

Inspection and Evaluation Committee

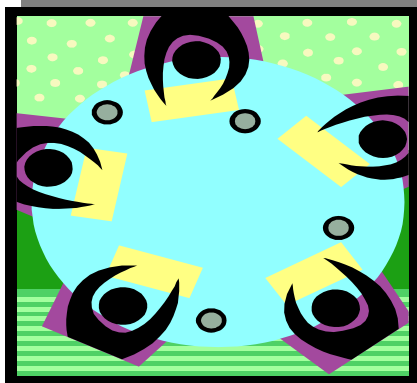
President's Council on Integrity and Efficiency

January 2003

Inspection and Evaluation Committee Members

JOHNNIE FRAZIER
Commerce, Chair
CHRISTINE BOESZ
NSF
CLARK KENT ERVIN
State
GLENN FINE
Justice
RICHARD GRIFFIN
VA
GORDON HEDDELL
Labor
PETER MCCLINTOCK
(acting IG)
SBA
JANET REHNQUIST
HHS
STEPHEN SMITH
FCA

I&E COMMITTEE CHAIR SPEAKS AT AEA CONFERENCE NOVEMBER 7, 2002



Inspections and Evaluations Committee Chair Johnnie Frazier was joined by EPA IG Nikki Tinsley and George Grob, HHS OIG, to discuss the evolution of and future directions for program evaluation within the U.S. inspector general community. Their presentation was given at the American Evaluation Association's annual meeting, held at the Crystal City Hyatt. The title of the event was "Responding to the Changing Need for Federal Program Evaluation: The Inspector General Community Perspective."

The panel provided examples of work done by their own organizations as well as offered experiences garnered from the work of other IGs but common to the entire community. Participants heard about new and

innovative approaches for using evaluations to improve government programs' economy, efficiency, effectiveness, and impact. Although the examples provided came from the federal arena, evaluation managers and supervisors at various governmental levels joined in the frank discussion about future trends for improving government programs through program evaluation.

COMMITTEE/ROUNDTABLE PROJECTS

HEADS UP! Credit Card Project

The I&E Committee has been asked to gather and analyze information about work performed on purchase cards and travel cards by OIGs. This information is expected to be used to inform the Office of Management and Budget and Congress on the extent of work performed in these areas and to determine whether the IG community should perform a government-wide project. Details to follow.

I&E Survey

Much has changed in the I&E community since the last survey, done in 1999 by HHS OIG. The I&E Committee, again with the



I&E Committee Meetings are held quarterly and rotate among IG members.

The next I&E Committee meeting will be hosted by Clark Kent Ervin. Details to follow.

Next Roundtable Meeting will be hosted by NASA OIG, Robert Cobb
February 6, 2003

Project Updates

help of HHS OIG, will review/revise the 1999 survey instrument to identify new areas of review, staff capabilities, etc. The survey will be sent by e-mail to PCIE and ECIE IGs; I&E units will be copied on the submission. Suggestions for questions to include in the survey are welcome. The survey will contain information about new units as well as resources and areas of work for all the I&E units.

Potential New I&E Committee Projects

Projects currently under consideration include

- emergency preparedness and physical security reviews of federal facilities
- interagency agreements
- overseas inspections—lessons learned
- computer matching to detect ineligible recipients of federal benefits
- best practices in handling OIG internal operations (e.g., semi-annual reports to Congress and staff training)

For more information about any item in this newsletter, contact Debbie Holmes at 202-482-2600 (Dholmes@oig.doc.gov) or Jill Gross at 202-482-2754 (Jgross@oig.doc.gov)



Travel Card Guide. The draft, developed by Labor OIG, the lead on this project, is currently being reviewed. It will next be sent to I&E Committee members. The guide contains information from five OIGs that have conducted travel card program reviews and covered common problems as well as best practices. It also highlights the need to alert employees about proper use of travel cards and to document problems. Final distribution is expected in spring 2003.



I&E Web Site. Recent changes have been made to the I&E Committee portion of PCIE's IGNet web site. ★(www.ignet.gov/pande/iande.html)★ The site now includes I&E Committee newsletters and a listing of Roundtable members.

This raises the question as to whether PCIE needs to make addi-

tional changes and further revamp the site. Steve Smith, Farm Credit Administration IG, recommended that PCIE have a clearinghouse for all OIG reports. PCIE will need to consider whether this idea is worth pursuing for inclusion on the web site.



Training. Johnnie Frazier, Chair of the I&E Committee, and I&E Committee/Roundtable members are working with Danny Athanasaw, Director of the IG Auditor Training Institute, to develop additional courses that address the needs of the I&E community. A recent example of IG community and IGATI collaboration is the Interior OIG's work with IGATI to develop a course for web-based communications, including sending out semi-annual reports via the Internet to the Hill and to other stakeholders.

Other ways PCIE can better work with IGATI involve developing career ladder/management training courses as well as courses in software programs widely used in the IG community.

An updated course schedule can be found at www.igati.org.