

## UPDATE ON SIG ACTIVITY by Jeff Gilger (President)

Our new web site has gotten many hits since it was launched a month ago, and there have been new applications for membership as a result. Please pass the link around. This will help form address and key word associations so that more world-wide queries will hit our BNE SIG.

As you know, this SIG hopes to facilitate interdisciplinary and multi-national collaborations. Towards this goal, I draw your attention to the article below about a colleague organization in Europe. That our missions are quite similar, suggests opportunities for future work together and joint global efforts to share the concepts and information subsumed under BNE.

For more information on the planned activities of this SIG, please attend our Business Meeting at the AERA annual convention in Colorado. Minutes will be posted subsequently on our web site. See the date and other announcements at [www.aera-brain-education.org](http://www.aera-brain-education.org).

## NEUROSCIENCE & EDUCATION IN EUROPE

EARLI (the European Association for Research on Learning and Instruction) is designed much like its American counterpart, AERA. EARLI exists to support and promote an active research culture in the field, and has some 2000 members from 40 different countries. EARLI promotes both international and interdisciplinary cooperation through a number of venues.

Within EARLI are SIGs, one of which is called the SIG on Neuroscience and Education. Taking *interdisciplinarity* as a basic principle, the SIG conceives the relation between educational research and neuroscience as a two-way street with rich bi-directional and reciprocal interactions between educational research and (cognitive) neuroscience.

The Neuroscience and Education SIG will explicitly focus on empirical research at the intersection of both educational research and neuroscience. A key aim is to build fundamental knowledge about the ways that children and adults learn and develop, thereby using neuroscientific approaches in combination with behavioral approaches. Research that deals with the effects of different learning environments on the neural correlates of learning and relates the latter to outcomes in learning (and development) is among the priorities of the SIG. In addition, the SIG provides a forum to address and discuss the promises and pitfalls of this new interdisciplinary field.

The SIG organizes thematic symposia, workshops and conferences to promote dialogue and collaboration between researchers in education and neuroscience. Particular attention is given to the training of young researchers. See Neuroscience and Education page off of the EARLI home at <http://www.earli.org>. For other European groups, see our [Resources](#) page on our web site.

### SIG OFFICERS:

President: Jeff Gilger  
Conference Chair: George Hruby  
Secretary: Debbie Zambo  
Student Rep: Brian Barber

### SIG Advisory Board Members (bios on SIG web site):

Sashank Varma	George Hynd	Dennis Molfese
Stephen R. Campbell	Kurt Fischer	David Brian
Stephanie Peabody	Marc Schwartz	
M.. Layne Kalbfleisch	Victoria Molfese	



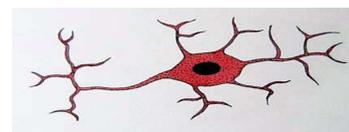
## IMPORTANT DATES & INFORMATION

♣ AERA Annual Convention starts April 30th, in Denver Colorado. [See www.aera.net](http://www.aera.net).

♣ See the National Education Technology Plan, 2010 at <http://www.ed.gov/technology/netp-2010>. The neuroscience of learning is highlighted. Looks like BNE is on the agenda for national education!

♣ We are composing a list of programs in teacher education or education-related disciplines that explicitly include applications of neuroscience. Examples of a few such programs are given on our Resources link. If you know of such a program and want it considered for our list, please notify us on the suggest a link form on our www.

♣ *New insights into the implications of autism onset patterns.* Children with early developmental warning signs may actually be at lower risk for poor outcomes than children with less delayed development who experience a loss or plateau in skills. See this study and more at <http://www.ianproject.org/>



**This is a letter free to our SIG members. Letters will be posted on the SIG website. The number of letters per year may vary. Information in the letters is provided by SIG Officers and has not been approved by AERA. To remove your name from our mailing list, or if you have questions or comments, please contact us through our web site.**