

The IEA/ETS Research Institute



The IEA/ETS Research Institute (www.IERInstitute.org)

What is it?

- Collaborative agreement between the IEA and Educational Testing Service (ETS)
- Focus on improving the science of large scale assessment
- Undertakes activities around three broad areas:
 - ✓ Research studies related to the development and implementation of large-scale assessments
 - ✓ Professional development and training
 - ✓ Dissemination of research findings and information gathered through large-scale assessments

Why come together?

- Common interest in improving the science of large scale assessment
- Areas of common interest:
 - ✓ Design and planning
 - ✓ Data collection
 - ✓ Data processing
 - ✓ Data analysis
 - ✓ Reporting
 - ✓ Making use of results
- Not the first time ETS collaborates in IEA activities

Research Activities

- A “Virtual” Institute
- Research Agenda
- Make available consulting and advisory resources to researchers wishing to conduct policy or methodology related studies
 - ✓ Identify relevant policy issues
 - ✓ Identify analytical strategies most appropriate for providing and analyzing data to address these issues
 - ✓ Apply statistical techniques and other research methodologies

Research Activities

- Research Priorities:
 - ✓ Develop a more scientific approach to the development, use and interpretability of background questionnaires
 - ✓ Develop new constructs that extend the policy issues that might be addressed by these assessments
 - ✓ Improve the measurement of cognitive domains
 - ✓ Investigate effects of increased emphasis on the role of technology
 - ✓ Identify thematic issues for guiding secondary analyses

Training Activities

- Workshops and seminars
 - ✓ Thematic
 - ✓ Making use of specific data
- IERI Academy
 - ✓ Twice a year
 - Categorical Data Analysis
 - Using PIRLS 2006 and PISA 2006 data
 - Test Designs, IRT and Estimating Scores (2!!)
- AERA and NCME Workshops
- Internship and fellowship programs
 - ✓ Optimizing rotation designs for LSA

Dissemination Activities

- Sponsor a Monograph Series
 - ✓ Published annually
 - ✓ 5-7 papers
 - ✓ Peer reviewed
 - Receive favorable technical, substantive, and editorial review
- Sponsor other publications that contribute to the advancement of the field