

HFES Election Deadline Extended for Non-U.S. Members

It has come to the Society's attention that the mailing of ballots to members outside the United States was delayed by the mailing house. As a result, some members were not able to vote by the original deadline of July 17.

All non-U.S. members have been notified that the deadline for ballots from members outside the United States is being extended to August 17. Ballots received by that date will be counted, and the final election results will be published in the *HFES Bulletin* and on the Web site. ☉

HFES 200 Canvass Draft Released

By Paul S. Reed, HFES 200 Committee Chair

The Human Factors and Ergonomics Society announces the release of the HFES 200 document, *Human Factors Engineering of Software User Interfaces*, to the canvass committee and for public review in accordance with American National Standards Institute (ANSI) procedures. The HFES 200 project has been conducted according to the essential requirements procedures of ANSI and has a goal of establishing a new American national standard.

The objective of the HFES 200 project is to provide design requirements and recommendations that will increase the accessibility, learnability, and ease of use of software. The ultimate beneficiaries of HFES 200 are the end users of software. It was the needs of these users that motivated the design recommendations in HFES 200. The application of this standard is intended to provide user interfaces that are more usable, accessible, and consistent and that enable greater productivity and satisfaction.

Human Factors Engineering of Software User Interfaces consists of five parts:

- HFES 200.1: Introduction
- HFES 200.2: Accessibility
- HFES 200.3: Interaction Techniques
- HFES 200.4: Interactive Voice Response
- HFES 200.5: Visual Presentation and Use of Color

HFES 200 Part 1: Introduction provides an overview of the content, explains relationships among the individual parts, and provides guidance on the relevance of individual parts to the development process so that designers may understand where and when to use the parts.

HFES 200 Part 2: Accessibility provides recommendations on features and functions of computer operating systems, drivers, application services, other software layers on which applications depend, and applications that increase the accessibility of applications for users with disabilities. Hardware is not specifically addressed by any recommendations; however, many hardware assistive de-

vices may utilize recommended functions that are provided by operations system and application software. HFES 200 Part 2 has been extensively harmonized with the International Standards Organization (ISO) 9241-171 Software Accessibility Committee Draft released in the first quarter of 2005.

HFES 200 Part 3: Interaction Techniques incorporates material from ISO 9241 Parts 13 through 17 and is compatible with those ISO standards.

HFES 200 Part 4: Interactive Voice Response consists of completely new material that has not appeared in ISO 9241 standards.

HFES 200 Part 5: Visual Presentation and Use of Color incorporates material from ISO 9241 Part 12 and includes new recommendations on the use of color.

Copies of the HFES 200 canvass document are available from HFES, P. O. Box 1369, Santa Monica, CA 90406-1369, 310/394-1811, fax 310/394-2410, info@hfes.org, <http://hfes.org>. The cost of the document is \$175 for HFES members and \$200 for non-members, plus \$5 shipping/handling. Order online at <http://hfes.org/Publications>. ☉

How to Save Money on Textbooks

By Melanie Diez, Student Views Editor

With the new school year just around the corner, it's time to start thinking about purchasing textbooks for class. It's no secret that textbooks can run up a credit card bill into the hundreds of dollars, so here are a few tips to help keep that bill a bit more manageable.

Step 1. Find out what books you need for the upcoming semester as soon as possible. For each of your classes, get the title and edition of the textbook or its ISBN and the cost (used and new).

Ordering books (described below) takes time, and you should build in at least three weeks before classes start to get your books. If the bookstore is a little slow getting the required readings listed, e-mail your professor directly and ask him/her what books you'll need (title, edition, etc.). This is especially important because not all professors rely on the bookstore to provide books.

Step 2. Go to an online price comparison engine. This is the fun part. Go to your favorite price comparison Web site and search for your textbook by title (and edition, if possible). Addall.com is useful because you can sort individual books by price and shipping destination. It also informs you of current coupons in effect. Bookhq.com and BestBookDeal.com are similar sites. By sorting the listings by price, you'll find the source that offers the lowest price at the top. Alternatively, you can use a site like Booksprice.com, which lets you search for several books at once to find the lowest "package" deal. Addall.com has a beta version of a multiple-book search as well. Once you have found the cheapest books, go to the specific sites for each book and purchase them online (step 3).

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