

Why I Love the Delphi Method

By Don Harting



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How I Heard About It

- ▶ Brian McGowan, PhD, FACHEP
- ▶ Donna Queeney
 - ▶ Penn State, retired
 - ▶ 1998 IACE Hall of Fame inductee
 - ▶ 1995 classic book
 - ▶ "methods for beginners"



<https://www.linkedin.com/in/briansmcgowan/>



<https://www.halloffameoutreach.ou.edu/inductees/prof-1998/queeney/>



Jossey-Bass Publishers, San Francisco, Calif.

How It Has Been Used

- ▶ 1950s national defense
- ▶ 1960s business forecasting
- ▶ 1970s urban planning
- ▶ 1980s college campus planning
- ▶ 1990s public health
- ▶ 2000s nursing and medicine
- ▶ 2010s continuing ed in health profs
- ▶ 2018 my master's thesis research



What's Cool About It

- ▶ Old yet new
- ▶ Structured yet versatile
- ▶ Credible *and* powerful
- ▶ Produces data that can be analyzed
- ▶ Semi-blind format
 - ▶ People can change their minds
 - ▶ Levels the playing field
 - ▶ Restrains bigmouths and bigwigs
 - ▶ *Ideas are considered on their merits, not on who put them forward*



Image courtesy: <https://americaoutloud.com/what-we-dont-see/blindfolded/>

How It Works

Round 1

- Form blue-ribbon panel of experts
- Distribute online questionnaire
- Tabulate results

Round 2

- Distribute questionnaire
- Tabulate results

Round 3

- Distribute questionnaire
- Analyze results
- Publish report

We Could Use It Right Now

1. Write a grant to get some \$.
2. Form a panel of experts and promise to pay them a modest stipend.
3. Ask them to help us identify the most essential learning outcomes for hospitals/health systems to measure and report on a short form, similar to IRS Form 1040-EZ.
4. Publish our report in a peer-reviewed journal, make copies available as a free download.
5. Call it a professional practice guideline (version 1.0) and expect to update it periodically (as funds allow).

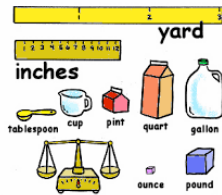


Image courtesy: <https://www.kallabs.com/classes/subjects/units/lessons/notes/note-detail/805>

To discuss this further . . .

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