

Approaching Education Evaluation

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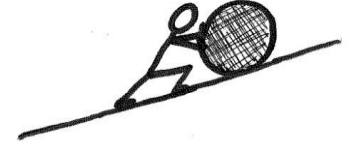
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Research in educational settings is uniquely challenging

- Education is always the first priority



Challenges

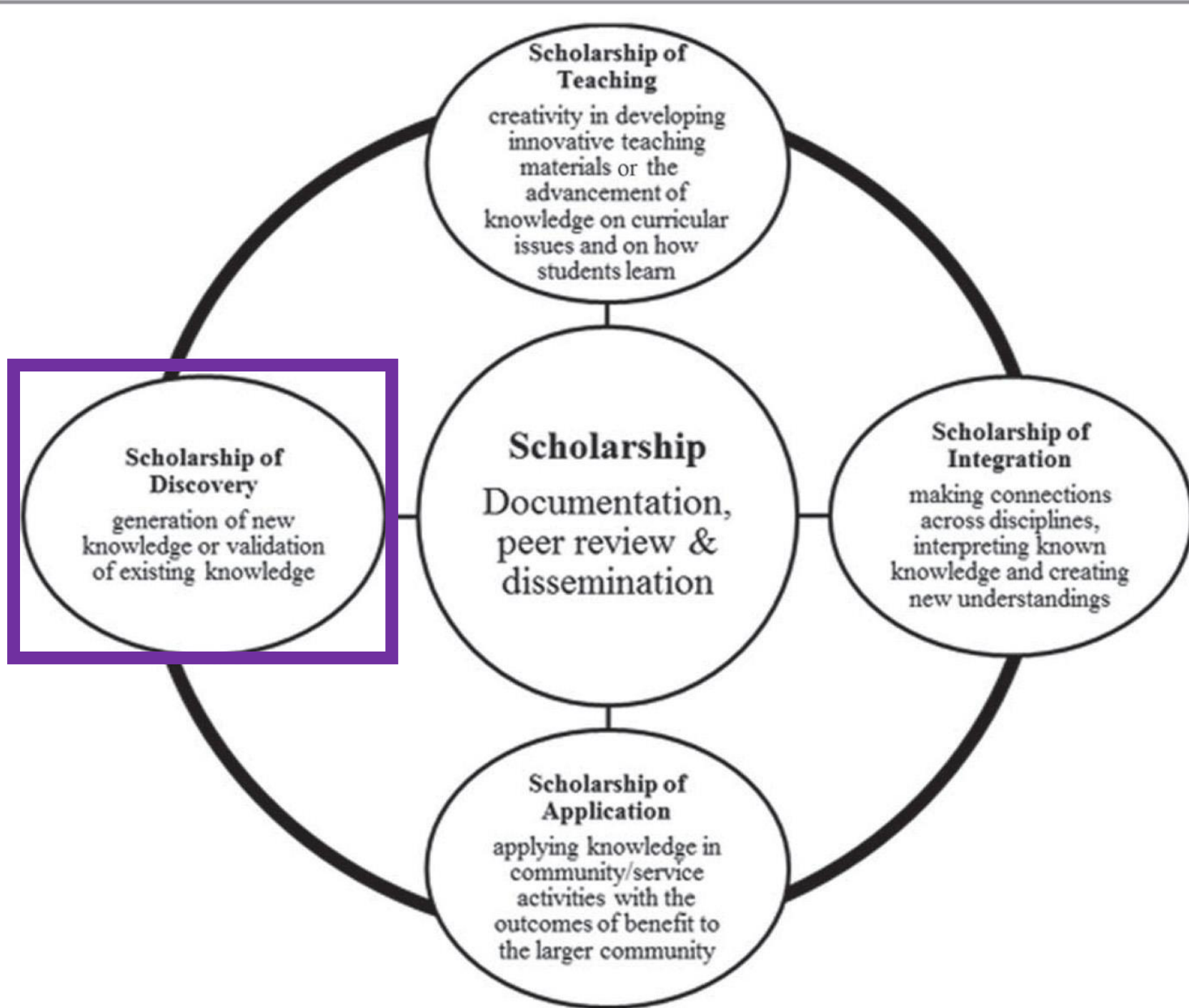


- Balancing clinical and research activities
- Trying to conduct and publish rigorous education/social science research with little to no formal training or support
- Lack of research lab/mentorship structure commonly found in social and basic science research
- Limited funding opportunities for education research



- Tend to think of scholarship as peer-reviewed journal articles.





Where to start!



#1 Develop a clear research question

- *“I want to know if my intervention is effective.”*
- *“I want to know if participation in my intervention helps residents become more empathetic to patients.”*

#2 What is the significance/innovation?

- Why does your question matter? And to whom?

Literature Review

- Start with PubMed, but be ready to branch out –
 - ERIC
 - PsycInfo
- Take advantage of the [resources](#) the library offers
- When in doubt (or when filled with feelings of dread and anxiety), just start with google scholar. We're all good at googling. This is no different.

#3 Identify your theory of change

- What do you expect to change and through what mechanism?

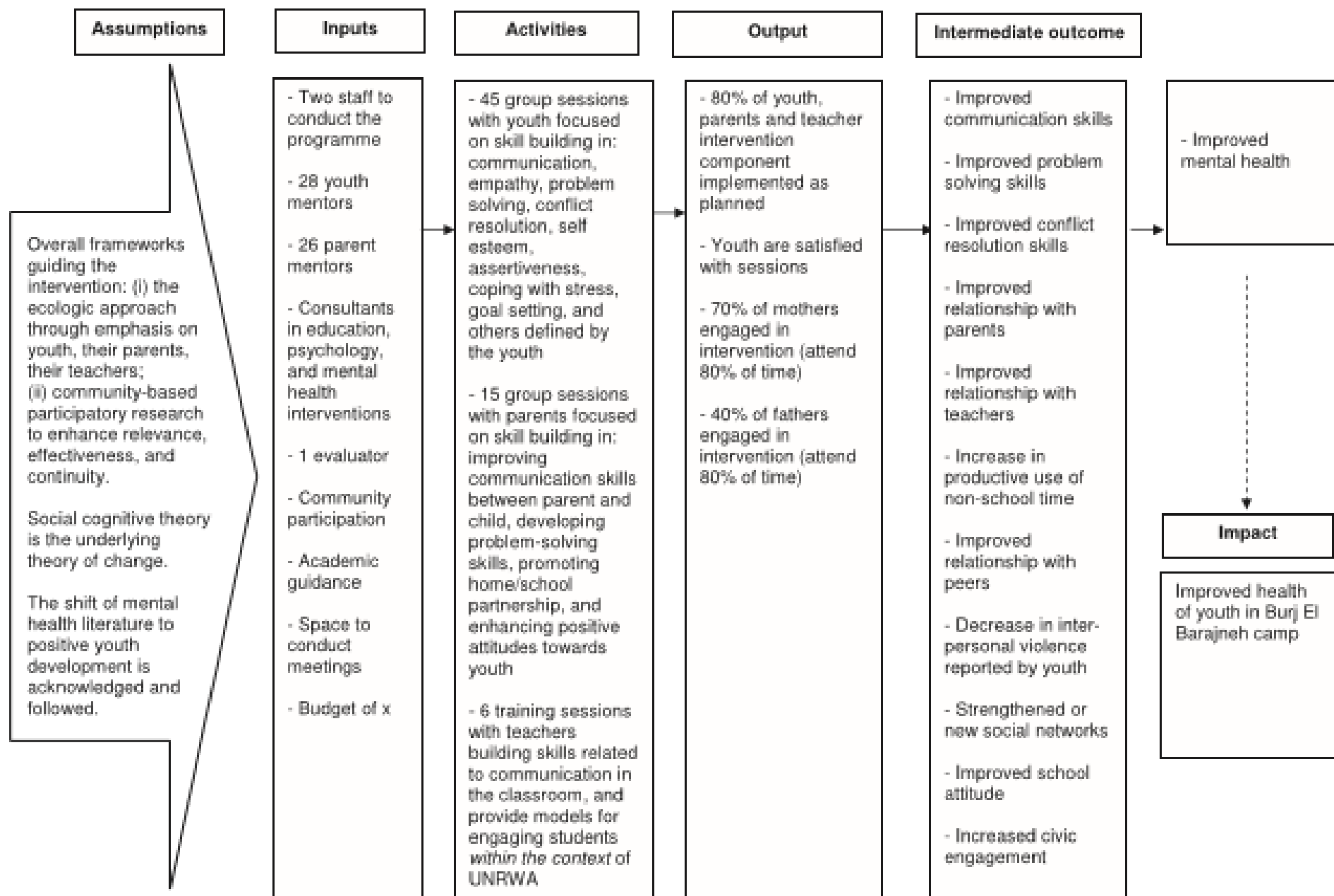


Figure 3 The logic model for our youth mental health promotion intervention

#4 Select your research method

- Qualitative, quantitative, mixed methods

#5 Know where you might publish

- Med Ed journals
 - JGME, Academic Medicine, MedEdPORTAL, Teaching and Learning in Medicine, The Clinical Teacher, etc...
- What about journals in your area of specialty?

#6 Identify/create your data collection instruments

- Qualitative → less time on instrument design, more time on analysis
- Quantitative → more time on instrument design, less time on analysis
- PILOT THEM!

Finally: WRITE

- For some, this part comes easy. But for most it does not. What can you do when you're feeling stuck?

Scholarship Trajectory: an Illustration

- Dr. Oprah Winfrey has an idea for teaching students how to read an x-ray
- Dr. Winfrey does this training and collects pre- and post- data on its effectiveness.
 - She presents the workshop at a society meeting
 - Educators from another institution approach her about doing the workshop at their school
- Next, Dr. Winfrey...



Scholarship Trajectory cont.

- Publishes the curriculum on MedEd Portal
- Gathers evaluation data from doing the workshop at the different sites
- Presents that same data at next year's meeting
- First authors the publication on the multi-site study



BUSM Educator Resources

- CTSI resources
- IRB Office Hours
- EEC website (next slide)
- EEC Journal Club and Happy Hour
- Health Sciences Education courses

Education Evaluation Core Website

- <http://sites.bu.edu/eec/>

Questions?