What are the 'wicked' evaluation issues that the HE sector are too afraid to ask?

E V A L U A T I O N C O L L E CTI V E

This event is being recorded.

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This event is hosted on the Zoom 'meeting' platform. Please keep your microphone on mute during any presentations. If you are able, we would love to see you on camera!

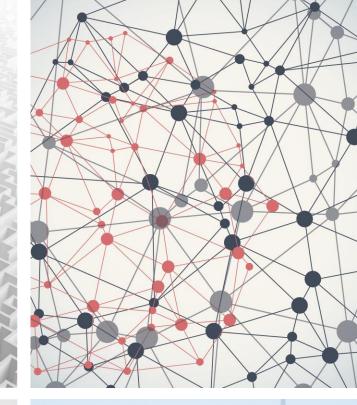
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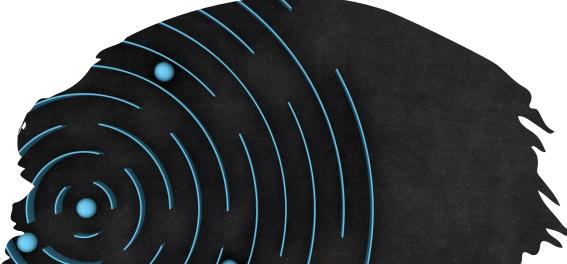
Agenda

- Introductions
- Why 'wicked'?
- Overview of the sector 'wicked' evaluation issues
- Our four selected issues for discussion (15 mins per issue)
- Padlet activity for further issues
- Next steps









'Wicked' evaluation problems

- unique, complex, dynamic
- ill defined
- requires contextual understanding
- time consuming
- multiple stakeholders
- open ended
- no obvious solution

https://hannahgriffinjames.wordpress.com/2022/12/0 4/wicked-buzzword/

The Value of Evaluation

- How to deal with pressure to find a positive effect/solution.... especially short-term?
- How to report 'no impact'?
- How to gain positive support from management in a challenging HE environment?
- How to champion the value of various routes to causality?

Evaluation Methods/Approaches

- Creative evaluation methods
- Small 'n' evaluation
- Long-term evaluation
- Qualitative methods

Planning an Evaluation

- Managing the challenges of a lack of time and funding
- Pertinent questions for embedding evaluation in the intervention design stage
- Implementing comparison groups for non-social researchers
- Learning from others by sharing and collaborating

'How to Evaluate' Topics

- How to evaluate educational gain?
- How to evaluate differences to equity in degree awarding?
- How to evaluate attainment-raising in schools?
- How to evaluate short or one-off/limited iteration interventions in learning and teaching support?
- How to evaluate the impact of interventions on the wider student community?

How to tame these issues? For discussion....

E V A L U A T I O N C O L L E CTI V E

- How do those conducting evaluations overcome pressure to report positive outcomes or provide a positive spin on reporting? – Chair Rachel Spacey
- How do those conducting or supporting evaluations champion the importance and value of qualitative methodologies? – Chair Billy Wong
- 3. How can the HE sector support those conducting evaluations to share their reflections, lessons learnt and outputs (formally/informally)? – Chair Julian Crockford
- 4. How could institutions find the time and resources for evaluative work? – Chair Nathaniel Pickering

QAA Collaborative Project

PADLET: https://padlet.com/sslla/WickedEvaluat ion

- Classifying student achievement
- Future approaches to pedagogy
- Creating flexible work-based learning pathways
- Innovative and evolving quality processes
- •Enterprise, entrepreneurship and global citizenship

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Forthcoming:

- our new website
- opportunities for collaboration
- blog writing

Thank you?

- sharing of resources
- more events in the new year

