

The Why, Where, and How of Making a Difference in Public Policy

By William C. Howell, Chair, HFES Government Relations Committee (GRC)

Every now and then, HFES, via your GRC or those to whom it has delegated responsibility for handling specific public policy matters, becomes an advocate for or against some legislation, proposed regulations, or other policy moves with implications for the HF/E field. We do this in a number of ways, depending upon the time-sensitivity, HF/E specialty (or specialties) of greatest relevance, and the extent to which we're collaborating with other organizations. When time is of the essence, and if the issue affects only a segment of the HF/E field, we may direct e-mails to targeted membership lists (e.g., selected TGs), or even well-established subject-matter experts. When the issue has general significance but time is short, we rely on Web postings and blast e-mails to the entire membership. When developments are proceeding at a more leisurely pace, we are also likely to present and explain the issue in the *HFES Bulletin* under the "Public Policy Matters" (PPM) banner, along with a call for interested members to become involved.

In many cases, policy issues of concern to HF/E are also of interest to other organizations, such as the American Psychological Association (APA), the Federation of Associations in Behavioral & Brain Sciences (FABBS, of which HFES is a member), the Product Safety Engineering Society (PSES) of IEEE, the American Society of Safety Engineers (ASSE), and others with which we collaborate on specific advocacy initiatives. In such cases, HFES may sign on *corporately* to actions crafted by these organizations, or—when time permits and the situation calls for it—we may participate with them in grassroots efforts. And that's where *you* come in. Instead of (or in addition to) acting corporately, we sometimes call upon HFES members to weigh in as *individuals*. In what follows, we will explain why this is important and what you can do to give your voice the best chance of being heard. But first, a bit of context.

How Policyworld Works (abbreviated and sanitized version)

It may come as a surprise to some of you, but decisions made at the federal level—be it legislation or regulations—tend to be influenced as much or more by anecdotal rather than scientific evidence, especially if it comes from an elected official's congressional district or state constituency. Votes cast by these officials rely heavily on their (often very youthful) staffs for guidance, and the latter are particularly sensitive to input via letters, e-mail, phone calls, or personal visits from constituents. For instance, a handful of constituent letters attacking the conduct, funding, or nature of specific research or its application can often trump a boatload of data supporting it. The same is true for input on proposed regulations and other policy decisions.

Naturally, corporate advocacy efforts from organizations representing various special interests also carry weight—some (notably those able to pour big bucks into campaign coffers) more than others (such as those representing HF/E). HFES and those cited above are limited in what they can do by virtue of their tax-exempt status. (Under section 501(c)(3) of the IRS code, they are classified as charitable organizations, prohibited from any "attempt to influence legislation as a substantial part of its activities and it may not participate in any campaign activity for or against political candidates.") Nevertheless, they (we) do have advocacy tools at our disposal. For example, representation by professional advocates (lobbyists or "hired guns") is permitted on a limited basis, and informed corporate input is often

welcomed or even solicited. (The line between advocacy and lobbying is very fuzzy, generally defined by some dollar amount that, given its budget, HFES could never exceed. Politically speaking, however, it is best to refer to anything we do to influence policy as advocacy rather than lobbying.) Of course, input from individual citizens is not subject to IRS regulations, so organizations can and do orchestrate effective grassroots campaigns by appealing to their members for concerted action. As noted earlier, the GRC has made such appeals to HFES members on a limited basis in the past, but in an open-ended fashion without any guidance as to how to proceed. Starting with this article, we intend to change that.

Guidelines for Responding to Calls for Grassroots Participation

As a citizen, you have the right to contact your elected representatives on any issue of interest or concern to you—professional or otherwise. As an HF/E professional, you can be instrumental in doing so on behalf of the field and, if you believe HF/E has societal value, on behalf of society as well. Whether in response to an orchestrated grassroots appeal by HFES or of your own accord, the way in which you register your opinion has a great deal to do with its impact. For example, even if you're participating in a big grassroots campaign initiated by HFES or some other organization, adapting your message to your local situation will give it added weight.

In short, how you craft your letter or e-mail, or how you prepare for a phone call or visit to your representative's office—locally or in DC—matters a lot. Recognizing this some years ago, APA's Barbara Caulkins, a senior staff member in their Government Affairs Office, put together a comprehensive guide for member participation. Although the guide was revised several times in response to changing conditions, the core message has remained intact.

In seeking to provide similar guidance to HFES members, your GRC opted against re-inventing the wheel and instead approached the current APA Science Government Relations Office for permission to adapt its document for our use. Recognizing that HFES shares APA's position on many policy issues and can provide a somewhat more applied perspective in advocating for them, they welcomed our request. Heather Kelly at APA provided us with the latest version of these guidelines, and with the able assistance of the HFES staff we have fashioned a version for your consideration. We invite you to refer to it whenever the GRC asks you to participate in some grassroots effort, or when the spirit moves you to act on your own. Judging from the public's dismal approval rating of our current Congress, it would appear that there's a lot to be bothered about.

In conclusion, you can find *An HFES Guide to Participation in Federal Policymaking* on the HFES Web site at http://www.hfes.org/web/publicpolicymatters/advocacy_guide.pdf. We sincerely hope you will look it up whether or not you intend to participate in advocacy activities, because it contains information that every citizen should know but many of us don't or have forgotten.

MORE ON PUBLIC POLICY

FABBS Advocacy: Why It's Important to Scientists

On January 17, Federation of Associations in Behavioral & Brain Sciences (FABBS) Executive Director Paula Skedsvold released a statement to the public—specifically the thousands of scientists who belong to organizations within FABBS—describing her vision for advocacy and education through FABBS and the FABBS Foundation.

Skedsvold notes, "My vision is to work with scientists and advocates to change the view of our sciences and the support it receives from the President, all levels and branches of government, and the public at large. . . . To not recognize and support the sciences of mind, brain, and behavior is a disservice to science, the country, and future generations.... Our fi-

nancial resources are minimal, but we leverage them with the support and efforts of our scientists, including you, the members of our boards, and the efforts of allied organizations. I look forward to working with you to advance our sciences for the benefit of society.”

The full article can be found at <http://bit.ly/w1sH9W>.

For more information about FABBS and its advocacy efforts, visit <http://www.fabbs.org>. Sign up online to receive monthly FABBS news and action alerts at <http://www.fabbs.org/news/sign-up>.

INSIDE HFES

Ergonomics in Design Is 20!

By Carol Stuart-Buttle, Editor in Chief

Ergonomics in Design has an exciting year ahead. The January issue looks very different—Volume 20 features the first major redesign since *EID* began publication in 1993. Also during this notable year, we will offer podcasts featuring interviews that showcase the work published in *EID*, and are planning a special issue on global ergonomics, guest edited by Thomas J. Smith, to reflect the international prominence of HF/E.

The first issue of our anniversary year, available online at <http://erg.sagepub.com>, illustrates the rich spectrum of articles we offer, from discussion of fundamentals such as task analysis, to an applied example about product design. The articles have broad appeal because they present take-home messages that can be used in other domains and circumstances.

In response to requests for a link between research and practice, we will be launching an *EID* Web page that incorporates a blog and provides an opportunity for human factors/ergonomics professionals to exchange ideas. This new *EID* site will serve as a forum that we anticipate will become the “go-to” page for our profession and those interested in our field.

Since its launch, *EID* has served as an important resource for human factors/ergonomics professionals seeking information about the usability of products, systems, tools, and environments. Leading HF/E professionals speak about the value of *EID* for their careers:

EID provides a very important function for those of us in the HF/E profession: the opportunity to translate our research into practical applications that impact the effectiveness of systems and quality of life for technology users. It is a great opportunity to get our work out there where it is needed.—Mica R. Endsley, HFES President; President, SA Technologies

Over the years, I have used many articles from *Ergonomics in Design* in my HF/E courses. In each issue of *EID*, there are articles that connect science and application. These grab the students’ attention and have led to interesting discussions.—William F. Moroney, PhD, CPE, Professor Emeritus, Department of Psychology, University of Dayton

As a consultant, I am always looking for new ways to approach design and usability problems to get suitable solutions for clients’ products. *EID* does that for me for a variety of situations.—Stanley H. Caplan, President, Usability Associates

Celebrating *EID*’s 20th anniversary is an opportunity to thank everyone who pioneered *Ergonomics in Design* and the many people who supported the journal throughout the years. Thanks are certainly due to the past editors for their time and commitment, the many Editorial Board members and reviewers who have evaluated the articles, the authors who have submitted their articles for publication, and, of course, the readers.

Register to Attend the Health-Care Symposium

Symposium on Human Factors
and Ergonomics in Health Care:
BRIDGING THE GAP



March 12-14, 2012
Marriott Baltimore Waterfront Hotel
Baltimore, Maryland, USA

Don't miss the opportunity to attend the Society's first-ever Symposium on Human Factors and Ergonomics in Health Care, to be held March 12-14 at the Baltimore Marriott Waterfront Hotel. Note that the symposium is limited in size to create a highly interactive atmosphere.

Have you registered yet? Rates are higher if you wait to register on site. HFES members can save \$100 and students can save \$25 by taking advantage of online registration. Register today at <http://www.hfes.org/Web/EventDetails.aspx?EventID=10>.

Download the preliminary program at
<http://www.hfes.org/web/HFESmeetings/hcsprogram.pdf>.

Book your room soon! The HFES room block is nearly filled. Place your reservation at https://resweb.passkey.com/Resweb.do?mode=welcome_gi_new&groupID=3732034.

Bookmark the main symposium Web page for regular updates: <http://www.hfes.org/web/HFESMeetings/HealthCareSymposium.html>.

Submit Your Product Design Research for the Human Factors Prize



The Human Factors and Ergonomics Society welcomes your submission for the 2012 *Human Factors* Prize: Recognizing Excellence in Human Factors/Ergonomics Research. The prize winner will receive \$10,000 and publication in the Society's flagship journal, *Human Factors*. Plan to submit your work between June 1 and July 1, 2012.

The 2012 topic is **the human factors/ergonomics science behind product design**. We seek articles that describe HF/E research that strengthens our understanding of the human-product interface, usability, and safety.

Eligibility requirements are as follows:

- Any researcher is eligible to submit relevant work; **membership in HFES is not required**.
- Submissions must cover original (unpublished) research in the topical area and comply with the requirements in the Instructions for Authors (<https://www.hfes.org/web/pubpages/hfauthorinfo.html>).
- Review articles and brief reports are not eligible.
- Submissions must not be received before June 1 or after July 1, 2012.

The winner will be announced on August 15 and invited to make a presentation about the work during a session at the HFES 56th Annual Meeting, to be held October 22-26 at the Westin Boston Waterfront in Boston, Massachusetts.

For more information, visit the *Human Factors* Prize Web page at <http://www.hfes.org/web/pubpages/hfprize.html>.

Update Your Member Record for the *Directory & Yearbook*

Be sure to update your member record at www.hfes.org so that your correct information will appear in the *2012–2013 Directory and Yearbook*. Updates must be made by **March 9**. To enter updates, simply log in at hfes.org with your username and password. If you have forgotten your login ID, please contact the Member Services Department at 310/394-1811, membership@hfes.org.

HFES publishes only the business contact address for every member; if a business address is not available, the home address will appear unless you have asked us not to publish it. (To omit your home address, please contact the Member Services Department.)

Members who prefer to conserve natural resources by accessing the membership directory exclusively online may opt out of receiving the printed version. If you prefer not to get a printed directory, please contact Member Services.

Member Milestones: **Stuart O. Parsons**



Stuart “Stu” Overton Parsons passed away December 22, 2011, at the age of 85. Born in Denver, Colorado, on August 11, 1926, Stu attended East High School. He earned a BA in psychology from the University of Colorado and MA and PhD degrees from the University of Southern California (USC). He worked for Lockheed Martin for 33 years as a manager of Systems Effectiveness Engineering.

Stu taught part-time at USC and San Jose State University from 1962 to 2002. From 1985 to 2006, he was president of Parsons & Associates, a consultancy serving prominent industrial and legal organizations. In October 2011, he was awarded the HFES Arnold M. Small President’s Distinguished Service Award for his lifetime of contributions in the field of human factors/ergonomics, including breakthrough developments for NASA and GE.

Beginning with active duty during World War II, Stu had a long military career in the Navy and Air Force Reserves, retiring as a colonel in 1983. He was a member of the National Ski Patrol and enjoyed swimming, bridge, and golf with his wife, Harriet. He also loved to travel and visited all 50 states and more than 65 countries, often taking along the entire family. He was a member of the Episcopal Church and the Sigma Chi Fraternity.

Stu will be remembered for his storytelling, sense of humor, political and social awareness, unwavering loyalty to friends, and his limitless dedication and love for his family. His body gave out before his spirit.

Stu is survived by his loving wife of 56 years, Harriet Jaggard Parsons; three daughters (and their spouses), Carol (Dave Tousley), Cynthia (James Davis), and Pamela (Chris Blackwell); five grandchildren and three great-grandchildren; as well as many cherished friends and associates.

Member Milestones: **Sheryl L. Chappell**



HFES member Sheryl L. Chappell has joined the National Transportation Safety Board as deputy chief of the Safety Recommendations and Quality Assurance Division in Washington, D.C. Her work involves developing and advocating safety recommendations resulting from investigations of transportation accidents and safety research. She may be contacted at sherry.chappell@teampatriot.com.

Entries Invited for 2012 Stanley H. Caplan User-Centered Product Design Award

By Dianne McMullin & Stan Caplan, Cochairs, PDTG Award Committee

The Product Design Technical Group (PDTG) welcomes submissions for its 11th Annual Stanley Caplan User-Centered Product Design Award. The award emphasizes innovative and user-centered approaches to HF/E and industrial design. For the past 10 years, PDTG has recognized outstanding product design and the methods used to specify and achieve that design, and we invite you to help us celebrate our 11th anniversary.

This year's winning product or system will be recognized during the HFES 2012 Annual Meeting at the Westin Boston Waterfront in Boston, Massachusetts. The winner will receive a \$1,000 honorarium and make a presentation on the product and the development methodology during the PDTG's award session.

Submissions may address products, software, or systems that are purchased for use in the home, in the workplace, or while mobile. They may include consumer, commercial, and medical products but exclude military equipment and systems. The product or system being nominated must be operational and capable of being marketed with no more than minimal changes. Products already on the market for more than three years will not be considered.

You may submit nominations for your own work or that of others. The nominee must be a member of HFES or of PDTG but does not have to be a member of both. If a team is nominated, at least one person from the team must be an HFES or PDTG member.

Submit your nominations in electronic form. Complete submission requirements and information about past winners are available at the PDTG Web site: <http://tg.hfes.org/pdtg>. Submissions must include descriptions of how the product or process meets the following judging criteria:

- **Functional obviousness.** On first impression, does the design speak to the user in a way that makes the product appealing and apparently easy to use?
- **Ease of operation.** How easy is it to learn and perform tasks in various applicable usage modes (e.g., setup, normal use, failure recovery)?
- **Creativity/innovation.** How is this product unique compared with similar products? How do usability and styling take advantage of product technology?
- **Concept development.** How was new user input created or past user data applied to influence the product or system concept?
- **Design.** How were user data generated or used for specifying design parameters or making design decisions?
- **Evaluation.** What was done to assess the usability of the product design and the need for improvement? This could include iterative assessments made during the design process or feedback obtained in the market that could be used for subsequent versions of the product.

The deadline for submitting award nominations is **May 25**. Submit details as specified on the PDTG Web site via e-mail to Dianne McMullin at dianne.l.mcmullin@boeing.com. Judges will declare a winner the latter part of July and may also identify submissions for honorable mention.

For more information or to volunteer to serve as a judge on the award selection panel, please contact Stan Caplan at scaplan@usabilityassociates.com.

Are You LinkedIn?

The HFES LinkedIn group is now more than 4,500 members strong! If you haven't already taken advantage of the variety of networking tools that LinkedIn offers, join today and

connect with thousands of HF/E professionals from around the world to discuss hot topics with like-minded colleagues. Members are welcome to start discussions, pose questions, and share interesting news and research.

The following is just a small sample of recent questions and posts:

- guidelines for designing workstations with multiple computer monitors (34 comments)
- references that address the ergonomics of clothes, dress, and personal protective equipment (16 comments)
- distracted driving (10 comments)
- control room design for 24/7 industrial environments (5 comments)
- making an office ergonomics presentation fun and interactive (12 comments)
- research that shows improved decision-making based on ideas coming out the heuristics and biases paradigm (20 comments)
- speedometer designs (21 comments)

Join the official HFES LinkedIn group today (LinkedIn account creation required). For additional updates on HFES happenings, “like” our [Facebook page](#) and join our 400+ followers on [Twitter](#) (@HFES).

HFES Online Graduate Directory Update

Did you know that students make up about 15% of the overall HFES membership? Students are critical to the current and future vitality of the Society and the human factors/ergonomics profession. To continue fostering this special relationship, HFES provides a number of free resources for students, in addition to regular membership benefits (complimentary subscriptions, discounts on other publications and annual meeting registration fees, and free résumé posting).

One of these resources is the online Directory of Human Factors/Ergonomics Graduate Programs in the United States and Canada. The online graduate directory assists prospective graduate students with information to make a preliminary selection of graduate programs for further consideration.

If you have a graduate program listing in the directory, or one you’d like to list, please provide entries and updates to HFES Managing Editor Cameron Wile (cameron@hfes.org). To submit a new program for consideration, download the listing form (Word document) from http://www.hfes.org/web/Students/grad_programs.html. Updates will be completed in the spring, in the order received.

WEBINARS

February Webinar: Thomas B. Sheridan Addresses Human-Automation Interaction

Registration is now open for the February 21 webinar, “**Authority, Responsibility, Adaptivity, and Cooperation in Human-Automation Interaction,**” presented by Thomas B. Sheridan, Ford Professor of Engineering and Applied Psychology Emeritus at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Members can register at <https://www2.gotomeeting.com/register/681975706>. The webinar will be held at the following times:

9:30–11:00 a.m. Pacific
10:30 a.m.–12:00 noon Mountain

11:30 a.m.–1:00 p.m. Central
12:30–2:00 p.m. Eastern
5:30–7:00 p.m. GMT

HFES webinars are free for members. Nonmember registration is also available for \$125 or \$40 for nonmember students at <https://www.hfes.org/Web/EventDetails.aspx?EventID=16>.

About the Webinar

The words in this webinar’s title have interrelated and sometimes controversial meanings. Currently they are used by researchers to discuss salient issues concerning how people and machines do or should relate to one another in complex aviation, highway, military, medical, and industrial systems.

In this webinar, Sheridan will address the following questions:

- Should or can authority and responsibility always go together?
- Should humans always be in charge, as sometimes implied by the term “human-centered”?
- How smart and how useful can we expect decision support tools to be?
- How much information is too much information for a user to assimilate and utilize in the available time?
- What are the relations between levels of automation and adaptive automation in both direct and supervisory control?
- What does it take for humans and computers to “cooperate”?
- What are the trade-offs to designing for surprise?
- What are the hard-earned lessons from our experience in blaming people for failures?
- Should “automation policy” be developed to guide the design, operation, and management of highly automated systems so as to improve safety and efficiency?

About the Presenter

Thomas B. Sheridan is Ford Professor of Engineering and Applied Psychology Emeritus at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology in the Departments of Mechanical Engineering and Aeronautics-Astronautics. He has an SM from the University of California, Los Angeles, and an ScD from MIT. At MIT he headed the Human-Machine Systems Lab, doing research on aviation, highway, rail, and nuclear plant safety, as well as space, undersea, and medical telerobotics and other topics. Many of his graduate students are now faculty, and three are current astronauts. Sheridan is a consultant to the U.S. Department of Transportation Volpe Center and recently served as Chief Systems Engineer for Human Factors for the Federal Aviation Administration.

Tom is a past president of both HFES and the Systems, Man and Cybernetics Society of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE). He is the author or editor of five books on human performance modeling and more than 200 technical papers. He has served on numerous committees of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission and other government agencies. Sheridan is the recipient of various honors from HFES, IEEE, and the American Society of Mechanical Engineers, as well as an honorary doctorate from Delft University of Technology, Netherlands, and membership in the National Academy of Engineering.

Save the Dates for Spring 2012 Webinars

HFES Immediate Past President Anthony D. (Tony) Andre has lined up an impressive series of webinars for the year. Here are just a few upcoming events:

March 20: Human Factors/Ergonomics Standards

Paul A. Green, *Research Professor, University of Michigan Transportation Research Institute and Adjunct Associate Professor, Industrial and Operations Engineering*
9:30–11:00 a.m. Pacific / 10:30 a.m.–12:00 noon Mountain / 11:30 a.m.–1:00 p.m. Central / 12:30–2:00 p.m. Eastern / 5:30–7:00 p.m. GMT

April 23: Cognitive Performance Metrics

Gavan Lintern, *Private Consultant, Cognitive Systems Design*
12:00 noon–1:30 p.m. Pacific / 1:00–2:30 p.m. Mountain / 2:00–3:30 p.m. Central / 3:00–4:30 p.m. Eastern / 8:00–9:30 p.m. GMT

May 24 : Questionnaire Design: A Systems Approach

William F. Moroney, *Professor Emeritus, University of Dayton*
9:30–11:00 a.m. Pacific / 10:30 a.m.–12:00 noon Mountain / 11:30 a.m.–1:00 p.m. Central / 12:30–2:00 p.m. Eastern / 5:30–7:00 p.m. GMT

A list of all 2012 offerings in the HFES Webinar Series can be found online at <https://www.hfes.org/Web/Webinars/WebinarsMain.html>. Registration links and more detailed information about each webinar will be added in the near future, so be sure to bookmark the Webinars page.

CHAPTERS

NEC 2011 Student Research Conference a Success

By Christopher R. Reid, Chair, New England Chapter Program, and Sylvain Bruni, Secretary, New England Chapter

On October 14, 2011, the HFES New England Chapter (HFES-NEC) held its Annual Student Research Conference at Microsoft's New England Research and Development (NERD) Center in Cambridge, Massachusetts. The conference drew more than 70 HF/E professionals, students, and faculty members from local companies, agencies, and MIT, Northeastern University, Tufts University, the University of Massachusetts at Amherst and at Lowell, Harvard, and the University of New Hampshire. The conference provided an encouraging atmosphere for the 18 graduate and undergraduate student researchers who gave presentations. Because of the large number of submissions this year, a poster session was created, where six student research projects were displayed.

In addition to student presentations and posters, the conference featured a keynote address by Richard Gardner, a Technical Fellow at the Boeing Company and lead ergonomist for Boeing's 787 Dreamliner aircraft. Gardner's presentation, titled "The Boeing 787 Dreamliner Program: A Focus on Design for Manufacturing Ergonomics," centered on ergonomics issues and solutions behind manufacturing large-body, twin-isle aircraft such as the 747 and the newly minted 787.

At the end of the conference, members of the HFES-NEC board presented awards for three student projects: two for best overall presentation and one for "Best Transportation Presentation" by the Volpe National Transportation Systems Center. Our sincere congratulations go to the following students:

- HFES-NEC Best Presentation Awards
Matthieu Trudeau, Harvard School of Public Health: "Thumb Motor Performance Varies According to Thumb and Wrist Posture During Single-Handed Mobile Phone Use"

Stacey Cunningham, Tufts University: “Robotic-Assisted Minimally Invasive Surgery: Communication in a Complex Sociotechnical System”

- Volpe Best Transportation Presentation Award

Radhameris A. Gómez, University of Massachusetts, Amherst, “Evaluating the Effect of Advance Yield Markings on Vehicle-Pedestrian Conflicts at Marked Mid-block Crosswalks Across Multilane Roads: A Simulator Study”

By all accounts, this conference was a great success! In addition to record attendance and record submissions, the event doubled as a recruiting event for the chapter.

HFES-NEC thanks the conference sponsors for their continued patronage: Microsoft, Aptima, Charles River Analytics, Volpe, and Liberty Mutual.

For more information about the HFES New England Chapter, visit our website at www.nechfes.org.

Christopher Reid completed his doctoral degree in industrial engineering with an HF/E focus at the University of Central Florida. He is a senior human factors design engineer with the Lockheed Martin Corporation. Sylvain Bruni is a human systems engineer at Aptima, Inc. His research focuses on human-automation collaborative systems, multimodal user interfaces, human-in-the-loop experimentation, and the statistical analysis of human-centered system data. Bruni is a doctoral candidate in aeronautics and astronautics at MIT's Humans and Automation Laboratory.

OTHER NEWS

CSULB to Hold 7th Annual Regional Human Factors Conference

The California State University, Long Beach (CSULB), HFES Regional Conference will be held in the Psychology Building on March 3. The annual event is a forum to promote the exchange of ideas in all areas of human factors/ergonomics as well as an opportunity to meet students not only from CSULB's human factors psychology master's program but also other schools in the area.

Invited speakers will address a wide range of issues of interest to practitioners, researchers, and students in the HF/E field. This year's speakers include Mark Conger of Northrop Grumman Aerospace Systems, Jason Yow of CORE Games @ Disney, and Mark Pestana of NASA's Dryden Flight Research Center. A poster session will showcase HF/E research and projects.

For more information about the conference, go to <http://csulbstudentlife.orgsync.com/org/hfes/studentconference>.

FPE Presents 2011 Ergonomics Award

Radin Zaid Radin Umar, a student at Ohio State University, received the 2011 Dieter W. Jahns Student Practitioner Award during the HFES 56th Annual Meeting in Las Vegas. Umar is the second recipient of the award, which is sponsored by the Foundation for Professional Ergonomics (FPE), a nonprofit organization dedicated to advancing professionalism in ergonomics. The award was created in honor of Dieter Jahns, a life-long advocate of the practice of ergonomics and a leader in ergonomics certification.



Karel Jahns presenting the 2011 award to Radin Zaid Radin Umar.

Umar won the award for “Ergonomic Interventional Design of an Articulated Arm for Echocardiography Application.” The project focused on the high prevalence of musculoskeletal issues among cardiac sonographers, including prolonged probe pinching, forceful exertions, awkward postures, and prolonged maintenance of static postures. He designed an articulating arm that uses a simple locking mechanism to reduce these exposures. Developing a functional prototype, he pilot-tested it among cardiac sonographers in a clinic setting.

At the time of the award, Umar was in his first year of a PhD program in integrated systems engineering and plans to return to his home, Malaysia, upon completion of his degree. He stated, “I’m honored to be this year’s recipient of the Dieter W. Jahns Student Practitioner Award. It inspires me to continue pursuing my passion, which is to apply ergonomics knowledge to the betterment of workplaces. It also motivates me to work harder and increase my competencies in solving real-world problems.”

Certificates of appreciation were presented to runners-up Mary H. Schaeffer, Northeastern University, for her project on goal-directed task analysis, and Esme Shanley, Loughborough University, for her project on the design of animal-care centers.

The Dieter W. Jahns Student Practitioner Award is an annual achievement given to a student (or group of students) for an ergonomics project that demonstrates the major practice areas of ergonomics: analysis, design, and evaluation. The purpose of the award is to advance professionalism in ergonomics by recognizing educational activities that demonstrate how professional ergonomists serve to make our lives at work and at home healthier, safer, more productive, and more satisfying. The award is open to master’s and doctoral students in ergonomics and ergonomics-related programs. Students who have completed their graduate degrees within a year of submitting are also eligible. For complete details on criteria and format, please visit <http://www.ergofoundation.org>.

CALENDAR

March 2012

[Cal State Long Beach HFES Student Chapter 7th Annual Regional Human Factors Conference](#),
March 3, Long Beach, CA.

[2012 Symposium on Human Factors and Ergonomics in Health Care: Bridging the Gap](#),
March 12-14, Marriott Baltimore Waterfront Hotel,
Baltimore, MD.

BRIMS 2012: 21st Annual Conference on Behavior Representation in Modeling Simulation, March 12-15, Amelia Island, FL,
<http://brimsconference.org/submissions/>.

Bulletin



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Safety Sciences Tenure-Track Faculty Position

Positions: The Department of Safety Sciences at Indiana University of Pennsylvania (IUP) invites applications for two (2) tenure-track positions at the Assistant Professor rank beginning August 2012. IUP offers a B.S. in Safety Sciences, an M.S. in Safety Sciences, and a recently approved Ph.D. in Safety Sciences. The M.S. and Ph.D. programs are offered through online and summer course formats.

Qualifications: A doctorate in safety sciences or related field is required by time of appointment. Candidates must also possess a master's degree in safety sciences or closely related field (e.g., industrial hygiene, ergonomics), possess a current certification in the safety field (e.g., CSP, CIH, CPE) or be eligible and willing to become certified. Candidates with an established track record of professional work in the field, teaching, scholarship, and service are preferred. Candidates must communicate effectively and perform well during the interview(s) which will include a teaching demonstration. All applicants must be work eligible.

Responsibilities: Candidates will be expected to develop and teach courses in the M.S. and Ph.D. degree programs. Candidates should have a strong background in research methods and will be expected to chair thesis and dissertation committees, construct and grade written comprehensive examinations, and chair defenses of dissertation proposals and dissertations. In addition to teaching responsibilities, candidates are required to meet continuing scholarly growth requirements which include publishing scholarly work and presenting work at professional conferences. Candidates will be expected to fulfill service responsibilities to the University and profession. The successful candidates will be required to provide instruction through distance education and possibly at off campus locations.

How to Apply: Applicants should submit a cover letter, curriculum vitae, graduate and undergraduate transcripts (official transcripts required before hiring), and three letters of recommendation to: Faculty Search Committee, Department of Safety Sciences, Indiana University of Pennsylvania, 117 Johnson Hall, 1010 Oakland Avenue, Indiana, PA 15705. Please indicate that you are applying for the tenure-track position. Review of applications will begin March 15, 2012. For full consideration, completed applications are due by March 15, 2012 and will continue until the position is filled.

Questions regarding the tenure-track positions for the M.S. and Ph.D. programs should be directed to Dr. Christopher Janicak, 724-357-3274 or e-mail cjanicak@iup.edu. To contact the Department, call 724-357-3017, Fax 724-357-3992, or visit www.iup.edu/safetysciences.

IUP is an equal opportunity employer M/F/H/V. Indiana University of Pennsylvania is a member of the Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education.

PLAN TO ATTEND!



2012

Symposium on Human Factors and Ergonomics in Health Care: B R I D G I N G T H E G A P

March 12–14, 2012
Baltimore Marriott Waterfront Hotel
Baltimore, Maryland

The Human Factors and Ergonomics Society invites you to attend the 2012 Symposium on Human Factors and Ergonomics in Health Care, to be held March 12–14 at the Baltimore Marriott Waterfront Hotel in Baltimore, Maryland. Mark your calendars!

The objective of the symposium is to bring together professionals and other stakeholders in both the scientific and practice realms of the health-care community and to bridge knowledge gaps among them. HF/E professionals will present the latest research, best practices, and case histories.

Unique to this symposium is the inclusion of manufacturers, health-care providers (physicians, nurses, administrators, etc.), and policy makers, who will discuss their experiences in using HF/E processes and principles. The symposium will also enable them to communicate their need for additional collaboration with the HF/E community.

Presentations will address three topical tracks:

- Patient and Health-Care Provider Safety
- Health-Care Information Technology
- Medical Device Design

Lucian L. Leape, MD, kicks off the symposium with the opening plenary address on Monday, March 12. Leape was a founder of the National Patient Safety Foundation. The closing session, on March 14, features a panel presentation by the FDA Human Factors Group.

The symposium will conclude on Wednesday, March 14 with the Food and Drug Administration Human Factors Group as the closing plenary panel.

General information
<http://bit.ly/omoeTV>

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Book your room
<http://bit.ly/qLmMhb>

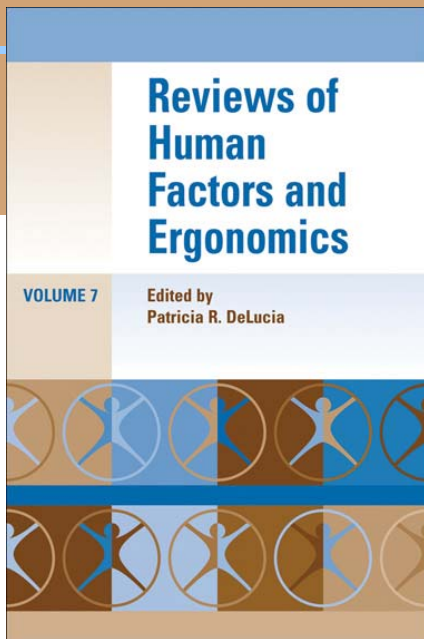
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Volume 7

Published by SAGE for the Human Factors and Ergonomics Society

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