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## Special Interest Group: Faculty and Instructional Development in Higher Education

Robert E. Young

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# Associations

## Special Interest Group: Faculty and Instructional Development in Higher Education

ROBERT E. YOUNG

POD has a new partner. Members of the American Educational Research Association (AERA) have created a special interest group in the faculty, instructional, and organizational development area. Many POD members, also members of AERA, have been active in the early activities of the group.

The SIG was formed to provide another channel among specialists in these areas and to provide a link for AERA members to other groups and organizations. It was also created to give instructional improvement in higher education a visible place within AERA, and to provide an organization and network for students entering the field.

At last April's AERA conference the SIG sponsored a session on the future of faculty and instructional development. They will present this kind of program each year at the AERA meeting. Also, they co-sponsored with POD a session on research in faculty, instructional and organizational development.

POD, through the Membership and Professional Relations Committee, has worked to develop an effective working relationship with the SIG. The members of this group represent an important constituency in our field. Before POD was created many of us involved in instructional and organizational development found AERA our most appropriate forum and place to meet. The new SIG will generate interest in instructional improvement in higher education among educational researchers. And, it can stimulate POD and our mem-

bers, especially in using and doing research. AERA publications (*Educational Researcher*, *American Educational Research Journal*, *Review of Educational Research*, *Review of Research in Education*) present a broad and up-to-date reporting of what's going on in educational research and development.

For more information or to join AERA and the SIG, contact George Geis, Chairman (McGill University, Centre for Learning and Development, Montreal, PQ, Canada H3A 2K6). The other officers for this year are Larry Alexander (Michigan State University), Dan Coldeway (Athabasca University, Alberta), LuAnn Wilkerson (Murray State University), and Bob Young (Virginia Commonwealth University).