

**Consortium for Education and Social Science Research
2009-2010 Workshop in Methods
Speaker Series**

Workshop in meta-analysis and systematic reviews
by

David B. Wilson, PhD

Administration of Justice Dept. – George Mason University

Friday, December 4, 2009 – 10:00 - 12:00 – Woodburn Hall 200



David B. Wilson, is Associate Professor and Chair of the Administration of Justice Department at George Mason University and co-Director of the Research Program on Systematic Reviews. His Ph.D. is in applied social psychology from Claremont Graduate University. His research interests include the effectiveness of offender rehabilitation and crime prevention efforts, program evaluation methodology, and meta-analysis. He has undertaken research on the effectiveness of juvenile delinquency interventions, school-based prevention programs, correctional boot-camps, court-mandated batterer intervention programs, and drug-courts. He is an associate editor of the *Journal of Experimental Criminology*, a consulting editor for *Psychological Bulletin*, and was awarded the Marcia Guttentag Award for Early Promise as an Evaluator by the American Evaluation Association.

Meta-analysis is a statistical method of synthesizing quantitative results across studies examining a common research question. This talk will focus on the logic and methods of meta-analysis. A key feature of meta-analysis is the effect size, which encodes study findings on a common index, such as the standardized mean difference, correlation coefficient, or odds-ratio. Analysis of these effect sizes considers not only the central tendency of effects across studies but also the relationship of study features to variability in effects. Both fixed- and random-effects models will be discussed, as well as approaches to moderator analysis.

Those new to systematic reviews may wish to read a recent article on the topic here:
<http://jech.bmj.com/cgi/rapidpdf/jech.2009.088740v2>.

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WIM Director: William Alex Pridemore, Professor of Criminal Justice and Associate Director of the Consortium for Education and Social Science Research, wpridemo@indiana.edu.