

Fidelity in Experiential Education: Toward a Scientific Model of Program Evaluation

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Presentation Purpose

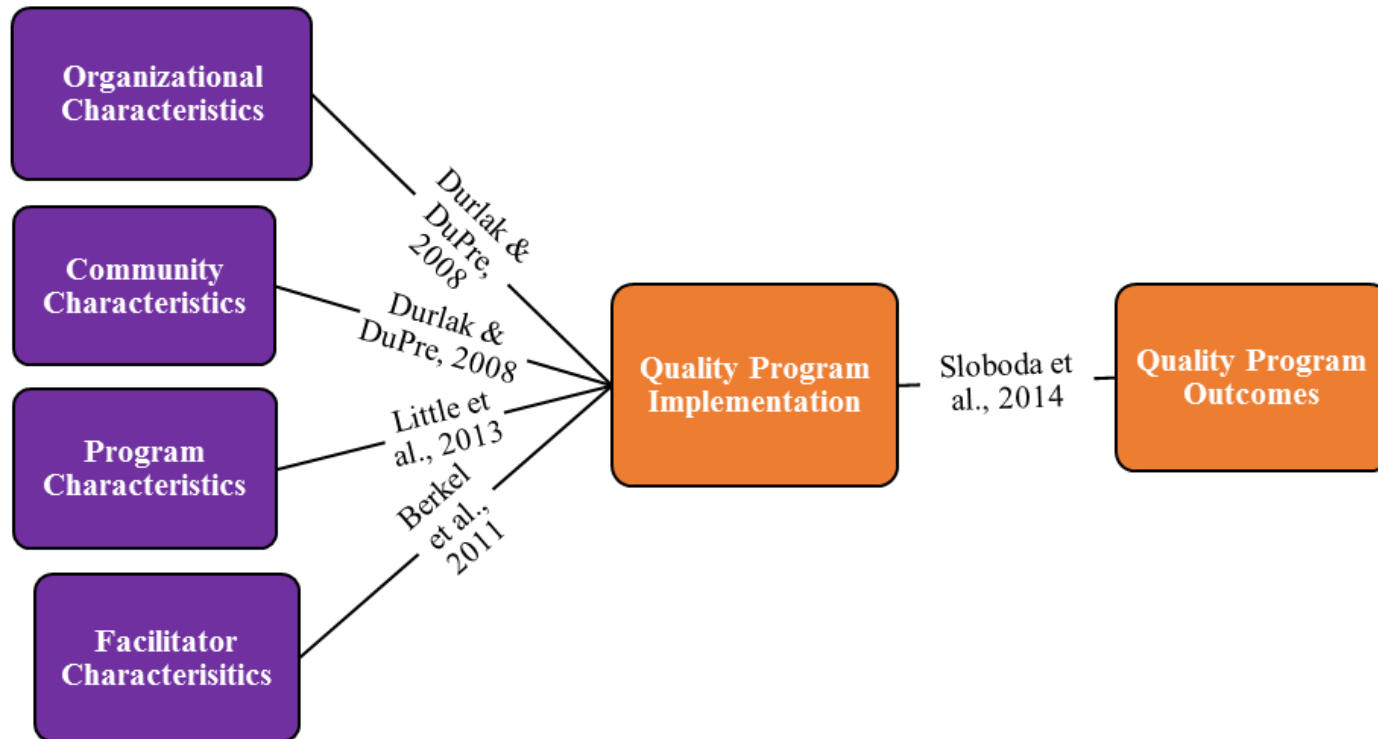
1. Introduce leisure sciences to implementation work, specifically fidelity.
2. Introduce the Facilitator Characteristics and Program Contributions Scale (FCPC).

Why assess implementation?

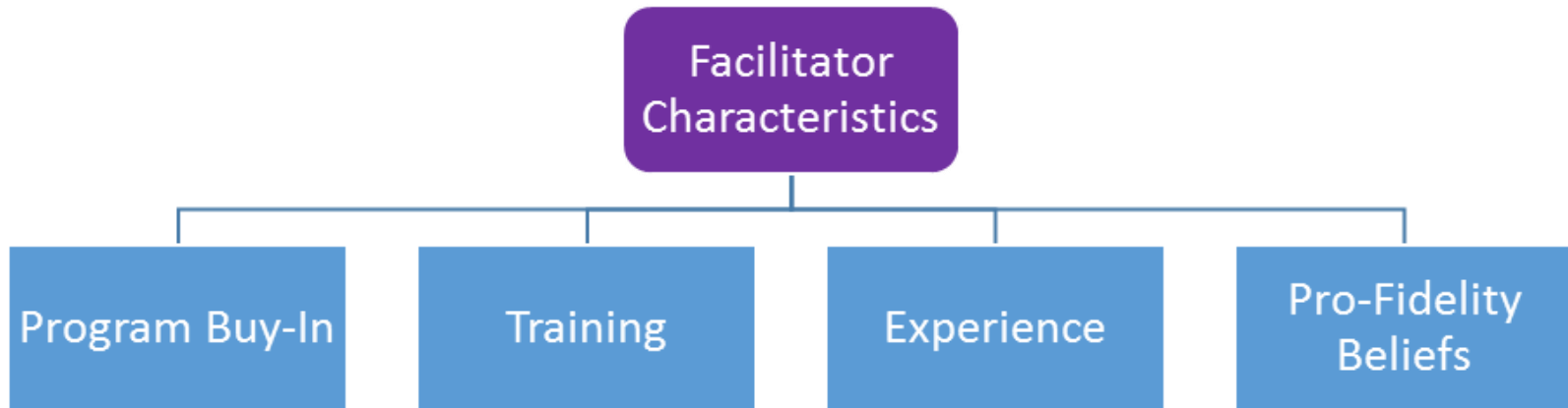
- The how of programs not just the what
- Program replication
- Efficiency in practice
- We don't do it in leisure...



What contributes to quality implementation?



What factors contribute to facilitation?



Pro-Fidelity Beliefs

What is fidelity?

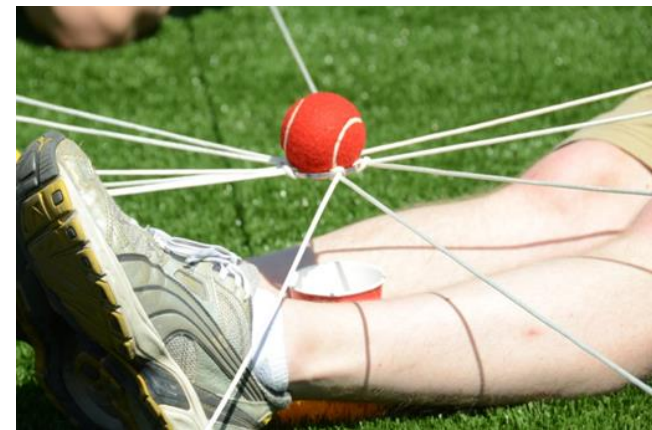
The degree to which a program is delivered as intended by the program developers

How is fidelity referred too?

Treatment Integrity, Program Integrity, Adherence, Program Fidelity, Treatment Adherence, and Degree of Implementation

Why is Fidelity Important?

- Need for EBPs
- NIH & Justice Department programs and funding
- Fidelity assessment leads to programmatic improvements
- Fidelity assessment helps to avoid Type 1 and 2 error



The Assessment of Fidelity

Direct Observation



Indirect Observation



Development of the Facilitator Characteristics and Program Contributions Scale (FCPC)

- Review of literature
- Question development & Gee I wish I...
- Pilot test (EFA)
- Question elimination



Gagnon et al., 2015b

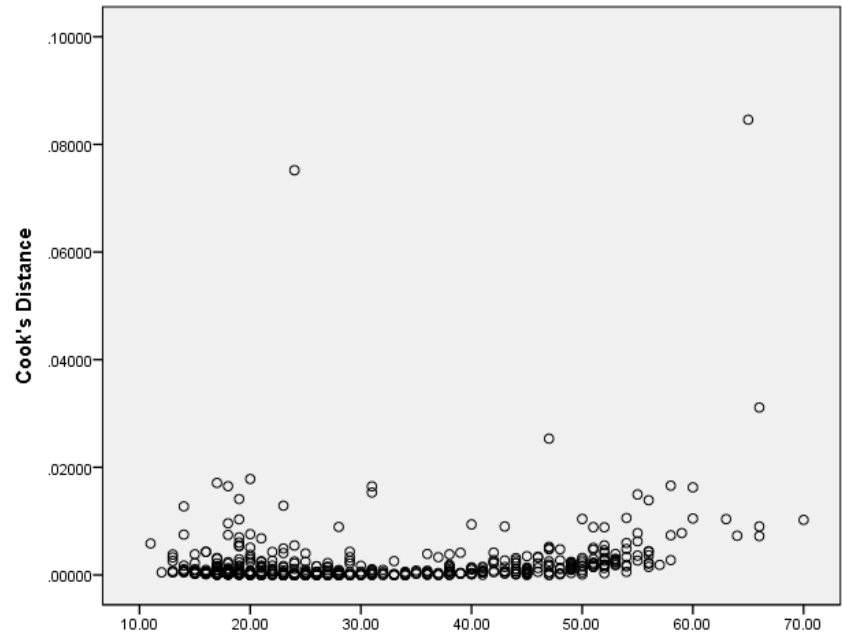
Sample

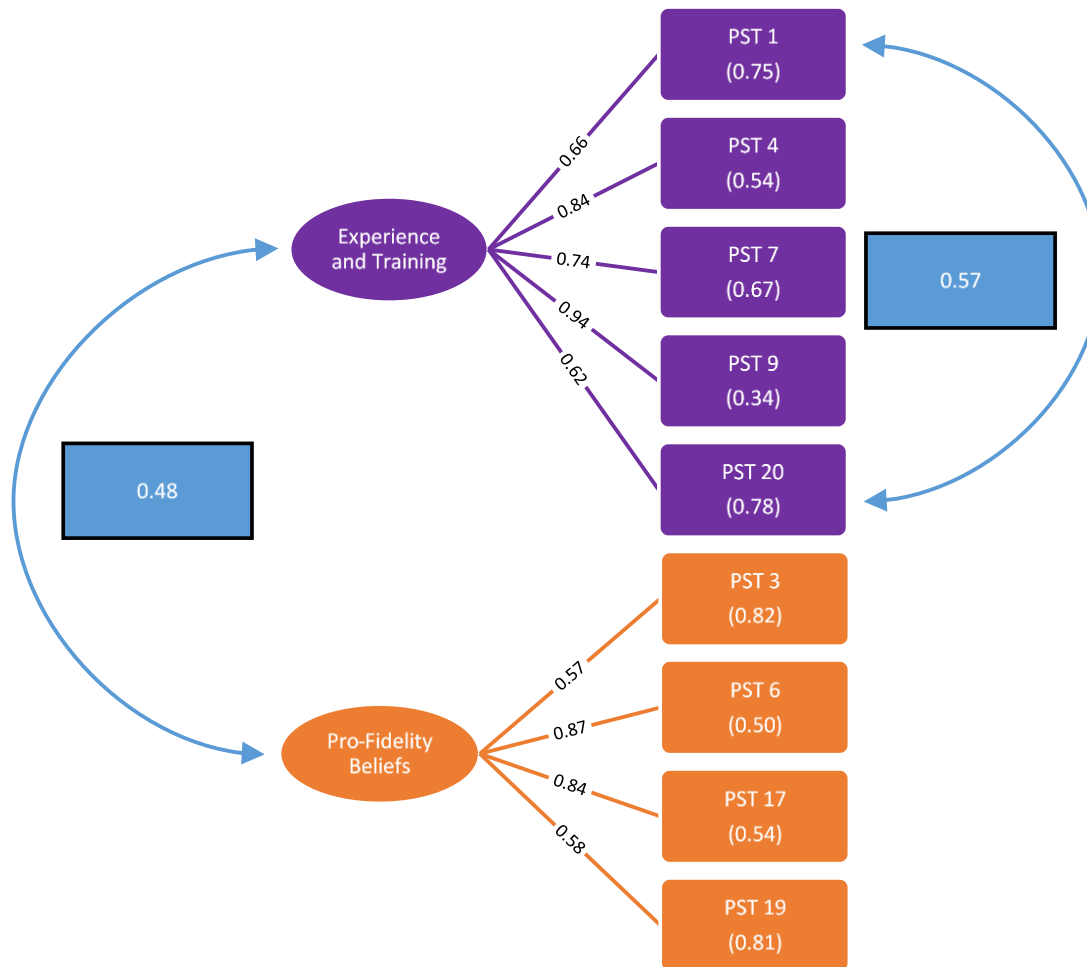
- 121 program facilitators of challenge course or outdoor recreation programs at 3 universities
- Mostly White (80%), Female (52%), and most possessed a Bachelors Degree (33%)



Data Collection and Preparation

- Surveys were administered post program to facilitators on site
- Screening and elimination of outliers was done using Cook' D & Mahalanobis Distance
- Eliminated 3 cases ($N = 121$)





The FCPC Model

- Convergent and Discriminant Validity

RMSEA = 0.06;
CFI = 0.98
Chi Square = 32.04

PST 1 I consider myself experienced in facilitating groups

PST 4 I had enough training to facilitate X program

PST 7 I feel prepared for X program due to my general facilitating experience

PST 9 I feel well trained to facilitate X program

PST 20 I have a high level of experience facilitating groups

PST 3 I followed the predesigned program plans for X program

PST 6 I am bought in to the X program

PST 17 I would recommend X program to other groups

PST 19 It was important to deliver X program as it was designed

Implications

- One size fits all approach
- Simple measure
- First to our knowledge

So what?

- Simpler measure of fidelity than direct observation (thus saving moolah)
- Contemporary method for scale validation (gets us the information that we want)
- Easy to incorporate in larger surveys (Only nine items)

Why this matters...

Experience & Training
($B = .51, t = 11.431, p < .001$)

Buy-in & Pro-Fidelity Beliefs
($B = .47, t = 5.971, p < .001$)



Future Directions

- Examining other layers that contribute to quality implementation
- Examining other facilitator characteristics contribution to fidelity
- Comparison of observer versus scale
- Validating scale outside of principal investigator control

Questions, Comments, Thoughts, High Fives?

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