

## English Abstracts

*Reinhard Stockmann*: Evaluation in Society: Development, Current State and Perspective, pp. 195-222

This article addresses the question which role evaluation can play in modern society. A special focus is set on the meaning of evaluation in Germany and identifying changes in the past few years.

The assumption is, that in modern society, evaluation has three purposes: to support social enlightenment (1), to legitimize (2) and to steer politically (3). To be able to serve these purposes, evaluation has to have a clear position in society and it has to be institutionalized. After displaying up to date developments in the field of evaluation, the question is addressed if these developments support evaluation in fulfilling its purposes. Based on this, the challenges evaluation faces in the future are outlined.

*Eike Emrich, Michael Fröhlich, Markus Klein, Werner Pitsch*: Elite Sport Schools – First Results of a Pilot Study, pp. 223-246

The German Olympic Sports Alliance considers elite sport schools (EdS) to be beneficial for talented young athletes by offering school education and optimal training conditions, enabling them to perform at their best. An evaluation of EdS systematically analysed empirical data on ascribed and achieved aims with collected data, individually as well as collectively, using questionnaires. On an individual basis, school performances and post-school occupational prospects as well as competitive success in sports of participants in the Summer Olympics 2004 and the Winter Olympics 2006 who attended an EdS were compared to those attending other kinds of schools. Age differences between the categories „continuous at EdS“, „in stages at EdS“ and „never at EdS“ were not found. The results show that there was no difference in sports performances between pupils at EdS and others in the Summer Olympics 2004, while in the Winter Olympics 2006 there was a significant difference. Furthermore there were no differences in school performance between the groups. Indeed, pupils at EdS prefer after end of the school in higher one a professional whereabouts in federal police and the armed forces, while not elite pupils finish a study in higher interest. The available data suggest that attending an EdS results in higher individual social costs, which are not matched by comparable success in sports competitions.

*Martin Salaschek, Heinz Holling, Philipp Alexander Freund, Jörg-Tobias Kuhn:*  
Software Usability: Pros and Cons of Various Methods and Procedures, pp. 247-276

The usability of software products may be evaluated by a large number of differing methods. Formal-analytic measures are available for this purpose, as are questionnaires and usability tests. The present contribution gives at first an overview of instruments for software evaluation. It then discusses the pros and cons of several questionnaires in detail and points out suitable domains. Finally, the article focuses on particularities of knowledge management systems, and concrete advice is given for evaluation in this specific area.