2015 MESI
Top Ten Challenge
And the winners are. . .

University of Minnesota
This year’s top ten challenge

How is program evaluation like interstellar space travel?
Our opening if this was a TV show

Program outcomes, the final frontier. These are the inquiries of a program evaluator. Our professional mission: to explore strange new questions, to seek out new methods and populations, to question what no one has questioned before, and to boldly go places that others fear to enter!
10. You may meet surprising new life forms
9. It fascinates some people, while others can’t imagine why you’d ever want to go there
8. You enter a fathomless void teeming with dark energy and black holes from which nothing emerges, not even light, and you ask yourself: Why would something intelligent have created this?
7. It requires the ability to endure long, lonely hours in a hostile environment and still put on a happy face for the funding agency.
6. The government isn’t interested in funding either one
5. Both can make time appear to slow down for outside observers
4. Site visits are expensive and not always welcomed
3. It IS rocket science!
2. You’ve got to remember that YOU’re the alien here
The #1 reason that program evaluation is like interstellar space travel:

Both have the ability to suck all the oxygen out of a room