BYLAWS OF THE AERA SPECIAL INTEREST GROUP (SIG) BRAIN, NEUROSCIENCES, AND EDUCATION (BNE)

Article I: Name

The name of the organization is Brain, Neurosciences, and Education. (SIG/BNE).

Article II: Affiliation

The organization, Brain, Neurosciences, and Education. (SIG/BNE), is a Special Interest Group (SIG) of the American Educational Research Association (AERA) and, as such, pays annual dues to AERA and participates in the AERA annual meeting.

Article III: Governing Authority

The Special Interest Group (SIG), Brain, Neurosciences, and Education. (SIG/BNE), shall be governed by the bylaws and articles of incorporation of the American Educational Research Association (AERA). SIG/BNE bylaws shall not conflict with the bylaws and articles of incorporation of AERA.

Article IV: Purpose

The purpose of the Special Interest Group (SIG), Brain, Neurosciences, and Education. (SIG/BNE), is to promote an understanding of neuroscience research within the educational community. The hope is to achieve this goal by promoting neuroscience research that has implications for educational practice and by providing a forum for the issues and controversies connecting these two fields.. Pursuant to these purposes SIG/BNE may elect to publish its own journal, or hold occasional conferences supplementing AERA meetings.

Article V: Membership

Section 1 -- Eligibility. Membership in SIG/BNE shall be open to any dues-paid AERA member who supports the purpose of the organization and who pays the specified SIG dues.

Section 2 -- Duration. AERA members may join SIG/BNE by paying SIG/BNE dues through the AERA Central Office[1] using the appropriate AERA form[2]. AERA members may join SIG/BNE at any time, but SIG/BNE membership expires coterminously with a given AERA membership. SIG/BNE membership may be for either 1 or 2 years, but members joining SIG/BNE for 2 years must coterminously be members of AERA for 2 years.

Section 3 -- Voting Rights. All SIG/BNE members in good standing, fully paid in SIG dues, shall be entitled to vote for SIG/BNE officers.

Section 4 -- Dues. The amount of SIG/BNE dues may be modified by a majority of the SIG/BNE members voting by e-mail or at the annual SIG/BNE business meeting held during the AERA annual meeting.

Article VI: Officers

Section 1 -- General. Officers of SIG/BNE shall be elected by a majority of SIG members voting in a year in which their term of office expires and prior to the AERA annual meeting by postal or e-mail balloting. In the event that an officer resigns during their term of office, an election for that position shall follow normal election procedures in that year. If an officer fails to attend the duly called annual business meeting a replacement can be nominated and elected by the SIG/BNE members in attendance at the duly called annual business meeting. The elected officers shall comprise the Executive Committee of SIG/BNE and shall conduct all business of the SIG in the interim between the annual business meetings.

Section 2 -- Eligibility. All members in good standing of both AERA and SIG/BNE shall be eligible for election as officers.

Section 3 -- Offices. The following offices shall compose the executive committee of SIG/BNE: (1) President; (2) Program Chair; (3) Secretary/Treasurer. Persons to assist these officers or to carry out other work of the SIG may be appointed by the President.

Section 4 -- Terms. The term of office shall be for normally be 2 years, unless extenuating circumstances related to the succession of officers require that an officer hold a the position for an additional year; in that case officers must be elected for the additional year. Terms of office of the President, Program Chair and Secretary Treasurer shall expire after two years at the end of the final year's annual AERA meeting. No person may serve in any single office for more than 3 consecutive years. The Program Chair will ascend to the office of President without a vote, unless a majority of SIG/BNE members object. If any officer resigns or fails to attend the SIG Business Meeting at the annual meeting, candidates can be nominated and elected to replace them.

Section 5 -- Election Procedures. Each year prior to the annual AERA meeting the President, in consultation with the Executive Committee, shall appoint a Nominating Committee of no less than 2 and no more than 4 persons. The Nominating Committee shall present the slate of candidates to the SIG/BNE members, and the designated Chair of the Nominating Committee shall specify a ballot due date as part of dissemination of ballots and shall receive ballots by postal and/or e-mail. Candidates are entitled to include with the ballot a statement not exceeding 400 words The Chair of the Nominating Committee shall announce the outcomes of the elections to the Executive Committee and all candidates at least 1 week prior to beginning of the AERA annual meeting. Election shall require a majority of votes cast; a tie vote shall be broken by a coin flip conducted at the AERA annual meeting by the Chair of the Nominating Committee or in the Chair's absence a designee of the outgoing Executive Committee.

Article VII: Duties of Officers

Section 1 -- President. The President shall be responsible for the general

administration of the SIG/BNE and act as liaison between the SIG and AERA. The President shall preside at all meetings of the Executive Committee and at the annual business meeting. The President shall appoint ad hoc committees as needed. The President shall determine how sessions at the annual meeting will be allocated by type of session. The President shall be responsible for organizing all invited sessions for the AERA annual meetings during their term of office. The President may, at their desertion, delegate all responsibilities for organizing sessions to the Program Chair. The President shall compile and disseminate a newsletter by e-mail or other means at least once a year. The President shall be responsible for any official correspondence.

Section 2 – Program Chair. The Program Chair shall organize all submitted paper sessions for the AERA annual meetings during their term of office. Papers will be included in the submitted paper sessions when consensus on their inclusion is reached between the Program Chair and the President.

Section 3 -- Secretary/Treasurer. The secretary/treasurer shall be responsible for the safe keeping of all financial documents and meeting minutes of SIG/BNE.

Article VIII: Meetings

Section 1 -- Annual Meetings. There shall be a SIG/BNE business meeting held each year in conjunction with the AERA annual meeting. Arrangements for the time and place of this meeting are the responsibility of the Program Chair.

Section 2 -- Governing Procedures. Issues of procedure not covered by these bylaws shall be governed by Roberts Rules of Order (Revised).

Article IX: Ratification and Amendments

Section 1 -- Ratification. These bylaws shall take effect upon a two-thirds vote of those members voting at a duly called business meeting or a two-thirds of the membership by postal or e-mail voting.

Section 2 -- Amendments. These bylaws may be amended by two-thirds of those members voting at either the annual business meeting or by e-mail. All proposed amendments must be submitted for review by the Executive Committee at least 7 days prior to the annual business meeting.

Article X: Discontinuation

In the event that the purpose of SIG/BNE is fulfilled by another organization or it is unable to maintain membership in AERA, the organization may be discontinued by a vote requiring approval of at least two-thirds of the members of the SIG. Should SIG/BNE discontinue, its assets shall be used to pay all outstanding debts and obligations. Any remaining funds shall be donated to the American Educational Research Association.

Article XI: Advisory Board

An advisory board shall exist to provide support and recommendations to the Executive Committee. The board will consist of the three most recent willing past BNE SIG presidents and three neuroscience researchers appointed by the President. The appointees shall serve at the President's discretion.

Footnotes

[1](Attn: SIG Liaison; AERA; 1230 17th Street; Washington, DC 20036-3078)

[2]The "SIG Renewal Form" is distributed with AERA membership renewal forms, or may be downloaded from Web URL: "**http://www.aera.net/member**".