



ANNUAL MEETING

COTG Announces Recipients of Student Awards

The Council of Technical Groups (COTG) is pleased to announce the recipients of the Student Author Presentation Support Award (SAPSA) and the First-Year Student Travel Honorarium Award for the 2015 Annual Meeting.

SAPSA is intended to facilitate student author participation in the Annual Meeting, including presenting in technical group sessions, networking with professionals, and attending TG business meetings. The program focuses on students in financial need who have a paper accepted for poster or lecture presentation at the meeting. This year's recipients and the technical groups in whose programs they will be making presentations are as follows:

- **Shiyan Yang**, Texas A&M University – Surface Transportation TG
- **Michael T. Pascale**, University of Queensland, Australia – Perception & Performance TG
- **Carolina Rodriguez Paras**, Texas A&M University – Human Performance Modeling TG
- **Sophie Lynn Schwartz**, Louisiana State University – Safety TG
- **Chiara Margherita Santomauro**, University of Queensland, Australia – Health Care TG
- **Ida Bodin**, Uppsala University – Cognitive Engineering and Decision Making TG
- **Gourab Kar**, Cornell University – Computer Systems TG/ Best Paper Candidate
- **Kathryn Tippey**, Texas A&M University – Education TG
- **Mahboobeh Ghesmaty Sangachin**, State University of New York at Buffalo – Macroergonomics TG
- **Oguz Akkas**, University of Wisconsin-Madison – Occupational Ergonomics TG

The First-Year Student Travel Honorarium Awards, which are intended to help support students entering HF/E academic programs to travel to the Annual Meeting, have also been decided. This year, 10 awards of \$500 will be provided to each of the following students, and Annual Meeting registration fees will be waived:

- **Chuan Sun**, University of Massachusetts-Lowell
- **Kelly Hinckfuss**, University of Queensland
- **Seyed Armin Raeis Hosseiny**, Texas A&M University
- **Kylie Gomes**, Clemson University

Many thanks to Jennifer Riley, COTG Chair, who administered the awards and to the HFES Council of Technical Groups, which funded them. Further details about the programs may be found in the [June issue](#) of the *HFES Bulletin*.

Annual Meeting Program Now Available

The final program can be downloaded in [PDF format](#) via the HFES Web site. It is also available as a mobile app on the following platforms:

- **iPhone and iPad users:** search "HFES 2015" on the [Apple App Store](#).
- **Android users:** get the app from the [Google Play Store](#).
- **Blackberry, Windows, and laptop users:** go to <https://hfes2015.gatherdigital.com>.

Program updates will be made in the app as they occur, and you'll find a sheet with program updates in your registration bag. The app features

- a live Twitter feed
- real-time program updates, news, and reminders
- links from sessions and exhibits of your choice to their location on the facility maps
- the ability to add events to your device's calendar
- a notepad for every presentation
- multiple ways to share individual paper/poster/panel information (e.g., private message, e-mail, Twitter, Facebook, and Google+)

We invite you to tweet about highlights from the meeting via [#HFES2015](#). Check the app for updates during the meeting, including publication discounts, exhibitor offerings, alumni and other types of special-interest meetings, and much more!

INSIDE HFES

Deadline Extended for *Human Factors* Special-Issue Papers

Guest Editors Eduardo Salas (University of Central Florida/Rice University) and Jessica Marquez and Brian Gore (NASA Ames Research Center) welcome submissions to a *Human Factors* special issue titled "Measuring Safety and Performance in Human-Automation Systems: Theories, Metrics, and Practice." The submission deadline has been extended to **December 1, 2015**.

Background

Automated systems are ubiquitous in all areas of modern life. Their penetration is deepening in areas in which they are already present, and their use is spreading to applications not previously possible. For example, the anticipated level of automation in unmanned aerial vehicles is on the rise. Driverless cars are here. Smart homes are on the horizon. Inclusion of highly automated systems will be required for future human spaceflight missions as the NASA plans to send astronauts on missions to an asteroid by 2025 and to Mars during the 2030s (NASA Exploration Forum, 2014). Current missions are already dependent on automation systems to maintain crew

safety and mission performance—from spacecraft navigation to life support to robotic operations. Future interplanetary expeditions will increase the role of automation in safety-critical systems.

However, system integration and design issues have contributed to documented failures with automation systems used in human spaceflight, such as the *MIR–Progress* collision in 1997 (Marquez, Feary, Rochlis Zumbado, & Billman, 2013). Similarly, accidents from aviation (e.g., Korean Airlines Flight 007, American Airlines Flight 965, and Air France Flight 447), maritime (e.g., *Crown Princess*), and nuclear (e.g., Three Mile Island) domains all speak to the need to develop safe and effective human-automation systems (HAS). To achieve this goal, it is important to have effective metrics that monitor critical factors associated with human-automation interaction. One of the main challenges is utilizing such metrics in the design, development, and operation of systems before and during missions.

In order to help investigate the requirements of effective measurement, we need to understand how safety and performance are assessed in real-world work environments, and how metrics associated with HAS are utilized, especially in safety-critical domains. This effort aims to identify different candidate perspectives regarding the types of metrics used and potential trade-offs of using these metrics for automation system design and application.

Scope of Topic

This special issue aims to address questions regarding the various inputs, processes, and states that have been measured in HAS in safety-critical domains and how to inform measurement in HAS that relates to safety and performance. Specific questions include the following:

- What effective methods have been applied in investigating the design and application of automation for optimal safety and performance?
- What metrics and measurement tools work for measuring human–automation inputs, processes, and outcomes, and why do they work?
- What other considerations should be taken into account when measuring safety and performance in HAS?
- What is important for system designers to consider when assessing human-automation safety and performance throughout the automation system lifecycle?
- What is still missing from our toolkit of metrics and measures for HAS?
- What are the roadblocks to applying measurements in a safety-critical, operational setting?
- What studies could be done to elicit safety and performance metrics that are not being used currently?
- What theories can guide the development of metrics in safety critical domains?

Contributions to this special issue will not only go on to address safety and performance issues associated with HAS but will also contribute to the science of human–automation performance assessment. Insights from contributors can help create best practices for capitalizing safety and performance in HAS, as well as scientifically validated metrics for easily capturing HAS states and processes.

[Online submissions](#) are requested by **December 1, 2015**. Please review the [author instructions](#) before submitting your work.

References

Marquez, J. J., Feary, M., Rochlis Zumbado, J., & Billman, D. (2013). *Evidence report: Risk of inadequate design of human and automation/robotic integration* (NASA Technical Report). Houston, TX: Lyndon B. Johnson Space Center.

NASA Exploration Forum to Showcase Human Path to Mars. (2014, April 23). NASA Mars Exploration press release. Retrieved from <http://mars.nasa.gov/news/whatsnew/index.cfm?FuseAction=ShowNews&NewsID=1629>.

Call for Papers: *JCEDM* Special Issue

Co-editors Kathleen Mosier and Laura Militello invite submissions for a special issue of the *Journal of Cognitive Engineering and Decision Making (JCEDM)* titled “Extending Naturalistic Decision Making: Reaching Across Domains, Disciplines, and Applications.” Mosier, who jointly organized the eighth Naturalistic Decision Making (NDM) conference, and Militello, who helped organize the second, fourth, and twelfth NDM conferences, serve on the editorial board of *JCEDM*.

The first NDM conference was held in 1989, bringing together a diverse set of researchers working on related problems. From that small group, the NDM community of practice has grown worldwide. NDM methods and models have extended well beyond a 1988 study of firefighters to a broad range of domains. NDM professionals are often invited to contribute to the study of emerging problems with significant implications for safety, productivity, and innovation.

NDM methods and perspectives offer an important complement to other disciplines. The special issue will include articles that highlight the integration of NDM into multidisciplinary efforts to improve work in complex domains. Articles in the special issue should emphasize examples in which NDM research has affected people’s understanding of complex cognitive work in a variety of domains and disciplines – especially those that feature extensions of NDM theory to challenging problems in new domains.

Special-issue submissions are invited that deal with any of the following topics including, but not limited to,

- new or refined NDM methodologies,
- critical analysis of NDM models and methods,
- outcomes and applications of NDM research (innovative designs, improved understanding of phenomena, etc.), and
- integrative writing highlighting links between NDM and other researcher communities.

Together, the collection of papers included in this special issue should provide an in-depth look at the extension of NDM theory and methods across disciplines and domains.

Manuscripts should be 25–30 double-spaced pages and will be subject to the standard *JCEDM* review prior to acceptance. Instructions for authors can be found at <http://www.hfes.org/web/pubpages/jcedminsauthors.html>. Manuscripts should be submitted electronically via <http://mc.manuscriptcentral.com/jcedm> by **December 15, 2015**. Please use the format prescribed in the *APA Publication Manual* (5th edition). Acceptance notification will be sent on March 31, 2016, and final manuscripts are due **May 31, 2016**.

Fellow Nominations Due February 1

The Fellows Selection Committee invites nominations for Fellows to be elected in 2016. “Fellow” is a special class of Society membership, as established in the Bylaws, Article I, Section 4. Individuals may apply for Fellow status on their own behalf, or they may submit a nomination on behalf of another.

The Fellow Nomination Package – including instructions, nomination and recommendation forms, and supporting information – may be obtained from the [Fellows page](#). You may also contact HFES Director of Member Services [Carlos de Falla](#). The completed package (nomination form, recommendation form, candidate's vitae or résumé, and supporting documentation) must be received at the HFES Central Office on or before **February 1, 2016**.

STANDARDS UPDATE

ISO/TC 159

By *Daryle Gardner-Bonneau, Chair, U.S. TAG to ISO/TC 159*

The items presented in this article concern news relevant to ISO/TC 159 standards activities and include upcoming meetings, newly published standards, new standardization projects, and draft standards currently being balloted.

Except for newly published standards, titles of standards are abbreviated in this listing, but you can obtain the complete title for any standard by visiting the HFES [Standards Web page](#) and then clicking on the Subcommittee (SC) Technical Advisory Group (TAG) that is involved with the standard in which you're interested. Clicking that link will display a graphic of the SC's structure and a listing of all the projects and standards of that subcommittee. You can also purchase standards and search full titles and abstracts by going to the [ANSI Store](#) or the [ISO Store](#) and searching by the document's number (e.g., ISO 24504).

The contacts whose e-mail addresses are provided below (i.e., Daryle Gardner-Bonneau, Robert Fox, and Jim Williams) welcome your inquiries and your participation in these activities.

The listings use the following ISO abbreviations:

CD = Committee Draft
DIS = Draft International Standard
DTR = Draft Technical Report
FDIS = Final Draft International Standard
NWIP = New Work Item Proposal
PAS = Publicly Available Specification
SC = Subcommittee
TAG = Technical Advisory Group
TC = Technical Committee
TR = Technical Report
WG = Working Group

*** signifies items that are new in this issue

Request for U.S. Experts

***U.S. experts are needed for two working groups in ISO/TC159/SC4:

- ISO/TC159/SC4/WG5 – *Software Ergonomics*
- Joint working group – ISO/IEC/JTC1/SC7/WG28 – *Common Industry Format*

If interested in serving, please contact ergojim@earthlink.net.

New Projects

***ISO/TC159/SC4 – two work items are out for vote on tactile markings and legible font sizes.

Contact ergojim@earthlink.net.

***ISO/TC159/SC3 – revision of ISO/11228-1 – *Lifting and carrying*. Contact

robert.r.fox@gm.com.

Draft Documents Released for Comment and/or Vote

ISO DIS 9241-960 – *Ergonomics of human-system interaction – Part 960: Framework and guidance for gesture interactions*. Vote and comments due **October 23, 2015**. Contact ergojim@earthlink.net.

Upcoming Meetings

Standard/Group	Date	Location/Description	Contact
ISO/TC159/SC5	October 23–25, 2015	Los Angeles, CA (in conjunction with the HFES Annual Meeting) – SC5 (ergonomics of the physical environment) plenary meeting and meetings of its working groups	JDNBonneau@charter.net
***ISO/TC159/SC3	November 3–5, 2015	Yellow Springs, Ohio – Plenary meeting and ISO/TC159/SC3/WG1 meeting on Global Anthropometry	robert.r.fox@gm.com
ISO/TC159/WG2	November 9–11, 2015	London, UK – Work on revision of ISO/TR 22411 (ergonomic data for special populations)	JDNBonneau@charter.net
ISO/TC159/SC1/WG5	November 12–13, 2015	Paris, France – Prepare CDs of ISO 27501 and 27502 (ergonomic process standards for high level and front-line managers, respectively); finalize NWIP for ISO 27502	JDNBonneau@charter.net

ISO/TC159/SC4/WG6 November Gaithersburg, MD – ergojim@earthlink.net
18–20, Prepare the next draft
2015 of ISO 9241-220 (hu-
man-centered design
process)

PUBLIC POLICY MATTERS

Updates from Lewis-Burke Associates LLC

President Issues Executive Order to Apply Behavioral Science to Federal Policies and Programs

On September 15, President Obama issued an [Executive Order](#) to use behavioral science insights to better serve the American people, directing federal agencies to use insights and empirical evidence from the social and behavioral sciences to improve the accessibility, usability, and effectiveness of federal policies and programs. The Executive Order directs agencies to deepen relationships with the social and behavioral science community and to institutionalize the White House Social and Behavioral Science Team within the Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP).

The Social and Behavioral Sciences Team was assembled in 2014 within OSTP and consists of a cross-agency group of experts in applied behavioral science that translates findings and methods from the social and behavioral sciences into improvements in Federal policies and programs. The Executive Order highlights the team’s work by directing agencies to adopt recommendations and suggestions from the Social and Behavioral Sciences Team [annual report](#), which was released and discussed at a forum coinciding with the Executive Order announcement. Recommendations include removing administrative hurdles, shortening wait times, and simplifying government forms.

To celebrate the first year of the White House Social and Behavioral Sciences Team, its annual report, and the Executive Order, stakeholders across the federal government and the social and behavioral science community attended a reception to further promote the connection between government and behavioral science experts. The reception was well attended and offered insight into the key players in the Obama Administration’s strategy to embed social and behavioral science in Executive Branch decision making. To deepen the impact of the Executive Order, the White House also issued [guidance](#) to federal agencies on how to apply social and behavioral science to federal forms and processes.

HFES’s Government Relations Committee and Lewis-Burke continue to track and analyze opportunities to promote the impact of HF/E across the federal government, as well as position HFES as resource to federal policy makers as they implement this executive order.

HFES Comments on White House Precision Medicine Initiative

The HFES Government Relations Committee (GRC) and Lewis-Burke launched an internal Health Working Group to collaborate on health-related federal policies and programs and to promote HF/E in federal decision making. Both the Legislative and Executive Branches have

made significant efforts to address health and health-care concerns across the country over the last year, including the 21st Century Cures Act and the President's [Precision Medicine Initiative](#). By creating the HFES Health Working Group, the GRC is well positioned to rapidly respond to official calls for comments with high-level expertise, similar to the HFES Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Working Group, which was created to promote HF/E in legislation to reauthorize the FAA.

On September 18, HFES President Andrew Imada submitted comments on behalf of HFES on the President's Precision Medicine Initiative. Lewis-Burke, in collaboration with the GRC and Health Working Group, crafted the Society's statement, emphasizing the importance of HF/E considerations in tailored, individualized patient care. The statement also urges policy makers to apply HF/E science and research in each stage of policy and program decision making, as the Administration and federal agencies consider research, technology, and policies to promote personalized care and patient engagement.

The Precision Medicine Initiative, introduced in the President's fiscal year 2016 budget request, seeks to activate patient, provider, and caregiver involvement in health care to promote individualized treatment. The initiative is dedicated to fostering research, technology, and policies to aid this transition. To better understand stakeholder interests and involvement, the White House issued a call for comments on how patients, research participants, researchers, providers, and private-sector innovators are contributing to reach these goals.

Lewis-Burke and the HFES Health Working Group will continue to identify high-priority topic areas to advocate for the inclusion of HF/E considerations in health and health-care policies and programs.

HFES Advocates to Reduce Conference Travel Restrictions for Federal Employees

In September, HFES and more than 70 other scientific and engineering organizations sent a [letter](#) to Senate Appropriations Chairman Thad Cochran (R-MS) and Vice Chairwoman Barbara Mikulski (D-MD) thanking them for their remarks on the negative impact of conference travel restrictions during the Financial Services and General Government (FSGG) Appropriations markup. The positive remarks by Senator Mikulski and other senators followed an amendment that was offered by Senators Brian Schatz (D-HI) and Chris Coons (D-DE) during the markup that would have inserted language allowing the Obama Administration to reduce the restrictions and mitigate the harmful consequences that especially affect attendance at scientific conferences. A separate [letter](#) was sent to Senators Schatz and Coons thanking them for offering the amendment.

A 2012 scandal involving a General Services Administration conference in Las Vegas resulted in the White House's enacting a policy that put restrictions on conferences hosted by government agencies or attended by government employees. Since then, Congress has attempted to place additional restrictions on agencies and also included language in annual appropriations legislation that bars the White House from updating its policy to ease the impacts on certain types of conferences, such as those attended by scientists or hosted by scientific societies.

HFES continues to lead the effort in working with House and Senate offices so that the desired language is included in any final spending bill. Further, HFES is active in collaborative meetings with other scientific societies and federal agency officials to develop and execute strategies to reduce these costly burdens.

Lewis-Burke Associates LLC, a leading Washington, D.C.-based government relations and consulting firm, represents the public policy interests of scientific societies and institutions of higher education. Lewis-Burke's staff of about 20 government relations professionals work to promote the federal research and policy goals of HFES and the HF/E community.

MEMBER MILESTONES

Tribute to Julius “Jay” Earl Uhlener (1917–2015)

By Gerald P. Krueger



Julius Earl Uhlener

HFES Fellow Julius “Jay” Earl Uhlener was born in Vienna, Austria, in 1917. In 1928, he immigrated to the United States, where he became a naturalized citizen and left a lasting legacy through his leadership and research achievements, especially in applying psychology to military problems.

Jay graduated from City College of New York in 1938 with a BS in science. He worked in human engineering at Ford Motor Company in Michigan from 1939 to 1940 and established a driver research lab. In his early human factors work, he focused on driver vision, training, and safety issues. These interests led to his thesis work for his MS in psychology and statistics from Iowa State University in 1941. His contributions to highway safety included significant research on the visibility and interpretability of roadway signs with different types of lettering (e.g., height/width ratios of letters). He served on the Highway Safety Research Board in Lansing, Michigan, and dealt with human factors issues.

While serving as a psychologist in the Army Air Corps during World War II from 1943 to 1946, Jay was involved with developing criteria for selecting pilots. From 1946 to 1947, he was assistant director for research and training for the New York State Division of Veteran Affairs. Combining his bent for human factors and personnel selection, he earned a PhD in industrial and organizational psychology at New York University in 1947.

Jay then joined the Army Personnel Research Branch as a research psychologist. As the organization grew, it eventually became the Behavior Systems Research Lab (BSRL). In 1969, Jay became BSRL technical director. Two years later, he also took on the title of chief psychologist of the U.S. Army, which is still worn today by the director of BSRL’s even broader-based successor organization: The Army Research Institute (ARI) for the Behavioral and Social Sciences. Under Uhlener’s visionary guidance, ARI gradually took on missions to develop and improve the performance of people in the Army through behavioral sciences research on personnel selection, classification, job placement, training systems, and human factors in systems design. With Uhlener at its helm from 1969 to 1978, ARI grew to employ more than 400 research psychologists, many of them well steeped in and practicing classical human factors methods and attaining many noteworthy accomplishments.

Jay was best known for some of his innovative contributions to the Army. He foresaw early on the movement toward reliance on computers and automation and had ARI focus on “person-in-the-loop” approaches to examining soldier–system interface situations wherein the infusion of new technologies could enhance soldier performance, training systems, and equipment system testing. He spearheaded development of the first psychological military qualifications test legislated by Congress; introduced computers as major tools and partners in behavioral science research; pioneered research on night-vision testing and driver performance; introduced the first

classification system based on psychological aptitude testing in the military services; pioneered the “system measurement bed,” a methodology that influenced industrial psychology; and fostered an interdisciplinary approach to ARI’s research.

During his career, Jay published close to 200 articles in scientific journals and books on the subjects of industrial psychology, military psychology, and related topics. In 1976, President Gerald R. Ford awarded him the U.S. Presidential Award for Management Improvement for his commanding role in the development and implementation of the Army Classification Battery and Aptitude Area System, representing major advances in the field of soldier performance prediction. In 1995, the American Psychological Association’s (APA) Division 19 (Military Psychology) recognized Jay with the Lifetime Achievement Award in Military Psychology



Uhlaner as director of the U.S. Army Behavior & System Research Laboratory

for his many accomplishments in the application of behavioral science research to military problems. In 2011, Division 19 initiated an award in his name: the Julius E. Uhlaner Award for Distinguished Contributions to Research on Military Selection and Recruitment.

In addition to HFES, Jay was a Fellow of APA and the Washington Academy of Sciences (WAS). In 1976, WAS granted him the first award “for scientific work of high merit in behavioral sciences.”

After retiring from the Army in 1978, Jay was senior vice president at Perceptronics, Inc., a human performance modeling, simulation, and training consulting firm in California (at that time). One of the more notable programs he fostered as part of a consortium for DARPA was SIMNET, which offered a tank battle 3-D virtual simulation training network that permitted dozens, if not hundreds of operators in tanks, helicopters, close support aircraft, and other battlefield entities to interact with one another during war game training. At Perceptronics, Jay also did extensive work in mining safety for the Department of Commerce. He retired in 2000 but continued as a member of the board of directors. Subsequently, he carried out his own part-time behavioral sciences consulting work for another decade.

Having watched him from a short distance, I can say that Jay Uhlaner continually demonstrated significant political and scientific savvy in dealing with bureaucracy and in getting things done. He was particularly adept at obtaining buy-in to build up human factors research psychology in the military by having his staff seek to provide what the country’s leaders and soldiers needed most.

Jay’s family can be contacted through his beloved wife of 66 years, Vera Uhlaner, at P.O. Box 967, Corona del Mar, CA 92625-9998.

OTHER NEWS

FPE Moves Ergonomics Profession Forward

By Richard T. Kelly and Robert J. Smillie, Foundation for Professional Ergonomics

The Foundation for Professional Ergonomics (FPE) was established in 2004 as a nonprofit organization dedicated to advancing professionalism in ergonomics. FPE’s goals align with those of the Human Factors and Ergonomics Society and the Board of Certification in Professional

Ergonomics, and the three organizations work together collaboratively. The mission of the FPE is to benefit the public by

- providing leadership in evolving and growing the ergonomics profession
- bridging the gaps among research, education, and practice
- promoting professionalism in ergonomics practice.

Volunteers working with FPE are actively involved in several initiatives that are advancing professionalism in ergonomics among students, practitioners in industry, and developing countries. Recent efforts include the following:

Dieter W. Jahns Student Practitioner Award. This annual award recognizes a graduate student project that demonstrates excellence in the areas of professional ergonomics: analysis, design, or evaluation. Past awardees have completed HF/E projects that make people's lives at work and at home healthier, safer, more productive, and more satisfying. FPE has been presenting this award to students internationally since 2010. If you're interested in learning more about the award, contact Bob Smillie at robert.smillie@cox.net.

Ergonomists Without Borders. FPE's efforts to promote the profession internationally have been especially exciting this year. A committee with international membership has been formed to identify specific needs and to direct resources appropriately. The committee is working on important projects in office ergonomics and pediatric wheelchair design, focusing on Central and South America. Needed HF/E textbooks have been provided to the Ergonomics Society of Nigeria for use by university students. The gift of a membership in HFES and supplemental materials has enabled the Universidad Antioquia in Medellin, Columbia, to access the latest professional publications and technical resources. FPE also joined the International Ergonomics Association in supporting ergonomics improvements for textile workers in Bangladesh. For more information, contact Tom Albin at talbinus@comcast.net.

Mentoring. FPE facilitates mentoring of students and young professionals in the practice of ergonomics and in professional certification. Since March 2015, FPE has assisted nearly two dozen individuals internationally. Although university programs provide basic knowledge and skills, practical skills and standards of professional conduct are best learned on the job. Mentoring through FPE is an informal process by which individuals are paired with established professionals for specific needs. If you are a professional willing to share your expertise via e-mail or a student or young professional in search of a mentor, contact Harvey Cohen at harvey@erroranalysis.com.

Continuing Education. FPE provides short courses and workshops on topics that bridge gaps between education and professional practice. Topics address the BCPE core competencies, HFES areas of interest, and preparation for the BCPE certification exam. Courses in statistics and design methods are available, and sessions have been presented at the HFES Annual Meeting and other conferences. More courses and webinars will be added soon.

Building Awareness of the HF/E Profession. Several FPE activities are aimed at building awareness of the HF/E profession among students, industry, and the general public. FPE's [Web site](#) has been improved to add more information, career advice, and professional resources. A short video presentation on the Web site introduces people to the profession and provides several specific examples of how real-world problems have been addressed. Examples of products that demonstrate good HF/E design principles have also been recognized on the FPE Web site.

Financial Support. FPE has IRS 501(c)(3) status enabling tax-deductible donations of cash, stock, and in-kind gifts. Help promote professionalism in HF/E by leaving a legacy from your own career. Visit <http://www.ergofoundation.org/get-involved/donate> to make a contribution and be recognized for your support.

Ergonomists Without Borders Developing New Projects

By Thomas J. Albin, Chair, FPE Ergonomists Without Borders Committee

Ergonomists are naturally concerned for others' well-being and look to improve quality of life. The mission of Ergonomists Without Borders, a project of the Foundation for Professional Ergonomics (FPE), is "to improve quality of life by providing ergonomics expertise and resources to agriculturally and industrially developing communities, globally." We would like to invite you to help support this work.

HFES President Andy Imada calls Ergonomists Without Borders "a chance to give back to the world community," noting that the impact from even modest ergonomic support would be highest in industrially developing communities.

Organizations in agriculturally and industrially developing communities can contact Ergonomists Without Borders to locate individuals qualified to provide expert services and to give workshops in person or by virtual means. The organization also offers professional ergonomics assistance. These services are provided at no cost to the recipients other than coverage of expenses. Minnesota-based ergonomics consultant Nancy Larson, a member of Ergonomists Without Borders, says the group is leveraging technology to keep costs down. The committee also intends to raise funds to reduce costs to recipients.

Ergonomists Without Borders began in 2007 and attracted substantial interest on ErgoWeb. It is revived with a new organizational committee, which includes members in Mexico and Colombia. The committee is expanding its network to connect with colleagues and learn what training, resources, or collaboration is of interest to those in the target communities. Larson underlines the importance of this networking and listening stage.

Carlos Espejo Guasco, a founder of the Society of Ergonomists of Mexico (known as SEMAC, for its Spanish acronym) and the Central American and Caribbean Occupational Health Federation (FECACSO), as well as a member of Ergonomists Without Borders, has long been passionate about sharing knowledge across borders. He has traveled extensively to give workshops and spearhead the creation of professional societies. Espejo Guasco has encountered an enthusiastic response from ergonomists and many others who want to apply ergonomics to their professions. He says what is needed most is simply the will to share time and expertise.

FPE President Robert Smillie believes that willingness is there, stating that "a lot of professionals are certainly willing to lend their expertise. They just need to be made aware there is a relationship like this and to pick out a project."

Ergonomists Without Borders recently sent ergonomics textbooks to the Ergonomics Society of Nigeria. The group provides free access to papers and other written materials on its Web site, ergonomistswithoutborders.org. Yordán Rodríguez Ruíz, a professor at the National College of Public Health of the University of Antioquia in Medellín, Colombia, is a member of Ergonomists Without Borders. He says, among other things, that he envisions the group creating a space to communicate in Spanish about ergonomics in Latin America and to present information about the region for a global audience.

Rodríguez Ruíz and Espejo Guasco both note that businesses and governments in Latin America are increasingly concerned about ergonomics. Rodríguez Ruíz says he feels this presents an important opportunity to demonstrate the value of ergonomics to those who are encountering the field for the first time and to expand their interest to more systematic approaches, as well as nonphysical ergonomics.

Ergonomists Without Borders member Nancy Theberge, a sociologist who is professor emerita in the Department of Kinesiology, University of Waterloo in Ontario, agrees that careful relations and cultural understanding would be part of that process, a lesson she has learned even in North American domestic practice. “Successful implementation of ergonomics involves crucial consideration of things that don’t have much to do with technical aspects of ergonomics,” she says, such as social and cultural climates in organizations and even broader political contexts.

With increased collaboration among colleagues around the world, Ergonomists Without Borders supports the profession in agriculturally and industrially developing communities, where workers and consumers – like those anywhere in the world – are grateful for safer, more comfortable conditions.

Ergonomists Without Borders is preparing for two new projects, one associated with a group supplying pediatric wheelchairs in Peru, the other providing translation of an ergonomics training Web site from English into French and Spanish.

If you are interested in learning more about either of these projects, or you are interested in learning more about Ergonomists Without Borders, contact us at ergonomistswithoutborders.org to seek resources and assistance, volunteer expertise or materials, or make a financial donation to support future projects.

CALENDAR

Featured Events

[2015 HFES International Annual Meeting](#), October 26–30, 2015, Los Angeles, CA.

[2016 International Symposium on Human Factors and Ergonomics in Health Care: Shaping the Future](#), April 13–16, 2016, San Diego, CA.

[ErgoX: An Extraordinary Ergonomics Event](#), June 6–8, 2016, Anaheim, CA.

November 2015

[53rd Annual SAFE Symposium](#), November 2–4, 2015, Orlando, FL.

[170th Meeting of the Acoustical Society of America](#), November 2–6, 2015, Jacksonville, FL.

[2015 ANS Winter Meeting and Nuclear Technology Expo](#), November 8–12, 2015, Washington, DC.

[Institute of Environmental Sciences and Technology \(IEST\) Fall Conference](#), November 9–12, 2015, Rosemont, IL.

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