



**Society for Prevention Research
30th Annual Meeting**

Pre-Conference Workshop IV

Date: Tuesday, May 31, 2022

Time: 1:00 pm – 5:30 pm

Title: Beyond an h-index, how can we know if prevention science is used in policy or practice?

Organizer and Presenter

Lauren Supplee, Senior Program Officer, William T Grant Foundation

Presenters:

Vivian Tseng, Senior Vice President, William T Grant Foundation,

Drew Gitomer, Professor, Rutgers University

PURPOSE OF THE WORKSHOP, LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- Attendees will understand the conditions that make it more likely research is used in policy and practice
- Attendees will evaluate different methods and measures available to study how and under what conditions research is used
- Attendees will understand how to design research to study the use of research

TARGET WORKSHOP AUDIENCE

- Researchers interested in measuring the impact of their research on policy or practice
- Researchers interested in studying how and under what conditions can we improve the use of research to inform policy or practice
- Funders interested in measuring the impact of the research they fund

MATERIALS TO BE PROVIDED

- Copies of a monograph on research methods to study the use of research
- Information on accessing open-source methods repository to access all measures and methods presented
- Information on funding opportunities to support research on research use

OUTLINE OF WORKSHOP

- a. Overview of findings from portfolio of research on research use
 - i. Different ways research is used, the different types of research used, and why decision-makers report they use research
 - ii. Findings from research on how researchers can make it more likely for research

to be used

- b. How prior grantees have studied how, why and under what conditions research has been used
 - i. Research designs
 - ii. Measuring research use
 - 1. Surveys
 - 2. Interviews
 - 3. Document analysis
 - 4. Discourse analysis
 - 5. Observation
 - 6. Social Network Analysis
- c. Brief overview of WTG funding of research on research use, what makes a strong proposal and the Foundation's partnership with NSF, and the Foundation's interest in applying critical race perspectives to studying the use of research evidence

RELEVANCE TO CONFERENCE THEME: This year's conference theme, realizing the power of prevention through equitable dissemination and implementation science, recognizes that in order for prevention science to improve public health and achieve health equity, we need widespread understanding and implementation of evidence-based strategies within service-delivery systems, community-based organizations, and policymaking. Prevention science has had decades of success designing and testing evidence-based programs in partnership with communities and engaging in policy and advocacy work to build support for implementing evidence-based prevention strategies. To date, prevention science has often struggled to gain widespread acknowledgement by policymakers of the importance of prevention and ensuring sustained investment in evidence-based strategies. This pre-conference session will share with SPR members what we know from research on the use of research in policy and practice and how prevention scientists can study whether and how research has been used. Understanding the conditions under which research is used and how to create those conditions is critical to achieving the goals of prevention science. Finally, the preconference will also lead a discussion of how applying critical race perspectives to the use of research is needed to achieve health equity.

