

UPDATE ON SIG ACTIVITY by Jeff Gilger (President)

The AERA BNE SIG is happy to announce the launching of our new web site. Please visit it regularly for updates and new information!

This year we will also establish our advisor board (some current members are listed below), examine our bylaws, and take ideas about how to expand this SIG and grow public awareness about the educational neurosciences. These and other topics will be discussed at our SIG Business Meeting at the AERA annual convention in Colorado. See the date and other announcements at www.aera-brain-education.org.

Finally, I wanted to thank Mike Atherton for his work on our old web site. Some of what he did was transferred over.

ED & NEUROSCIENCE AT HARVARD by Stephanie Peabody (Advisory Board Member)

Mind, brain, health, and education (MBHE) is a transdisciplinary collaboration of scholars and practitioners that promotes child development, wellness and achievement in academics and in life. As an evolving field, MBEH attempts to integrate cutting edge research in biology, medicine, psychology, cognitive neuroscience, wellness and education towards better understanding and enhancing how children develop, learn and thrive. Further, the goal is to translate data from contributing sciences towards developing a common understanding, language, tools, and programs into "best practices" for front line stakeholders (e.g., educators, healthcare practitioners, policy makers, students, parents, etc.).

Diverse factors contribute to the strengths and challenges that define each individual's unique ability to learn and achieve. Often those on the front lines do not fully appreciate the diverse manner in which students might develop, learn, and achieve at their maximum potential. The Mind, Brain, and Education (MBE) program at the Harvard Graduate School of Education (HGSE) aims to provide an understanding of learning processes, their variations, and their basis in the brain and body. A central part of this understanding is an appreciation of the impact of health and wellbeing on student achievement, which expands MBE into Mind, Brain, Health, and Education -- MBHE.

The MBE program is now offering an introductory graduate course through the Harvard University Extension School. Dr. Kurt Fischer, Director of Harvard Graduate School of Education's MBE program, announced the launching of this new course as part of the inclusion of Health and Wellness as a key component of MBE. The course is taught jointly by Dr. Fischer and Dr. Stephanie Peabody, a neuro-psychologist with extensive knowledge of neuro and cognitive development and the implications of health and wellness for achievement. It is expected that this first course will lead to a series of MBHE offerings. See (see www.gse.harvard.edu/academics/masters/mbe/).

SIG OFFICERS:

President: Jeff Gilger
Conference Chair: George Hruby
Secretary: Debby 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	



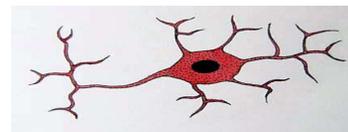
IMPORTANT DATES & INFORMATION

♣ AERA Annual Convention starts April 30th, in Denver Colorado. See www.aera.net.

♣ See our web site for listing of presentations at AERA that may be of particular interest to SIG members.

♣ The BNE SIG is composing a list for public use on undergraduate and graduate 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 (e.g., Harvard, Johns Hopkins, University of Texas). If you know of such a program and want it considered for our list, please notify us at info@aera-brain-education.org.

♣ News Bite: The more difficult the decision we face, the more likely we are not to act, according to new research that examines the neural pathways involved in 'status quo bias' in the human brain (see <http://esciencenews.com/articles/2010/03/15/exploring.status.quo.bias.human.brain>).



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 at info@aera-brain-education.org or through our web site.