



ROB FISCHER, Ph.D.
Faculty Biographical Sketch

Robert L. Fischer is an Research Associate Professor at the Mandel School of Applied Social Sciences of Case Western Reserve University. In this capacity, he conducts evaluation research and teaches evaluation methods to students in social science administration and nonprofit management. He is also the Associate Director for Policy and Evaluation of the Center on Urban Poverty and Social Change. Currently, he coordinates various evaluation projects including the evaluation of Invest in Children, a county-wide early childhood initiative that includes home visiting, children's health, and child care components. From 1994-2001, Dr. Fischer served as Director of Program Evaluation for Families First, a nonprofit family and children's agency in metropolitan Atlanta, conducting evaluations of family interventions dealing with issues such as divorce, teen pregnancy and parenting, and homelessness.

Dr. Fischer has presented the findings from his research at national and international conferences in the evaluation and social work research fields and has published these results in various professional journals. Dr. Fischer is an active member of the American Evaluation Association (AEA) and currently serves as the co-program chair of the Social Work Evaluation topical interest group. He is also the current president of the Ohio Program Evaluators' Group, a state-wide professional organization affiliated with the AEA. He has served as an evaluation methods consultant in the areas of social work intervention, organ donation promotion, faith-based programming, arts and culture education, and alternative education for youth. He is the 2006 recipient of the Teacher of the Year Award from the Mandel Center for Nonprofit Organizations and the 2003 recipient of the Emerging Scholar Award from the Association for Community Organization and Social Administration. Dr. Fischer received his Ph.D. from Vanderbilt University in policy development and program evaluation and holds a masters degree from Vanderbilt's Peabody College of Education, and a bachelors degree from Duke University, both in public policy studies.

Interests

- Evaluation of social/behavioral interventions in regard to implementation and effectiveness
- Nonprofit program research and decisionmaking
- Policy context and movements in social welfare field