

Rigor Versus Use

What Evidence Helps You Get the Educational Outcomes You Aim For?

Thursday, February 1, 2018

3:00-4:30 p.m., Wisconsin Idea Room, 159 Education Building



Speaker: Nancy Cartwright

*Distinguished Professor, UCSD
Professor of Philosophy, Durham University*

Featuring Panelists:

Eric Grodsky (UW-Madison, Sociology and WCER)
and Karen Bogenschneider (UW-Madison, SOHE,
Emerita)

(Nearly) everyone agrees that policy should be based on evidence. But evidence requires interpretation, and policymakers, and even social scientists, can misunderstand the kind of knowledge that research has produced, and how it is relevant to policy decisions. Nancy Cartwright will discuss the ways in which evidence-based policy can go wrong, with special reference to the use of Randomized Controlled Trials; and will offer advice on how to use evidence more wisely when making policy decisions in education. Eric Grodsky and Karen Bogenschneider will comment.

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