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**Teaching Chats ~ Developing a Department Culture of Talking About Teaching** RUDI MICHALAK, University of Wyoming, Dept. of Physics and Astronomy — As everywhere in academia, when one looks close enough, one will find a somewhat split culture within physics departments: In this case, focus on research and focus on teaching. With the changing physics course preparedness that freshmen are bringing to college it is now more important than ever to include research focused faculty into the development of teaching. Faculty from education departments has done its part, but often there seems to be some disconnect between “hardcore” (read: research) physicists and the views that have developed in education departments. The author wants to champion the opinion that a little bit of truth in both points of view and that a third way can be defined by engaging all faculty in casual, but compassionate, regular meetings and talks about teaching challenges, techniques and technologies, and thus raising awareness and interest in the teaching of undergraduate physics.

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