Our midyear Executive Council meeting was held on March 20–21 in conjunction with the successful International Symposium on Human Factors and Ergonomics in Health Care in Chicago, which was ably chaired by HFES Past President Tony Andre. Co-locating these events helped realize cost reduction and allowed key staff members to visit the host hotel for the upcoming Annual Meeting. It also gave us a chance to witness firsthand the enthusiasm and vitality of the health-care symposium. Meeting and talking to researchers and practitioners was instructive. We saw the contributions that our field and our members make to this vital area of society from their respective vantage points. Attending such a successful event was an inspiring prelude to our midyear meeting.

Participants at the midyear meeting included

- Past, Present, and Elect Presidents: Eduardo Salas, Frank Durso, and Andrew Imada;
- Past, Present, and Elect Secretary-Treasurers: Kermit Davis, Barrett Caldwell, and James Bliss;
- six At-Large Members: Cheryl A. Bolstad, Pascale Carayon, Sandra K. Garrett, Paul A. Green, M. Susan Hallbeck, and John F. “Jeff” Kelley;
- five Division Chairs: Bruce Bradtmiller, Technical Standards; C. Melody Carswell, Scientific Publications; Kathleen L. Mosier, Internal Affairs; Arathi Sethumadhavan, Outreach; and Carolyn Sommerich, Professionalism;
- three HFES Staff Directors: Director of Member Services Carlos de Falla, Communications Director Lois Smith, and Executive Director Lynn Strother.

Setting Strategies for the “New Normal”

Building on our discussions during the fall 2013 Council meeting, we continued our focus on how changes can enhance, threaten, and present opportunities for HFES in the future. If we view these social, governmental, and personal changes as part of a system transformation rather than as one-time, coincidental changes, our Society will have to think proactively and strategically to respond to evolving needs, preferences, and behavior patterns.

Of course, this means change, which people and organizations do not come by naturally. Strong leadership often takes people where they may not want to go initially but provides a clear vision of a future that is better than the one we already have. As stated in the November 2013 Bulletin Council report, this requires that we develop new ways to reduce costs, increase revenues, enhance the Society’s value proposition and relevance, and attract and retain new members.
We spent the first half-day in a discussion about the Executive Council’s need to think and act strategically. It began with an analysis of our membership. Data from the past 10 years suggest that if we continue to function as we do, and if all the environmental forces (economic, educational, retirement, and preference trends) remain favorable, the trend line is flat. In 2020, we can expect membership to remain at 4,700. That may be the best scenario we can expect.

There is nothing inherently wrong with wanting to stay the same size. At the same time, new industries, technologies, and customers are clamoring for human factors/ergonomics solutions, whether they know it or not. Our same 4,700 members cannot cover all the frontiers to meet these needs. HFES would not be fulfilling its mission to advance the science if we did not respond effectively to these needs.

We are not alone. It turns out that other professional societies are experiencing the same challenges, including declining membership, changing member needs, and preferences about how people consume services. HFES Executive Director Lynn Strother is well connected with other chief staff officers in engineering and scientific societies, and she confirms that many organizations of varying sizes are dealing with the same issues.

As Paul Green pointed out in his 2009 presidential address, people in general are less willing to join many organized activities or organizations. The features and changes in the professional landscape suggest that a “member-centric” model may be unfit for today’s professionals. Consider this: In 1965, 75% of all U.S. physicians belonged to the American Medical Association. In 2012, that percentage was 25%. If we can respond correctly, we can help professionals in our field meet the pace of workplace demands and technological changes and at the same time satisfy personal, family, and social needs. This sounds strangely consistent with the definition of our field (see the IEA’s definition at iea.cc/whats/index.html).

Our Challenge

Those of us who are familiar with the notion of requisite variety know that the more the environment changes, the more people have to change to survive. Large shifts have occurred in the way modern people meet and interact with others and in the way they purchase and consume goods and services. To remain relevant, HFES must have a value proposition that addresses their needs and preferences. Dues, subscriptions, and traveling to conferences have been replaced with à la carte purchases, free downloads, and webinars.

There is abundant evidence that there are substantially more than 4,700 potential consumers, producers, and parties interested in our profession. Knowing who they are and offering something they will value and use in ways that are comfortable to them are the real challenges for us and for many other professional societies. But we can do it if we can understand it, act accordingly, and are willing to embrace change.

Enacting Change in the Near Term

President-Elect Andy Imada shared three goals to help realize these global changes. First, the Executive Council should operate as a body with a strategic intent to change. The well-known truism that change is never easy has a corollary: Change that is forced upon you is seldom good. We should focus on the serious threats and opportunities that confront our Society. The leadership should set the intent, direction, and parameters for success. The execution process should involve allocating tasks and responsibilities to our competent staff, division chairs, committee chairs, and members. This greater engagement can be an attractor if the leadership allows it to happen.

Second, we need to expand the size of the HFES “tent” to welcome more residents of our human factors/ergonomics community. The center post for this tent is the knowledge we generate from our science and research. We need to keep this center post strong and tall because it is,
arguably, our core competence. At the same time, we should expand inclusiveness to not only the producers but also consumers of this competence in a variety of applications (e.g., practitioners and those working in health care, ubiquitous computing, and UAVs). Meeting their needs makes the value proposition more relevant.

Targeting diverse groups of people strengthens the Society and makes survivability more likely in an uncertain future. One proposal is to reach out to one new group during each HFES administration. The message to these groups has to be meaningful and “sticky” to them. We will report on more specific details as they are finalized.

Finally, we need continuity in leadership to enable us to take on the challenge of this “new normal” reality. Follow-through and support for initiatives is essential, whether they are projects, events, or publications. This will allow ideas to be incubated and survive or die a natural death. With consistency in leadership, the strategic thinking and expansion culture can take hold and thrive.

Visualizing the Future in One Deep Dive

As an example of enacting real change, we spent part of our Council meeting discussing possible changes to one very important benefit our Society offers: the Annual Meeting. On one hand, why change what can be considered a successful event? Think about how the Annual Meeting experience has changed in the 10 years since we met in New Orleans. How much more will it be different ten years from now? Presidents Frank Durso and Eduardo Salas initiated and led a discussion about envisioning that specific future. We discussed changes we could envision; came to a consensus about a scenario; described the organizational, structural, and financial impact on HFES; and began describing steps that we could take to engage stakeholders and move deliberately and gradually in this direction. This is organizational intent.

Deadly Serious, Lively Fun: Exploring the Use of Health-Care Products Through Multiple Touch Points

By Pamela Stoffregen-Gay, GfK Global Strategic Marketing Director, UX

As host of the 2014 Symposium on Human Factors and Ergonomics in Health Care, GfK’s User Experience (UX) team had the opportunity to hold an evening event for attendees. Held at the GfK Chicago UX facilities, the event highlighted unique challenges that arise when researching medical devices and technology in simulated-use environments.

Medical products, devices, and technology increasingly cross the line between clinical and nonclinical use, which results in a broader definition of lab testing. As researchers, we strive to create environments that mimic real-life situations and that ultimately result in better data. Where there was once a table, moderator, and room camera, there are now simulated environments that include an audio track simulating hospital alarms and monitors, nonclinical environments that capture mobile device interactions, or pharmacy shelving measured with eye-tracking technology to understand drug label comprehension. At our HFES event, we led attendees on an interactive journey in which they visited various touch points for health-care products. Labs along this journey included the following:
Multipatient hospital floor – Testing devices or connections with nurses was taken to the next level with our dual observation room. The setup evaluates how nurses handle the experience of working with one patient while monitoring events such as alarms in a second room. A nurses’ station between two patient rooms also allowed for a realistic records-management process to be integrated into the test session.

Critical care unit – Considerations for this environment involved participants’ frequent movement around the room and multiple camera angles to capture interactions with tubes and connections. Low lighting and realistic hospital sounds helped to create a sense of reality.

Retail and clinical pharmacy – This lab simulated environments in which the workflow among multiple users must be considered when designing products and packaging. Two workstations and a simulated clean-room pharmacy hood provided the basis for participant interactions. Pharmacy shelves were set up with special attention to how products were organized; specifically considering height, depth, quantity, and proximity to similar products.

Physician exam room – Moving beyond devices, this environment allowed for simulated interactions that included capturing both person-to-person and mobile device interactions. During the event, our resident expert on health information technology (HIT), Robert Schumacher, followed up on his session earlier in the day by addressing questions about the latest developments in the world of HIT.

Nonclinical environment – This room showcased a patient’s home where therapy delivery systems such as auto-injectors and insulin pumps, and home health monitoring devices such as blood pressure cuffs and heart rate monitors, are designed for in-home consumer use. Increasingly, manufacturers are developing mobile applications and software platforms to support and add value to the user experience with health-monitoring and therapy-delivering devices. This lab recreated a living room environment with the realistic aspects of low lighting, background noise, and casual furniture.

To keep things light, we offered games that enhanced our theme. “When Irish Eyes Are Tracking” was an eye-tracking activity involving drug labels; “Feeling Lucky” had attendees identifying drug labels under a time constraint; and “Stab-a-Friend” forced attendees to find a dummy’s EpiPen in her backpack (while our researcher was creating a stressful environment) in less than 30 seconds and inject her before she “died.”

Exploring all possible touch points for a product, device, or technology increases the value of human factors/ergonomics research. Our UX team tried to think outside the box with this event while showcasing our creative solutions and the methods we typically use to capture HF/E insights in challenging environments and use scenarios.

Everyone had a great time, and the activities prompted much discussion over shared barriers that we must overcome as researchers. The goal of understanding how others tackle these barriers was achieved, and the fact that it was on St. Patrick’s Day provided an excuse to serve green beer and pub food!
Request for Proposals: *Human Factors* Special Issue/Section

*Human Factors* Editor-in-Chief Patricia R. DeLucia invites proposals for a special issue or section. Preference will be given to topics that are timely and of broad interest and that can accommodate an accelerated timeline (about 12 months from proposal selection to publication). Suggested topics include but are not limited to

- Interruption, distractions, and recovery (or interruption management)
- Emerging issues in health care (e.g., new technologies for preventing health-care errors; transitions in care; health-care informatics)
- Ergonomics in automobile manufacturing
- Emerging exposure measures for preventing upper-extremity disorders/RSI
- Effects of mental or physical disabilities on performance
- Mind-body interactions in performance
- HF/E in technology-aided mental health care
- Human-system integration
- HF/E concerns in home health care
- Advances in HF/E methodologies

Guidelines for submitting a proposal for a special issue or section and criteria for selection are available [here](#). Proposals are due **July 1, 2014**, and will be reviewed by Patricia DeLucia and the Associate Editors. One topic will be selected from the submissions.

Submit your completed proposal via e-mail to HFES Communications Director Lois Smith.

Virtual Environments Technical Group Logo Contest

*By Fleet Davis, Research Associate II, SA Technologies, Inc.*

The Virtual Environments Technical Group (VETG) needs a logo. Do you have an idea? We want to see it! If chosen, your design will appear on our Web site, Twitter, and other VETG publications. You will also receive a $100 gift voucher and a t-shirt with the logo on it as a prize!

An EPS vector file is preferred, but not necessary. If creating a raster format logo, please submit a large (minimum width 800px), high-quality, transparent PNG or TIFF (PSDs are also welcome). Need ideas? Check out this [infographic](#). Submissions are due by May 31, 2014. Please e-mail submissions and questions to Katelyn Procci.

**STANDARDS UPDATE**

ISO/TC 159 Standards Update

*By Daryle Gardner-Bonneau, Chair, U.S. TAG to ISO/TC159*

This month begins a new feature of the *HFES Bulletin* that we're going to trial for the next six months, giving HFES members a quickly scannable listing of news relevant to ISO/TC 159 standards activities. These monthly updates will include upcoming meetings with topics to be discussed, newly published standards, new standardization projects, and draft standards currently being balloted. After each item you'll find a contact e-mail address if you are interested in becoming involved in that activity.

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 struc-
ture 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).

We hope you will find this new feature useful. The contacts whose e-mail addresses are pro-
vided below (i.e., Daryle Gardner-Bonneau, Robert Fox, and James Williams) welcome your in-
quiries and your participation in these activities.

Finally, the listings each month will use the following ISO abbreviations:

**TC** = Technical Committee  
**SC** = Subcommittee  
**WG** = Working Group  
**CD** = Committee Draft  
**DIS** = Draft International Standard  
**FDIS** = Final Draft International Standard  
**TR** = Technical Report  
**NWIP** = New Work Item Proposal

**Newly Published Standards**  
handling (ISO 11228-1, ISO 11228-2 and ISO 11228-3) and evaluation of static working pos-
tures (ISO 11226).

**New Projects**  
SC3 – development of ISO 7250-3 – worldwide human body measurement design values.
Contact: robert.r.fox@gm.com.

SC4 – ISO 9241-332 (autostereoscopic displays); Vote on NWIP due 5/14/14. Contact:
ergojim@earthlink.net.

**Draft Documents Released for Comment and Vote**  
SC5 – ISO FDIS 24504 (sound pressure levels of spoken announcements); Due 6/3/14.
Contact: JDNBonneau@charter.net.

SC4 – ISO 9241-940 (tactile and haptic interactions); Due 6/7/14.
Contact: ergojim@earthlink.net.

SC4 – ISO DIS 9241-161 (user interface elements); Due 8/22/14.
Contact: ergojim@earthlink.net.

**Upcoming Meetings**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SC1 plenary</th>
<th>May 26</th>
<th>Tokyo, Japan</th>
<th>Contact: <a href="mailto:JDNBonneau@charter.net">JDNBonneau@charter.net</a></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SC4 plenary</td>
<td>May 26–27</td>
<td>Sapporo, Japan</td>
<td>Contact: <a href="mailto:ergojim@earthlink.net">ergojim@earthlink.net</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SC1 WG1</td>
<td>May 26–27</td>
<td>Tokyo, Japan – resolve comments on ISO CD 6385 (work systems)</td>
<td>Contact: <a href="mailto:JDNBonneau@charter.net">JDNBonneau@charter.net</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
SC1 WG5 and SC4 WG6 joint meeting  May 28
Sapporo, Japan – discuss shared issues related to ergonomic process standards
Contact: JDNBonneau@charter.net

SC1 WG5  May 29–30
Sapporo, Japan – work on drafting executive- and management-level ergonomic process standards
Contact: JDNBonneau@charter.net

SC4 WG6  May 29–31
Sapporo, Japan – review comments on ISO 9241-220
Contact: ergojim@earthlink.net

TC159/WG2  June 23 (web meeting)
discuss revision of TR 22411 (ergonomic requirements for accessibility) and potential new work item for guidance on accessibility and special populations
Contact: JDNBonneau@charter.net

SC3 plenary  July 7–9
Berlin, Germany
Contact: robert.r.fox@gm.com

SC3 WG1 and WG4 joint meeting  July 7–9
Berlin, Germany – discuss current projects and potential new work items
Contact: robert.r.fox@gm.com

U.S. TAG to ISO/TC159/SC3 – Annual Meeting  July 23–24
Yellow Springs, OH – review of SC3 projects, new ANSI regulations concerning TAGs, and standards work within HFES
Contact: robert.r.fox@gm.com

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**ANNUAL MEETING**

**Call for Student Volunteers**

HFES invites full-time student members to serve as volunteers for the 2014 International Annual Meeting, to be held October 27–31 in Chicago. Student volunteers perform many essential functions and help to ensure that the Annual Meeting runs smoothly.

Students applying to volunteer must register for the Annual Meeting by September 15. Refunds are processed after the meeting. Registration opens in July. To volunteer, please e-mail the following information to Director of Member Services Carlos de Falla:

- your contact information (including your full name and e-mail address)
- your first, second, and third choices from the list of key areas given below
- your anticipated date of arrival at and departure from the meeting.
You may request assignments in specific areas, and every effort will be made to ensure you receive your first or second choice. Volunteer positions are limited to about 40 slots, and requests will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. Help is needed in (but not limited to) the following key areas:

- Workshops (Monday, October 27)
- Ribbon desk (October 27–29)
- On-Site Career Center (October 27–30)
- Technical Tours (October 28–30)
- Poster sessions (October 28–30)
- HFES booth in exhibit hall (lunch/break hours, October 28–30)

Assignments will be made and instructions sent four weeks prior to the meeting. A student volunteer room will be available at the headquarters hotel for checking assignments, networking with other students, and obtaining signatures for completed work.

More than 90% of the positions are four hours, and volunteers in this group will be reimbursed half the student registration fee. Students assigned to eight hours of volunteer work will receive a reimbursement of the full student registration fee. Students applying to volunteer will receive early information regarding lodging at the student hotel.

First-Year Student Travel Honorarium Program
By Jennifer M. Riley, Chair, Council of Technical Groups

The HFES First-Year Student Travel Honorarium Program helps students entering HF/E academic programs travel to the HFES Annual Meeting. The program supports non-presenting, first-year students who would not normally attend the meeting because of limited resources. The honorarium, which requires matching funds, encourages the awardees to network, attend TG technical sessions and business meetings, and interact with professionals very early in their careers.

For this year’s annual meeting, 10 awards of $500 and a waiver of registration fees will be provided. The selection will be made by lottery from eligible applications. The annual meeting will be held October 27–31 in Chicago, and all application materials must be provided in a single package by August 15 to be eligible for the lottery.

Requirements for Award Eligibility
An applicant for the honorarium

- must be a full-time student who is enrolled in his or her first or second quarter/semester at the time of the HFES Meeting (need to be first enrolled into program in spring or fall of 2014);
- must be an HFES student member or apply for Student Affiliate membership when submitting the travel honorarium application; and
- must have matching funds of $500 from an adviser or another source.

Application Information
Only five applications may be submitted from a single educational program (more than one program at one university may apply; e.g., engineering and psychology). Students who wish to
apply for a travel honorarium must complete the application and submit it along with the following enclosures:

1. a simple statement indicating that you are a student member (or will apply prior to submission), and that you are enrolled in an HF/E educational program;
2. a statement of the source of matching funds; and
3. a letter from the applicant’s adviser verifying enrollment, need for funding, source of matching funds, and that the application is one of five or fewer submitted from the program.

Send the completed application and all completed enclosures, no later than **August 15**, to Jennifer M. Riley via e-mail (jennifer@satechnologies.com). All required documents should be included in a single application submission, including the adviser letter. If any part of the application is missing, the application will not be eligible for the award.

Applications will be evaluated for completeness, and letters will be provided to applicants with missing information or to programs submitting more than five applications. Because of time limitations, applications deemed to be ineligible cannot be resubmitted. All eligible applications will be entered into a lottery, and all applicants will be informed when the 10 awardees are selected.

**Award Process**

Awardees will be selected by August 29, 2014. All awards will be made to student recipients as gifts to their home institutions. HFES will make gifts by check, and a university or college must have an established gift account through which to receive the gift. The student’s academic adviser and/or department will be responsible for overseeing disbursement of the award to the student recipient from the gift account. All award funds must be used to support student participation in the Annual Meeting.

After the Annual Meeting, awardees will be required to report on the opportunities that they took advantage of during the meeting and details about how the funds were spent. The short report must be e-mailed to Jennifer M. Riley (jennifer@satechnologies.com) by November 14, 2014.

**PUBLIC POLICY MATTERS**

**Update on Congressional Activities**

*By Lewis-Burke Associates LLC*

Following the release of President Obama’s budget request for fiscal year (FY) 2015 on March 4, Congress has been working hard on the appropriations process. A number of congressional committees have held hearings to question agency officials and gather more details and explanations on the content of agencies’ budget requests.

This summary presents information on hearings on the Department of Defense (DOD) and the National Institutes of Health (NIH), the House Republican FY 2015 budget resolution, and the resignation of Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) Secretary Kathleen Sebelius. Additionally, HFES has submitted written testimony to the Senate Appropriations Committee hearing titled “Driving Innovation Through Federal Investments.” The HFES testimony is available [here](#).
**Senate Armed Services Subcommittee**

On April 8, the Senate Armed Services Subcommittee on Emerging Threats and Capabilities held a hearing to review the president’s FY 2015 budget request for science and technology programs at DOD. The hearing followed a corresponding House Armed Services Subcommittee hearing held the previous week. Subcommittee Chairwoman Kay Hagan (D-NC) and Ranking Member Deb Fischer (R-NE) questioned top DOD and service branch research officials about DOD’s spending priorities in a constrained fiscal environment.

At both the House and Senate hearings, members raised concerns for the defense science and technology enterprise; specifically the proposed 5% reduction for DOD Science & Technology (S&T) programs in the president’s FY 2015 budget request. Witnesses expressed disappointment with the proposed cuts to S&T, particularly with regard to basic research, but they noted that DOD faces difficult trade-offs among force size, readiness, and modernization activities.

Illustrating an increased pressure to demonstrate outcomes of investments in S&T, all witnesses used their prepared remarks to provide examples of new capabilities that resulted from prior basic and applied research activities. Despite Senator Hagan’s defense of the importance of basic research, the need to transition discoveries from the laboratory to the battlefield has been a bipartisan, bicameral theme throughout the two DOD S&T budget hearings. The ongoing impacts of sequestration and the cap on defense spending set by the Ryan-Murray budget agreement have increased competition for dollars within the DOD budget and forced members of Congress to justify the benefits of S&T funding to those from competing constituencies. Multiple witnesses cited a deliberate shift in funding from 6.1 (basic research) to 6.3 (advanced technology development) accounts as evidence that the service branches are sensitive to this sentiment.

Other topics discussed included the following:

- the state of the DOD science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) workforce
- expanded hiring authorities to help bring new program managers and scientists into DOD research agencies more quickly
- efforts under way to reduce duplication across DOD research programs
- the DOD Rapid Innovation Program, the state of DOD laboratories, proposed cuts to the Historically Black Colleges and Universities program
- DOD’s process for identifying the next wave of emerging security threats

The full Lewis-Burke analysis on these hearings is available [here](#).

**Senate and House Labor-HHS-Education Appropriations Subcommittees**

The Senate and House Subcommittees on Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies hosted two hearings on the president’s FY 2015 budget request for NIH on April 2 and March 26, respectively. Both subcommittees heard testimony from NIH Director Francis Collins, who was accompanied by National Cancer Institute Director Harold Varmus, National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases Director Tony Fauci, National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke Director Story Landis, and National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute Director Gary Gibbons. Dr. Christopher Austin from the National Center for Advancing Translational Sciences also joined the panel for the Senate hearing.

Key issues raised during the House hearing included praise for NIH efforts in advancing the field of biomedical research, emphasis of a zero-tolerance policy for “frivolous” grants, concerns about reduced NIH purchasing power, support for young investigators, and issues related to NIH support of behavioral and social science research, including economics.
At the Senate hearing, topics of discussion included the following:

- stagnation and disinvestment arising from sequestration and budget caps
- commitment to NIH as essential to addressing economic concerns for the United States
- the need for steady funding increases, adjusted for inflation
- support for young investigators

At the hearing, panel members were questioned about NIH advances in rheumatoid arthritis, cystic fibrosis, stroke prevention and recovery, HIV prevention in babies and adults, women’s and minority health, and NIH’s efforts to identify locations for chimpanzees being retired from research.

It should be noted that both of these hearings took place prior to the April 11 announcement that HHS Secretary Kathleen Sebelius was resigning after five years in her position. President Obama announced the nomination of White House Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Director Sylvia Matthews Burwell as her replacement. Burwell has served as OMB director since April 2013, as OMB deputy director during the Clinton Administration, and as president of the Walmart Foundation.

Secretary Sebelius’s decision to step down occurred after a rocky few months following the flawed launch of the Affordable Care Act Web site. Recently, however, the administration reported that it had exceeded its enrollment goal, with more than 7 million people signed up for coverage by the March 31 deadline.

The full Lewis-Burke analysis on these hearings is available here.

**Appropriations Season Gets Under Way**

On April 10, the House passed Budget Committee Chairman Paul Ryan’s (R-WI) budget resolution, which outlines a comprehensive plan to reduce federal spending by $5.1 trillion over the next 10 years and to balance the federal budget. All Democrats and 12 Republicans voted against the budget. The measure, which will not be considered by the Democrat-led Senate, establishes top-line spending levels for House appropriations bills in FY 2015 through the end of the decade. The budget resolution gives a preview of the themes likely to be used by Republican candidates in this election year.

The House Republican budget resolution reaffirms the $1.014 trillion overall spending cap for the annual appropriations bills, which are beginning to move through the House Appropriations Committee. However, the House budget resolution assumes deeper spending cuts in future years from discretionary spending below the postsequester caps in current law. It would also assume significant reforms to entitlement and mandatory programs, including Medicare, Medicaid, and welfare-related programs and again suggests repeal of the Affordable Care Act. The budget plan also proposes comprehensive tax reform.

These major reforms would require significant changes to current laws and are unlikely in the near term. The Senate does not plan to take up a budget resolution this year, with spending caps for the annual appropriations bills already in place pursuant to the Balanced Budget Act of 2013. No further action on the House budget resolution is expected after consideration by the full House.

The full Lewis-Burke analysis on the budget resolution is available here.

*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

HFES Members Receive 2014 Liberty Mutual Best Paper Award

HFES members Ayse P. Gurses (Johns Hopkins University), Priyadarshini R. Pennathur (University of Iowa), and James H. Abernathy III (Medical University of South Carolina) were among the team of nine researchers who received the 2014 Liberty Mutual Best Paper Award. The annual award, established in 2005 by the Liberty Mutual Research Institute for Safety and the UK Institute for Ergonomics and Human Factors (formerly the Ergonomics Society), recognizes the paper that best contributes to the advancement of ergonomics.

The selected paper, “Technologies in the Wild (TiW): Human Factors Implications for Patient Safety in the Cardiovascular Operating Room,” provides a richer and more realistic understanding of the potential risks to patient safety introduced by a multitude of technologies in a complex health-care work system; specifically, a cardiovascular operating room. The paper also examines the possible impact of these hazards on clinician cognition and performance based on an observational study on five large cardiac surgery centers in the United States.

“My coauthors and I are greatly honored and proud to win this prestigious award,” said Gurses. “I am particularly excited because the award is an excellent indication of how much the field of human factors/ergonomics has to offer to improve health care quality and safety and the importance of close, interdisciplinary collaboration between clinicians and human factors/ergonomics experts.”

OTHER NEWS

Foundation Moves Ergonomics Profession Forward

By Richard Kelly

The Foundation for Professional Ergonomics (FPE) was established in 2004 as a nonprofit organization dedicated to advancing professionalism in ergonomics. The mission of 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

FPE’s goals work in a symbiotic relationship with those of HFES and the Board of Certification in Professional Ergonomics (BCPE). In fall 2013, HFES signed a memorandum of understanding promoting collaboration with FPE.
The volunteer Board of FPE has 11 directors:

- Thomas J. Albin
- David J. Cochran
- H. Harvey Cohen
- Gregory Cresswell
- Sheree L. Gibson
- Karel J. Jahns
- Waldemar Karwowski
- Richard T. Kelly
- Matthew Pierce
- Valerie J. Rice
- Robert J. Smillie

Volunteers working with FPE are actively involved in several initiatives that aim to advance professionalism in ergonomics among students, practitioners in industry, and developing countries. Current efforts include the following.

**Dieter W. Jahns Student Practitioner Award.** This annual award recognizes a student or students for a project that demonstrates excellence in the major practice areas of ergonomics: analysis, design, and evaluation. The award recognizes educational activities that demonstrate how professional ergonomists make people’s lives at work and at home healthier, safer, more productive, and more satisfying. FPE has been presenting this award to both U.S. and international students since 2010. If interested, contact Robert Smillie at robert.smillie@cox.net.

**Ergonomists Without Borders.** This project is a collaboration among national and international organizations to provide ergonomics expertise and resources to agriculturally and industrially developing communities around the world. Ergonomists Without Borders provides services to organizations, groups, practicing professionals, and governments through consultant and resource assistance, professional seminars and workshops, and other initiatives. For more information, contact Gregory Cresswell at gcresswell@ergonomistswithoutborders.org.

**Mentoring.** FPE facilitates the mentoring of students and young professionals in the practice of ergonomics. Whereas university degree programs provide basic knowledge and skills, practice 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 the specific purposes and needs of the mentee. This typically is accomplished remotely, even internationally, through various electronic media and technology. If you are a student or young ergonomics 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, design methods, and system controls and displays are currently available, and more courses will be added soon.

FPE has IRS 501(c)(3) status enabling tax-deductible donations from those who want to help promote professionalism in ergonomics. Visit FPE at www.ergofoundation.org to see what you can do to support these efforts and other opportunities. Future articles will explore FPE’s initiatives in more detail.
Dieter W. Jahns Student Practitioner Award Submissions Invited

The Foundation for Professional Ergonomics (FPE) welcomes submissions for the Dieter W. Jahns Student Practitioner Award through May 31, 2014. Named in memory of Dieter W. Jahns, a lifelong advocate of the practice of ergonomics and a leader in ergonomics certification, the award is given to a student or group of students for a project that demonstrates the major practice areas of ergonomics: analysis, design, and evaluation.

The award is open worldwide to MS and PhD graduate students in ergonomics and ergonomics-related programs. Students who have completed their graduate degrees in the past year are also eligible. Complete details on criteria and format can be found at www.ergofoundation.org. Submissions should be sent to Robert J. Smillie via e-mail.

Human Factors in Complex Systems Conference

The Institute of Ergonomics and Human Factors (IEHF) will hold a memorial conference for John Wilson on June 10–11 at National College, Nottingham, UK. The event will remember Wilson's work through presentations by a number of his colleagues and other speakers. Papers will cover transport, health care, advanced technologies, and the challenges associated with human factors/ergonomics implementation in general.

Wilson, who died on July 1, 2013, led much of the ergonomics and human factors work at the University of Nottingham for 30 years and was an internationally respected leader in participatory ergonomics, human factors of virtual reality, rail human factors, and systems ergonomics.

HFES members are entitled to discounted registration. Register at http://www.hf-complexsystems.org.uk/ and check “Yes” when prompted regarding HFES membership.

CALENDAR

August

32nd International System Safety Conference, August 1–10, 2014, St. Louis, MO.

122nd Annual Convention of the American Psychological Association, August 7–10, 2014, Washington, DC.


September

AutomotiveUI'14: The 6th International Conference on Automotive User Interfaces and Interactive Vehicular Applications, September 17–19, 2014, Seattle, WA.

American Biological Safety Association (ABSA) 57th Annual Biological Safety Conference, October 2–8, 2014, San Diego, CA.