



Dr Pete Allison, FRGS
The University of Edinburgh



Dr Kris Von Wald, FRSA
Learning and Change Consulting

Measuring the Value of Sail Training

Sail Training International
Annual Conference
November 2013

Agenda for Workshop

Purposes:

1. To acknowledge previous work that leads to existing research and resources
2. To discuss data and analysis that will be useful for sail training operators
3. To explore possibilities and support for research

Agenda for Workshop

Content:

1. Update from Riga 2012
2. Small Group work on Outcomes Based Feedback
3. Full Group Discussion

Riga 2012

- Purpose of the workshop discussions:
 - How can we build on existing research in ways that will be useful for sail training operators?
- Framework for the discussions:
 - Answer questions ...
 1. What do you need research for?
 2. What questions would you like to answer?
 3. Where do you go for evidence?

Themes

- Desire to gain a global view from research that says what we 'know' about sail training around the world.
- Demonstrate what sail training is and what it does.
- Appetite for gathering consistent data across the fleet to state what the impact of sail training is.

Need for Research

- To provide evidence for funders, sponsors, parents, trainees, schools
- To gain insights for programme design
- To attract more people to participate in/support sail training

Questions

1. What are the long term impacts? [The 'life-changing' impacts]
2. Why do trainees come back? [Why not?]
3. What is the efficiency of sail training? [How much does it cost to achieve the outcomes?]
4. What are the attitudes of others toward sail training? [teachers, parents, employers]
5. What are differences in results based on size of group, voyage duration, vessel type, etc?
6. What is the global view? [What do we know about sail training around the world?]
7. What is the influence of the permanent crew on trainees?
8. What is the impact of 'hard-edged' sail training? [military style]

Questions

Can we have a 'cheat sheet' that points us to research that supports what we do?

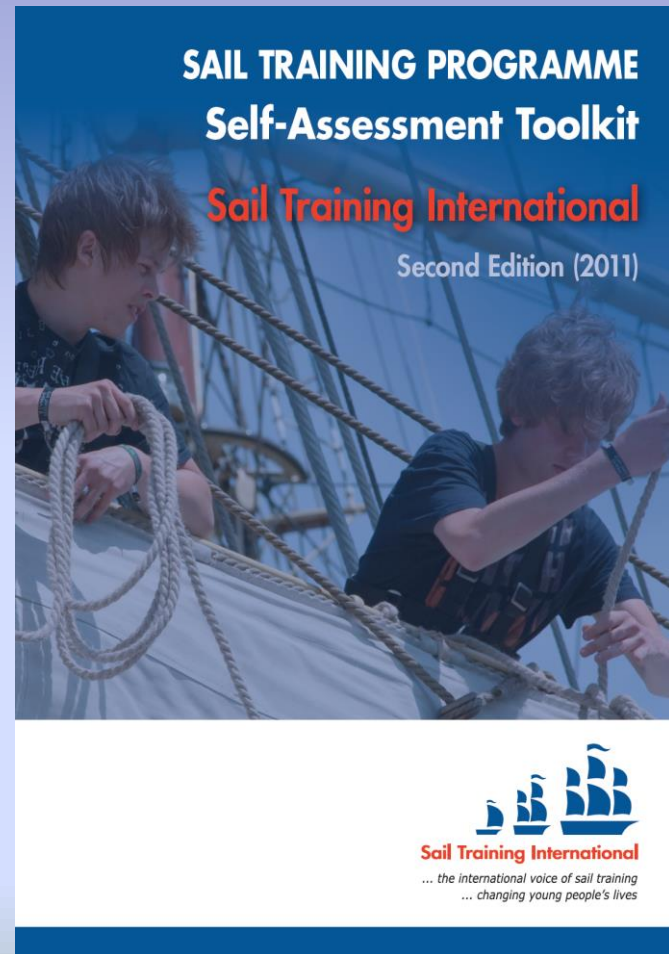
Can we contribute to research that supports what we do?

Research Possibilities

- 1.Updating, Maintaining Literature Review
- 2.Aggregating Outcomes Data
 - Large scale data base
- 3.Longitudinal, Retrospective Studies
- 4.Improving Sail Training Practices
 - Correlating Outcomes with Practices
- 5.Commitment to Youth Development
 - 'Blue Flag'
6. More . . .

Big Questions

- Practices: What do sail training operators do?
- Outcomes: What is the value of sail training?



Big Data

1. Demographics

2. Outcomes and Impact

- a. Learning and Achievement
- b. Positive Behaviours
- c. Connections and Relationships
- d. Productivity
- e. Self Sufficiency

3. Sail Training Practices

Aalborg 2013: Barriers

What might get in the way of Sail Training 'Big Data'?

What can be done to facilitate further research?

Relevant Research

1. STI Programme Evaluation Self-Assessment Toolkit: References (2010, 2011)
2. International Journal of Educational Research: Effects of a tall ship sail training experience on adolescents' self-concept (2013)
3. Social Psychology of Education: A 10-day developmental voyage: Converging evidence from three studies showing that self-esteem may be elevated and maintained without negative outcomes (2012)
4. Journal of Experiential Education: Reflections on a Trip: Two Decades Later (2012)
5. Journal of Experiential Education: A Deweyian Framework for Youth Development in Experiential Education: Perspectives From Sail Training and Sailing Instruction (2010)
6. The University of Edinburgh Report: The Characteristics and Value of the Sail Training Experience (2007)
7. University of Sydney: Sailing into the Future (2006)

Questions?



Dr Pete Allison, FRGS
The University of Edinburgh

Peter.Allison@ed.ac.uk

+44 (0)131 6516001



Dr Kris Von Wald, FRSA

Learning and Change Consulting

kvonwald@learningandchange.co.uk

+44 (0)7816 093361