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Through the Rearview Mirror: Ergonomics for Children

By Rani Lueder

Humans have always fussed over what's best for children. Yet until recently, the human factors/ergonomics discipline in the United States lagged in its emphasis on ergonomics for children. Perhaps the Greek roots in the etymology of the word ergonomics – “the study of man at work” – might have shaped our thinking. Perhaps it was our Society's historic beginnings in military matters. Whatever the reason, we have taken our time to fully incorporate into our field concepts of lifespan issues. In this article, I track the progress that has been made to date and call for continued focus in this critical area.

Focus on Children:

Government Agencies, Meetings, and Standards

Important federal efforts to promote ergonomics for children in the United States have recently proceeded apace. The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), Consumer Products Safety Commission (CPSC), Centers for Disease Control (CDC) – including the great work by the National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) on behalf of working youth (e.g., Waters & Garg, 2010) – have focused on these issues. Furthermore, a great deal of knowledge relevant to ergonomics for children has continued to stratify across a wide range of disciplines, including health care, optometry, education, architecture, facilities design, and urban planning.

The shift in focus in HF/E seems to have begun around the mid-1990s. By then, we had learned a great deal about the musculoskeletal risks of adults working at computers. Translating that knowledge into ergonomics for children seemed a logical next step. Given the dearth of research in the ergonomics literature specifically about children and computer use, early articles commonly offered guidance based on findings from studies of adult users. This was the impetus for me to begin to edit and write a book on the topic (Lueder & Rice, 2008), which is an attempt to rethink the research in light of the needs of children.

Recently our discipline has seen a sea change in its perspective on ergonomics for children. HF/E conferences commonly include a range of thought-provoking presentations, expanding the body of research in this important area.

A number of groups provide invaluable information for students, educators, and ergonomics practitioners worldwide. Interesting efforts have begun at the grass-roots level in schools. The late Cheryl Bennett organized the International Ergonomics Association's Ergonomics for Children in Educational Environments (ECEE) Technical Committee following a symposium at IEA 2000/HFES 2000 in San Diego (Bennett & Tien, 2003). Information about the ECEE is available at www.ergonomicsforchildren.org. Bennett's efforts have been continued by Karen Jacobs, who has also pushed us to rethink issues such as the weight of backpacks used by schoolchildren, to foster population-based ergonomics initiatives such as the backpack awareness initiatives in Sri Lanka and the United States, and to focus on macroergonomics issues. Ergonomics 4 Schools, a special interest group of the Institute of Ergonomics and Human Factors (formerly the Ergonomics Society), furthers the development of ergonomics information for children through high-school age. Information is available at www.ergonomics4schools.com and www.ergonomics.org.uk/sig/e4s.

There is now a stronger distinction between research relevant to children versus that relevant to adults (*c.f.* Straker et al., 2010). The *European Guidelines for Prevention in Low Back Pain* (Burton, 2005; Burton et al., 2004) incorporated evidence-based guidance for preventing back pain in children as well as the general population and provides guidance for accommodating children in a number of situations. The topic of ergonomics for children has also expanded to incorporate a broader range of issues, particularly those related to psychosocial and user interface considerations.

The pace of standards relevant to ergonomics for children has increased since the 1990s as well. Many are developed as voluntary standards by ASTM International (formerly known as the American Society for Testing and Materials), sometimes with encouragement from the CPSC. Those voluntary standards pertain to children's clothing, nursery products or furniture, and child-resistant packaging. Pollock-Nelson (2006) provided an excellent recap of guidelines relevant to nursery products.

Important standards developed within the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) include the *ISO/IEC Guide 50:2002 Safety aspects – Guidelines for child safety*, which was prepared by the Joint ISO/IEC Technical Advisory Group (JTAG) for child safety. Guide 50:2002 provides a framework for addressing potential sources of unintentional physical harm (hazards) to children from products, processes, or services, whether or not these were specifically intended for children. ISO stipulates that it should be included in standards in conjunction with the *ISO/IEC Guide 51, Safety Aspects – Guidelines*.

ISO TC 8124 Safety of toys provides safety guidance to minimize hazards when using toys during play or “reasonably foreseeable abuse.” ISO technical committee ISO/TC 181, Safety of Toys, also updated the first two parts in the series: *Part 1: Safety aspects related to mechanical and physical properties*, in 2009, and *Part 2: Flammability*, in 2007. In 2009, the European Union published *Toy Safety Directive Provisions on Warnings* to guide manufacturers.

The largest set of ISO standards relevant to children is specific to road vehicles. Many of these concern child restraint systems, such as the new technical specification *ISO/TS 22239: Road vehicles – Child seat presence and orientation detection system (CPOD)*, which aims to ensure system compatibility.

More Needs To Be Done

Challenges remain for HF/E professionals. We must continue to rethink assumptions about accommodating children, primarily by discarding the notion that findings relevant for adults apply to children, particularly with regard to visual ergonomics (Fostervold & Ankrum, 2008), physical development, and age-related musculoskeletal risk (Lueder, 2008). On close inspection, age-grading of children’s products – particularly toys – is often inaccurate. Standards fail to address or mandate compliance with hazardous children’s products. At the same time, we need to incorporate the vast and daunting literature that encompasses a broad range of disciplines. In the meantime, it is encouraging to look back through the rearview mirror to see how far we have come.

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PUBLIC POLICY MATTERS

New Web Page for “Public Policy Matters”

By William C. Howell, Government Relations Committee Chair

The Government Relations Committee (GRC) has recently [added a page](#) to the HFES Web site to highlight *HFES Bulletin* articles and other resources and reports dealing with issues related to public policy.

In recent years, HF/E professionals and HFES have become more active at the public policy level, recognizing that decisions in that arena have a wide-ranging impact on everything from the nation’s investment in HF/E research to the practices adopted by entire industries. In 2004, at the request of the HFES Executive Council, the GRC was established to provide added impetus and structure to the Society’s public policy activities. Since that time, a number of GRC initiatives aimed at informing and involving the HFES membership have been attempted. The most successful to date has been the publication of noteworthy policy developments and related HFES activities under the “Public Policy Matters” banner as a regular feature in the *HFES Bulletin*.

To communicate time-sensitive announcements and reports between *Bulletin* issues, the GRC created the [Public Policy Matters page](#), which can be accessed from hfes.org by clicking on the “Public Policy Matters” link in the left-hand navigation bar. The PPM page now contains links to public policy-related *HFES Bulletin* articles published since 2004, and additional content will be added in the future.

Committee on Human-Systems Integration (COHSI) Activities at the National Academies

By William S. Marras, COHSI Committee Chair

It is time again to provide an update of the activities of the National Research Council's Committee on Human-Systems Integration (COHSI) at the National Academies. The committee (formerly known as the Committee on Human Factors) advises the nation on science, engineering, and medicine. Our mission is to respond to agencies that request assessments of issues involving human factors/ergonomics and to consider situations in which COHSI can be proactive in helping society relative to HF/E issues. COHSI serves as a standing committee and oversees ad hoc committees that are formed to address specific projects.

Core sponsors support COHSI's mission of bringing the best HF/E science to bear on national issues and challenges in areas related to human-systems integration. COHSI is the only standing committee with a clear concentration of HF/E expertise at the National Academies. During the past two years, the HFES Government Relations Committee has requested – and the HFES Executive Council has approved – \$5,000 in core support to the committee.

COHSI has been busy this year. We have just held our second meeting and have several projects under way and several others under development.

The committee is currently overseeing three active projects. The first, "Unifying Social Frameworks," is sponsored by the Office of Naval Research. Its goal is to gain a better understanding of the social and cultural differences that can affect the ability of warfighters to interact with citizens and assess situations in foreign lands. The committee sponsored a workshop on this topic on August 16–17 at the National Academies' Keck Center in Washington D.C.

The second activity involves a review of the research activities funded by the National Institute for Disability and Rehabilitation Research (NIDRR). COHSI will develop an overall framework and evaluation design that will be used to review NIDRR's program priorities and its grant review and final selection process. The committee will also review grantee outputs in three areas (to be specified by the committee) that are representative of the NIDRR portfolio; examples include medical, engineering, and social science research (grantee output or summative evaluation).

The third project under way involves the assessment of HF/E issues associated with the delivery of home health care. The goal of this project, which is sponsored by the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality, is to produce three products: a workshop summary that discusses relevant issues, a consensus report, and a designer's guide for the development of home health care information technology.

COHSI is also actively involved in the development of four new potential projects:

1. Assessing the need to incorporate HF/E knowledge into an engineering education
2. The assessment of how HF/E systems principles can be employed to enhance medical care coordination for those suffering from chronic illnesses
3. A human-systems integration approach to remotely operated vehicles
4. Commuter pilot fatigue assessment

This year marks the 30th anniversary of this standing committee's existence within the National Academies. In order to commemorate this occasion, COHSI is hosting a 30th anniversary celebration on December 2 at the Academies' Keck Center. We are still planning this celebration, but I am happy to report that as of this writing, Donald A. Norman and Lucian Leape have agreed to be the keynote speakers for this landmark occasion. We invite all HFES members to join us in this celebration. Additional information about COHSI can be found on the committee's Web site, http://www7.nationalacademies.org/bccss/COHSI_AbouttheCommittee.html.

NATIONAL ERGONOMICS MONTH

NEM Is Here!

By Raegan M. Hoeft, NEM Committee Chair



October is here, and that means it's National Ergonomics Month (NEM) – now in its eighth year! Have you participated in NEM events in the past? If not, there's no time like the present to get started.

Over the last eight years, NEM volunteers throughout the Society have focused on four specific outreach programs: (a) media, (b) corporate and government, (c) schools, and (d) student members. If you have already conducted NEM activities in the past, or are planning an event for 2010, I applaud your commitment to HF/E and to placing importance on the future of HF/E. If you hadn't considered participating or developing your own NEM activities, I hope that you will be inspired this year to take the next step.

The slogan for NEM is "A Time for Teaching, Learning, Networking, Service, and Fun!" That encompasses quite a bit,

but at the same time, it leaves the door wide open for you to plan any type of event, in any location, with any type of audience that you want to reach to spread the word about the human factors/ergonomics field.

NEM at the HFES 2010 Annual Meeting

This year at the NEM session on Monday afternoon, we held the first-ever NEM Expo. The goal of the Expo was to “train the trainer” and encourage the exchange of ideas in a casual and interactive forum. We recruited participants who had experience with outreach in the past and who were willing to share those experiences with meeting attendees. The Expo was an interactive session in which attendees could show up and dive right in at any time. Various organizations set up booths to provide information about their outreach activities and lessons learned.

In addition, the results of this year’s NEM Best Action Plans were announced. Congratulations to Brittany L. Anderson of Old Dominion University for her individual contribution entitled “ErgoBride: Registries of 21st Century Couples,” in which she proposes to “introduce new couples to ergonomics and the benefits of ergonomically designed products” by targeting local stores, national corporations, and magazines. Brittany’s submission was extremely creative and sought to target an audience not often associated with HF/E.

Congratulations also to the New Mexico State University (NMSU) Student Chapter for their group contribution entitled

“Cultivating Young Minds and Encouraging Diversity: Introducing New Mexico High School Students to HF/E.” NMSU’s submission combined NEM’s outreach goals with HFES’s diversity goals by exploiting their unique opportunity to reach out to their local Hispanic community. We would also like to recognize the other student chapters who submitted to the contest and encourage them to complete their outreach activities as well: George Mason University, Georgia Tech, Mississippi State University, Purdue University, and the University of Waterloo.

NEM Web Site

The [NEM Web site](http://www.hfesnem.org) lists upcoming events for 2010, and we encourage you to submit your events for posting on this list. The benefits to posting your upcoming events include public awareness, possible collaboration with those planning other events, and inspiration for others to conduct their own outreach events. Also, if you are looking for ideas for your own events, perusing the list of past events may provide you with some inspiration.

We also now have active groups on Facebook and LinkedIn for you to become involved with NEM activities and discussions. Information about these is also available on our Web site (www.hfesnem.org). Finally, we are in the process of developing a press kit, which will include NEM brochures and informational materials. Look for these in the coming year.

Remember to embrace all possible opportunities to promote HF/E, during NEM or any time of the year. And, of course, have fun doing it!

AWARDS

2010 HFES Fellows and Awardees Honored in San Francisco

The Human Factors and Ergonomics Society elected five Fellows and presented several awards on September 28, 2010, during the Opening Plenary Session of the 54th Annual Meeting in San Francisco, California.

Newly elected Fellows are **David John Cochran**, professor, Industrial and Management Systems Engineering, University of Nebraska-Lincoln; **Gary Klein**, principal scientist, Klein Associates Division of ARA; **David M. Rempel**, professor, Bioengineering, University of California, Berkeley; **Emilie M. Roth**, owner and principal scientist, Roth Cognitive Engineering; and **Carol Stuart-Buttle**, consultant, Stuart-Buttle Ergonomics.

Recipients of the Jerome H. Ely *Human Factors* Article Award were **Christopher D. Wickens**, Alion Science Corporation; **Stephen Rice** and **David Heller**, New Mexico State University, Las Cruces; **Shaun Hutchins**, Alion Science Corporation; and **Jamie Hughes**, and **Kristal Clayton**, New Mexico State University, Las Cruces, for their paper, “False Alerts in the Air Traffic Control Conflict Alerting System: Is There a ‘Cry Wolf’ Effect?” (Volume 51, Number 4, August 2009). This study sought to determine whether a high incidence of midair-

conflict “false-alarm” alerts depresses performance in response to true alerts.

Gunilla B radley, professor emerita, Department of Electronic, Computer, and Software Systems, Royal Institute of Technology, Stockholm, Sweden, was honored with the Hal W. Hendrick Distinguished International Colleague Award. Bradley has been a leading scholar in examining the influences of workplace computerization and the spread of information and communication technology into everyday living for close to 40 years.

The Paul M. Fitts Education Award was presented to **Wendy A. Rogers**, professor of psychology, Georgia Institute of Technology, in recognition of nearly two decades of sustained, exceptional effort and success in the education of human factors and ergonomics specialists.

Richard van der Horst, of TNO in the Netherlands, received the A. R. Lauer Safety Award in recognition of more than 35 years of significant contributions to surface transportation safety. Van der Horst, a senior research consultant for human factors in traffic safety, has made broad contributions in



Cochran



Rempel



Roth



Stuart-Buttle



Wickens



Bradley



Rogers



van der Horst



McClemon



Kieras



Sullenberger



Sanders

research and practice work that have impacted both the empirical knowledge base and the policy domains of transportation safety.

The recipient of the Alphonse Chapanis Best Student Paper Award was **Christopher M cClermon** for his paper, “Stress Training Enhances Pilot Performance During a Stressful Flying Task.” The award committee received 21 submissions and narrowed the field to three based on oral presentations the day before the winner was announced.

The Jack A. Kraft Innovator Award was presented to **David A. Kieras**, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, for work extending the utility of several computational models of human performance to new areas of research and system design. Principal examples of this work are the EPIC cognitive architecture and the GOMS modeling framework.

Markus A. Feufel, Katherine D. Li ppa, and Helen Altman Klein, Wright State University, received the Best *Ergonomics in Design* Article Award for “Calling 911: Emergency Medical Services in Need of Human Factors.” (Volume 17, Number 2, Spring 2009). The article conjures a vivid picture as it takes the reader through an emergency medical services run from the time of the 911 call to arriving at a hospital. The HF/E design opportunities and gaps in research and knowledge are identified throughout the journey.

Retired US Air Captain **Chesley “Sully” Sullenberger** received the Oliver Keith Hansen Outreach Award in recognition of excellence in outreach to the general public, government organizations, and professional organizations.

HFES President Kathleen Mosier presented the Arnold M. Small President’s Distinguished Service Award to **Betty M. Sanders**, Humanomics, Inc., in recognition of her career-long contributions, which have brought honor to the profession and the Society. Sanders has served as president, an at-large Executive Council member, and chair of numerous committees and task forces.

ANNUAL MEETING

Preliminary Call for Proposals:
55th Annual Meeting

September 19–23, 2011 (Note the revised date!)
Red Rock Hotel, Las Vegas, Nevada, USA

HUMAN FACTORS AND
ERGONOMICS SOCIETY
55TH ANNUAL MEETING



The Human Factors and Ergonomics Society's Annual Meeting is the primary gathering of researchers and practitioners in the field of human factors/ergonomics and related areas. We invite you to submit proposals for the 55th Annual Meeting, which will take place September 19–23 at the Red Rock Hotel in Las Vegas. Participants are invited to submit proposals, including case studies, debates, demonstrations, competitive product designs, new methodologies, on-site experiments, and posters involving both fixed and dynamic information presentation.

Proposal Due Date

The deadline for submitting any type of proposal is **February 17, 2011**. A fully detailed call for proposals will be available at the HFES Web site in December.

Submit a Five-Page Formatted Proposal

The Technical Program Committee is seeking five-page proposals, which must be formatted in the same two-column layout that is used for papers published in the proceedings. This aids both proposers and reviewers: Proposers no longer have to write two distinct types of documents, and reviewers can be more confident that the proposal is an appropriate summary of what will appear in the proceedings. Proposals for any type of submission (lecture, poster, panel, etc.) must be five or fewer correctly formatted pages. Formatting instructions will be available in the online Call for Proposals, along with a layout template into which text may be inserted. Again, there is no word limit for the proposals; however, the font must be easily readable, and authors must address all the points specified in the Call for Proposals.

Submitting Proposals

Detailed instructions for submitting materials will be included in the online Call for Proposals. All submissions will be uploaded to a Web site. (The URL will be provided in the instructions.) All correspondence regarding your submission will be sent via e-mail.

Papers that have been published previously or presented at another professional meeting may not be submitted. All research and analyses described in your proposal must be complete at the time the proposal is submitted. Program chairs may reject, with or without review, papers that do not present completed work. The sole exception to this policy is for student work submitted for consideration in the Student Forum track, in which case the proposer may report on work in progress. Note that for all accepted submissions, one of the authors must attend the meeting to present the work. All presenters are required to pay the meeting registration fee.

If you know of nonmembers who might be interested in submitting a proposal, please send their contact information to the Communications Department (lois@hfes.org, 310/394-1811), and we will invite them to submit their work.

HFES Copyright

HFES requires a transfer of copyright unless the work was performed by U.S. government employees. However, the author may reuse the material for any purpose without restriction or fee. If you have questions about the HFES copyright transfer policy, please contact the HFES Communications Department (310/394-1811, lois@hfes.org).

We look forward to receiving your submission and to seeing you in Las Vegas next year.

2011 Annual Meeting Dates Have Changed!

Next year's meeting at the Red Rock Hotel in Las Vegas will take place **September 19–23, 2011** (formerly noted as September 26–29). Proposals will be due on **February 17, 2011**. Mark your calendars and stay tuned to the HFES Web site!

Puget Sound Chapter Hosts Another Successful Symposium

By Cynthia L. Williamson, Puget Sound Chapter President-Elect, & Janet M. Peterson, Puget Sound Chapter President

The HFES Puget Sound Chapter (PSHFES) held its annual Occupational Ergonomics Symposium on September 15 and 16 at the Seattle Museum of Flight. This year our two-day symposium and workshop drew more than 100 of the region's ergonomists, engineers, vocational rehabilitation counselors, safety and health managers, occupational health nurses, and physical/occupational therapists to hear Andrew S. Imada, president of the International Ergonomics Association (IEA), open the symposium with an awe-inspiring keynote speech on participatory ergonomics. Imada began with a parable, weaving in the IEA definition of ergonomics, to "optimize human well-being and overall system performance," and the wisdom that "you can't help people you don't understand," to illustrate the power of participatory ergonomics. He shared some of his own case studies to emphasize the critical need to understand the larger environment of a work situation, especially through the eyes of the end user, in order to come up with sustainable solutions to fix ergonomic risks in the workplace.

The theme of participatory ergonomics carried throughout the day's presentations. Alan R. Jacobsen, a human factors engineer working for The Boeing Company, discussed how participatory ergonomics played a role in the design of the new 787 airplane. He explained how human factors/ergonomics were integrated into the 787's design goals, which were to create a design and product that was safe, effective, and efficient for all its user groups, including pilots, customers, and airplane mechanics. The varied needs of these user groups sometimes resulted in conflicting design goals, which the Boeing design group resolved by working with the right people and tools at the right times to address everyone's needs.

John Von Lossow, a safety manager for McKinstry Sheet Metal, related the company's journey using participatory ergonomics to identify and make the necessary changes to drastically reduce its worker's compensation claims and costs from \$125,000 to \$700 per year. The company involved workers from the beginning with communication and collaboration on making the necessary changes, and learned that greater efficiency from incorporating ergonomics into their jobs resulted in higher profits.

The symposium featured four other presentations:

- Two PSHFES Board members explained a training module PSHFES had developed to teach basic ergonomics principles of computer ergonomics to older primary- and middle-school students. The module reflects research that links musculoskeletal risk in children to spending extended periods using computers and other electronic input devices. The training module will be available on the PSHFES Web site (www.pshfes.org) by the end of the year.

- An ergonomist and professional photographer showed us how improved knowledge of photography, and the use of focus, composition, color, and light techniques in our picture-taking, can enhance and provide power to our message and help us become more effective in illustrating the problems we are trying to resolve.
- An ergonomist and fitness instructor shared the latest research on the effectiveness of “stretch and flex” programs in workplaces and the difference between stretching and warming up.
- An ergonomist from Boeing discussed how the company encourages creative thinking and awareness of ergonomics and showed some great before-and-after project slides.

On the second day, two half-day workshops were held. Stephen Bao from the Washington State Department of Labor & Industries helped us understand ergonomics issues related to hand tools and the important features of good tool design and maintenance. Susan Murphy, president of Essential Ergonomics, showed us how and what data can be used to justify equipment purchases and programs for successful process improvement in any business and how to develop a health care needs assessment in nontraditional areas such as diagnostic imaging and hospice care.

PSHFES thanks the following exhibitors and sponsors for their support: BureauVeritas, Kinesis, ErgoHealth, Working Concepts, Neutral Posture, GrandStands, Steelcase/Details, Seattle Office Furniture, Remedy Interactive, Nu-Star Power Pusher, and The Boeing Company.

Andy Imada summed up his experience at the symposium with these words: “I had always heard that the PSHFES was a large and vibrant chapter, and I was honored to be invited to participate in the 2010 Occupational Ergonomics Symposium. I was impressed by the energy and collegiality of the group and the number of first-time attendees to the meeting. The topics covered were varied enough to draw interest from a range of professionals in the field. The PSHFES meeting was a good example of how an HFES chapter can foster our profession on local and regional levels.”



The University of Michigan
Department of Industrial
& Operations Engineering
Faculty Positions

<http://ioe.engin.umich.edu/people/facstaffposting.php>

Control Room Design Conference To Be Held This Month

The International Control Room Design Conference (ICOCO 2010), will be held October 25-26, 2010, in Paris. This is the first such scientific congress run by the Institute of Ergonomics and Human Factors. Keynote speakers are Robert S. Simpson, founder/ director of Electrosonic Group, and Toni Ivegard, author of *Handbook of Control Room Design and Ergonomics: A Perspective for the Future*.

The conference will cover topics such as new technology in control rooms, physical design of control rooms, control rooms of the future, overview displays, the changing role of the operator, and control rooms and world concerns: global warming, energy distribution, and societal security. For additional information visit the [conference Web site](#).

Ergonomics Design Award Call for Nominations

The Institute of Ergonomics & Human Factors (formerly the Ergonomics Society) is seeking nominations for its Ergonomics Design Award. The award is open to any individual or team of designers and/or ergonomists who can demonstrate the application of ergonomics to the highest standard in a project, product, or design. Award categories include a product that has been designed using ergonomics principles, an industrial or commercial application of ergonomics, an application of ergonomics in the built environment, and an inclusive design project.

The closing date for nominations is **November 30, 2011**. For more information visit the [award Web page](#).

FDA To Host Medical Device Development Workshop

The Food and Drug Administration (FDA) is hosting its first Medical Devices Technology Innovation Partnership (MD-TIP) Project effort via a one-day workshop on Tuesday, October 26, 2010, from 7:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. This effort is being cosponsored by the University of Virginia.

The workshop, titled “Innovation, Technology Transfer and Scientific Interchange: Leveraging Academic and FDA Collaborations to Resolve Unmet Public Health Needs,” will encourage increased collaboration between FDA and academia in the area of innovative medical device discovery and development. Participants will learn key, practical information on FDA and CDRH initiatives such as the Critical Path Initiative, Public Private Partnerships, fellowship opportunities, technology transfer, and inventions.

The workshop will be held in Silver Spring, Maryland. Additional information is available at the [symposium Web page](#).

Journal of Usability Studies Seeks Co-Editor-in-Chief

The *Journal of Usability Studies* (JUS), published by the Usability Professionals' Association (UPA), is seeking a co-editor-in-chief. The co-editors-in-chief are responsible for all aspects of publication associated with maintaining the journal as the premier journal of its kind dedicated to promoting and enhancing practice, research, and education related to usability, user-centered design, and user experience. They solicit and accept submissions, organize peer reviews of submissions, make final decisions on submissions, provide substantive editing when needed, and oversee the online publication of journal issues.

The JUS co-editor-in-chief is an unpaid, honorary position. The deadline to apply is **October 15, 2010**. The call for candidates can be found on the [UPA Web site](#). Questions about the call can be directed to Susan Dray, UPA Director of Publications, at susan.dray@dray.com.

Symposium on Aviation Psychology Set for May 2-5

Organizers of the 16th International Symposium on Aviation Psychology (ISAP) are seeking proposals for posters, papers, sessions, panels, and workshops to be presented at the event in Dayton, Ohio, May 2-5, 2011.

Proposals on any topic related to the field of aviation psychology are welcome, such as human performance problems and opportunities within aviation systems, and design solutions that best utilize human capabilities for creating safe and efficient aviation systems. Any basic or applied research that generalizes from or to the aviation domain is welcomed as well. The deadline for proposals is **October 15, 2010**.

The symposium will be held at Wright State University, Dayton, Ohio. The event is hosted by Wright State University and the Air Force Research Laboratory Human Effectiveness Directorate. Instructions for submissions and additional details on the event can be found at www.wright.edu/isap.

MEMBERSHIP

Time to Renew Your Membership!

In a challenging economy, it pays to stay connected to new developments in the field and your network of colleagues. Renewal statements for your 2011 HFES membership will be in the mail the first week in November. Please renew today to help HFES conserve resources. **Save \$15 - renew by January 31, 2011.**

Your membership includes more than 15,000 articles in the HFES Digital Library archive, which will grow to include the latest articles from *Human Factors*, *Ergonomics in Design*, HFES Annual Meeting proceedings, and *Reviews of Human Factors and Ergonomics*. [View other member benefits](#).

Changes to Directory & Yearbook

In another resource-conservation measure, the printed membership directory will include only the names, affiliations, and business contact information of members who have renewed by March 7, 2011. The directory will be mailed in June 2011. (In the past, information was included for those who had not paid their dues as of January 31, and the directory was generally mailed in April.)

In addition, only one contact address will appear in the print directory. The address printed in the directory will be your business or school address unless you list only a home address in your member record. This makes it especially important that you log in at hfes.org today to renew your membership and update your contact information.

Online Renewal Is Easy

Membership renewal is easy. Either fill out and return the printed renewal form or renew online by logging in with your username and password. (If you've misplaced this information, simply e-mail the Member Services Department at membership@hfes.org or call 310/394-1811.) All online transactions are secure, and you can download and print a receipt.

Be sure to update the information in your member record so other members can find you in the online or print *Directory & Yearbook*. (You'll always find the most up-to-date information in the online directory.)

HFES membership is one of the best values available to HF/E professionals. Continue your participation in 2011 by renewing today, and encourage your colleagues to join.

Annual Meeting Survey

If you attended the 54th Annual Meeting in San Francisco, you should have received an e-mail with a link to an online survey. If you did not receive the e-mail, please contact Lois Smith, lois@hfes.org.



Charles Edgar "Charlie" Billings passed away on August 30, 2010, at the age of 81. Dr. Billings was drafted into the U.S. Air Force and attended the USAF School of Aviation Medicine. He was assigned as a squadron flight surgeon for a fighter-interceptor wing located in England. Discharged, he pursued graduate training in aviation and occupational medicine at Ohio State University, and then taught at OSU for 15 years. He joined NASA as a medical research officer and became chief of Aviation Safety Research. He was promoted to senior scientist and served as the division chief of the Aerospace Human Factors Research Division.

During his tenure with the division, Billings was one of the four founders in 1976 of the Aviation Safety Reporting System, a national safety reporting system that still receives voluntarily submitted aviation incident reports in order to lessen the likelihood of aviation accidents. Billings was selected as an Ames Fellow and Ames Chief Scientist before his retirement from NASA Ames Research Center in 1992. He returned to OSU as an emeritus professor and for the past 17 years worked in the School of Engineering in cognitive systems engineering and human factors research.

Billings's expertise in aviation medicine and human factors is internationally recognized, and his work has been presented in more than 80 professional articles, books, and lectures. His abilities earned him numerous honors, including president of the Aerospace Medical Association, Fellow of the Royal Aeronautical Society, and two-time NASA Leadership Award designee. He served as a consultant on the United Aircraft Corporation Apollo Project, and he was a visiting lecturer at prestigious institutions in the United States, Canada, England, New Zealand, and Australia.

Ergonomics & Human Factors 2011

Stoke Rochford, Lincolnshire, UK
12-14 April 2011

The UK's only event covering all major ergonomics and human factors topics. The theme for this year's conference is "The 21st century, 10 years in". Papers will reflect the advances that have been made, the predictions that didn't quite live up to expectations, or new and unforeseen breakthroughs.

There will be symposia, workshops and debates, an exhibition and plenty of time for networking and socialising.

Institute of Ergonomics & Human Factors

For full details of the IEHF's annual conference and to book online, visit the website at www.EHF2011.org.uk.

www.EHF2011.org.uk

HUMAN FACTORS

1979 *Human Factors* Issue Sought for HFES Central

Please send an e-mail to Lois Smith (lois@hfes.org) if you have a copy of *Human Factors*, Volume 21, Number 6 (December 1979) that you would be willing to part with in order to complete the HFES print archive. Thanks!

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