohio State University, Columbus, OH focuses on educational technology professional development within marginalized educational settings, aiming to equip both students and teachers with culturally responsive skills for technology-driven learning environments. Engages in research initiatives funded by international, national, state, and private foundation grants. Contributes extensively to academic discourse through publications in numerous journals, authoring books and chapters, and presenting findings at international, national, and state conferences. He serves as an Associate Editor for the *Theory Into Practice* journal and is Vice President for the International Association for Mobile Learning.

**Nick Giester**, MBA, more than 20 years of experience in public and private sector industries of IT, specializing in delivering technological solutions to business partners focused on the automation and improvement of vital business operations, as well as adeptly navigating organizational culture. He is highly skilled in evaluating the compatibility of existing infrastructure and software with fundamental business services, offering strategic guidance on investing in technologies like artificial intelligence or deciding on divestitures to meet business objectives. He excels at building and sustaining critical relationships, enabling him to manage crises efficiently, troubleshoot issues, and broker solutions effectively.