Inside HFES

HFES Honors Fellows and Awardees

In this article HFES acknowledges distinguished members who were honored on Tuesday, October 28, during the Opening Plenary Session at the 2014 Annual Meeting in Chicago.

Fellows

Congratulations to the newly elected Fellows, who were honored for their outstanding achievement, consistently superior professional performance, exceptional contributions, and service to the Society.

- **Stanley H. Caplan**, President, Usability Associates, LLC
- **M. Susan Hallbeck**, Professor of Health Care Systems Engineering, Mayo Clinic, and Robert D. and Patricia E. Kern Center for the Science of Health Care Delivery, Mayo Clinic
- **Stephen C. Merriman**, Human Factors Technical Lead, The Boeing Company
- **Joel S. Greenstein**, Associate Professor of Industrial Engineering, Clemson University
- **Robert W. Proctor**, Distinguished Professor of Psychological Sciences, Purdue University

Awards

The Society also congratulates the following winners of HFES awards:

The recipients of the **Jerome H. Ely Human Factors Article Award** are Grant S. Taylor, Senior Research Associate, U.S. Army Aviation Development Directorate, Moffett Field, California, and the late John S. Barnett of the U. S. Army Research Institute for their paper, “Evaluation of Wearable Simulation Interface for Military Training.” According to the Ely Award Committee, this article presented a very clear story of simulation-based training evaluation. The authors conducted studies of usability, declarative knowledge transfer, and procedural knowledge transfer for a wearable computer, desktop computer, video, and live training.
The Hal W. Hendrick Distinguished International Colleague Award, which honors a non-U.S. citizen for outstanding contributions to the human factors/ergonomics field, was presented to Hahlimahtun M. Khalid of Damai Sciences, Kuala Lumpur, Maylasia. Khalid received the award for extraordinary contributions to the development and growth of HF/E education, research, and collaboration in Southeast Asia and around the world.

Recognizing exceptional contributions to the education and training of human factors specialists, the Paul M. Fitts Education Award went to John D. Lee, Emerson Electric Quality and Improvement Professor, Department of Industrial & Systems Engineering, University of Wisconsin-Madison. The award sub-committee found Lee’s approach to education innovative. When budget cuts reduced the number of teaching assistants for his 200-student Engineering Economy course, he had students watch lectures online and used class time for group homework, problem solving, and brief quizzes. As a mentor to graduate students, he focuses on long-term knowledge acquisition.

Vincent M. Ciriello of Liberty Mutual Research Institute for Safety, Harvard School of Public Health received the A. R. Lauer Safety Award, which recognizes outstanding contributions to HF/E in the broad area of safety, including work that has led to reduced accidents and injuries in industry, aviation, surface transportation, and consumer products. Ciriello has worked for four decades on safety research that has produced the internationally applied Snook-Ciriello Tables. These tables provide both the male and female population percentages capable of performing manual material handling tasks without overexertion. The tables are also the basis for the Load Constant in the NIOSH Lifting Equation Index.

The Alexander C. Williams, Jr., Design Award was presented to Jay G. Pollack, a human factors consultant in Dayton, Ohio. The award recognizes a person for outstanding HF/E contributions to the design of an operational system, the effectiveness of which depends on one or more experimentally supported human factors design principles. Pollack was chosen in recognition of his work in spearheading the development of an advanced, remotely operable order-picking system for use in commercial distribution warehouses. The design and development of his QuickPick system represent an example of best practices in the human-centered design of industrial equipment.

The Alphonse Chapanis Award provides a monetary award of $2,000 and a certificate to the student or students who present the most outstanding student paper at the Annual Meeting. This year’s winning paper is “Tactile Displays of Pulse Oximetry in Integrated and Separated Configurations” by Mia McLanders, Chiara Santomauro, Jimmy Tran, and Penelope Sanderson (not pictured).
The **Jack A. Kraft Innovator Award**, which recognizes a person for significant efforts to extend or diversify the applications of HF/E principles and methods to new areas of endeavor, was presented to Harold R. Booher. Hal’s significant innovations in demonstrating the value and enhancing the application of human factors in the military and in the power industry are the basis for the award. Booher was the single driving force behind the creation of MANPRINT, which became one of the largest and most influential human-systems integration programs in the world.

The **Best Ergonomics in Design (EID) Article Award** was selected by a panel of four *EID* editorial board members and four HFES Fellows. “Adherence Engineering: A New Approach to Increasing Adherence to Protocols” by Frank Drews, Department of Psychology, University of Utah, received this year’s award.

In the article, Drews illustrates adherence engineering with an easy-to-understand example of a central-line dressing change in health care. The example showed, as one judge stated, “good analysis of the problem and a thoughtful solution using human factors principles.” Judges noted that these adherence-engineering principles can be applied to “a wide range of human factors-related problems.”

Recognizing service and excellence in outreach to the general public, government agencies, and professional organizations, the **Oliver Keith Hansen Outreach Award** was presented to Wendy A. Rogers, Professor of Psychology, Georgia Institute of Technology. Rogers has participated in numerous government conferences and briefings to influence public policy and promote the HF/E discipline. She has organized programs and presentations to encourage students to enter the profession and has assisted their development in HFES.

“An Integrative Approach to Understanding Flight Crew Activity” by Edwin Hutchins, Nadir Weibel, Colleen Emmenegger, Adam Fouse, and Barbara Holder (photo not available) received the **Best Article Award — Journal of Cognitive Engineering and Decision Making**. The article provided methods for the analysis of complex, multioperator work environments, and the authors made methodological, theoretical, and practical contributions. Key aspects of cognitive engineering in complex systems were discussed.

The **William C. Howell Young Investigator Award** is a new award that recognizes a person for demonstrating outstanding contributions to HFES through professional scientific contributions as a young investigator. The inaugural award is presented to Michael A. Rosen, Assistant Professor in the Department of Anesthesiology and Critical Care at the Armstrong Institute for Patient Safety and Quality, Johns Hopkins University. Michael received his PhD in 2010 and has already made significant scientific contributions in the areas of patient safety and teamwork in health care. He has a remarkable publishing record, with 40 peer-reviewed articles (12 of them as first author) and 31 book chapters.
Also in its first year, the **Bentzi Karsh Early-Career Service Award** recognizes a person for demonstrating outstanding contributions to HFES through professional service and outreach activities as a student and early-career professional. The first recipient of the award is Enid Montague, Assistant Professor of General Internal Medicine at the Feinberg School of Medicine, Northwestern University. The award recognizes Enid’s extensive service to the Society, which includes serving as an officer in the Health Care and Macroeconomics Technical Groups. She has also worked to revitalize the HFES University of Wisconsin Student Chapter and has provided strong leadership in co-developing the Early-Career Professionals Committee, creating effective activities for early-career professionals at the Annual Meeting and throughout the year.

The **Arnold M. Small Presidents Distinguished Service Award** recognizes an individual for career-long contributions to the Society and the discipline. This year’s award was presented to Nancy J. Cooke, Professor and Program Chair, Human Systems Engineering, Arizona State University, and Science Director, Cognitive Engineering Research Institute. Cooke is an HFES Fellow and past member of the Executive Council. She was the first female editor of *Human Factors*.

## Student Member and Chapter Awards

HFES is pleased to recognize the following recipients of the Student Member with Honors award, presented annually to acknowledge students who have made an outstanding contribution to the HF/E discipline or to the Society.

- **Karen Chen**, University of Wisconsin-Madison
- **Aaron Dietz**, University of Central Florida
- **Akanksha Prakash**, Georgia Institute of Technology
- **Farzan Sasangohar**, University of Toronto
- **Nicole Werner**, George Mason University

The following student chapters have received Student Chapter Awards in recognition of their contributions and achievements, which have been judged on the number and quality of activities engaged in across several categories with the emphasis on demonstrated excellence in a number of areas.

Particular attention was paid to the quality and outcome of each activity. Excellence within each category was determined by the quality and outcomes of activities presented, as judged by the awards committee.

*Gold Level* – requires activity in at least eight categories with excellence in at least five categories, and at least 50% of the student members (or no fewer than five for chapters consisting of fewer than ten members) also being HFES Student Affiliate members:

- California State University, Long Beach
- Clemson University
- George Mason University
- Georgia Institute of Technology
- Old Dominion University
• Purdue University
• Texas Tech University
• University of Michigan
• University of Puerto Rico Mayaguez
• University of Toronto
• University of Wisconsin-Madison
• Virginia Tech
• Wichita State University

Silver Level – requires activity in at least five categories with excellence in at least three categories, and at least 40% of the student members (or no fewer than four for chapters consisting of fewer than ten members) also being HFES Student Affiliate members:

• Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University
• University of Central Florida
• University of Houston-Clear Lake
• University of South Dakota

Renew Your Membership

Renew your membership for 2015 and continue your commitment to advancing your career. The Society is the vehicle that unites members’ voices and actions and provides you with the tools and networking opportunities that are essential for your success.

HFES is committed to assisting in furthering your professional goals, increasing the field’s global impact, and expanding the range of HFES publications, events, and services. The Society now offers three conferences to enhance career development: the Annual Meeting, the healthcare symposium, and our newest offering, ErgoX. Your membership also includes free online access to nearly 20,000 articles from these publications:

• Human Factors
• Journal of Cognitive Engineering and Decision Making
• Ergonomics in Design
• Reviews of Human Factors and Ergonomics
• HFES Annual Meeting Proceedings
• Proceedings of the Symposium on Human Factors and Ergonomics in Health Care

Renewing is easy at hfes.org. If you need assistance, don’t hesitate to contact the Member Services Department at membership@hfes.org, 310/394-1811.

Nominate a Colleague for HFES Fellow

The Fellows Selection Committee invites nominations and applications for Fellows to be elected in 2015. “Fellow” is a special class of Society membership that recognizes distinguished accomplishments and service to the Society and the discipline. 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 2, 2015.

HFES Seeks DoD TAG Liaison  
By Robert Fox, Chair, HFES Technical Standards Division

The Department of Defense Human Factors Engineering Technical Advisory Group (DoD HFETAG) is composed of uniformed and civilian technical representatives from the Department of Defense, NASA, FAA, and Department of Homeland Security who have research and development responsibility in HF/E and related disciplines. The primary function of the DoD HFETAG is its role in technical and information exchange and coordination of HF/E research across DoD laboratories and other government agencies. For further information on the DoD HFETAG, please visit http://www.acq.osd.mil/rd/hptb/hfetag/.

HFES is looking for a qualified HFES member with appropriate experience and interests to serve as a liaison between the HFES Technical Standards Division and the DoD HFETAG. Only one slot is available, and the selected individual will need to be credentialed by the DoD HFETAG and will be responsible for attending the meetings at the his or her own expense.

Interested individuals should e-mail a letter expressing their interest and qualifications along with a CV to HFES Executive Director Lynn Strother at lynn@hfes.org.

Submissions Invited for Ergonomics in Design Special Issue  
By Jack Dennerlein, Ergonomics in Design Special Issue Editor

December 15 is the last day to submit articles for the Ergonomics in Design (EID) special issue on HF/E solutions to combat sedentary behavior in the workplace. Article contributions are invited on any topic related to the physiology and epidemiology of sedentary workplaces and how HF/E principles and practices have been applied, or are being applied, in efforts to address sedentary behavior in the workplace. Articles should describe how critical the science of HF/E has been for the project or research, provide useful information for practitioners, and show how the results of the project or research address the problem.

Long feature articles should be between 1,500 and 3,000 words, and shorter articles should be limited to between 1,000 and 1,500 words. Decision letters will be sent in February 2015, and revised manuscripts will be due April 1, 2015. The special issue is scheduled for publication in summer 2015.

View the instructions for authors, publication policies, and sample articles, and then submit your article via the EID online submission site. Questions about submissions for this EID special issue can be directed to me at Jack Dennerlein.

HFES Announces AmazonSmile Program Participation

HFES is now participating in the AmazonSmile program. For every purchase made through the banner on the left or the one posted in the lower left side on the HFES home page, Amazon will donate 0.5% of the price of all eligible AmazonSmile purchases to HFES.

This is in addition to the share of purchases that HFES enjoys as a participant in the Amazon Associates program. When shopping for the holidays, or any time, consider purchasing via the HFES AmazonSmile link.
2014 Annual Meeting Sponsors

HFES is grateful to the following sponsors for their support of the 2014 Annual Meeting.

Aging Technical Group Lunch
Aptima

Alphonse Chapanis Best Student Paper Award
Council of Technical Groups
Waldemar Karwowski

Lanyards
GFK

Mentor-Mentee Brown Bag Lunches
Haydee Cuevas
Monterey Technologies for UX Day (Wednesday)

Past Presidents Reception
Elsevier
Friends of HFES

Product Design/Health Care Technical Groups Networking Reception
Principal
Armstrong Institute for Patient Safety And Quality, Johns Hopkins Medicine
Bresslergroup
Human Factors Consulting Services, Inc.
National Center for Human Factors in Healthcare/Medstar Health
Senior
Asyst Medical LLC
Changi General Hospital Singapore
Continuum Advanced Systems
Core Human Factors
Design Interactive
Design Science
Georgia Tech HomeLab
Human Interfaces Health
Research Collective
Teague
Usability Associates
Userworks
Junior
Jay Pollack Consulting

Scavenger Hunt
University of Wisconsin-Madison Industrial and Systems Engineering Department
Advice for Students Publishing in HF/E

By Jing Chen, Purdue University

During the October 27 panel at the 2014 Annual Meeting, “Publishing in the Field of Human Factors,” chaired by Kim-Phuong Vu (California State University, Long Beach), panelists provided students with an excellent opportunity to understand the review process and ask questions regarding publishing in the field. Panelists included Ellen Bass (Drexel University), Jason McCarley (Flinders University), and Penelope Sanderson (University of Queensland), who are current and former editors in chief, editors, associate editors, and/or editorial board members of major human factors/ergonomics journals. This article summarizes highlights from their panel.

How to Deal With Negative Reviews

The panelists noted that even people who publish frequently need to deal with negative reviews and be grateful for them, because these reviews provide authors with a chance to make their papers better. Most people do their reviewing as a volunteer service to help improve HF/E science, and they spend considerable time and effort in evaluating a manuscript. For this reason, authors should be respectful when they write response letters describing how the manuscript has been revised based on the reviewers’ comments. If an author does not agree with the reviewers, he or she needs to explain this politely.

What should an author do when a manuscript gets rejected? The panelists advised that authors keep trying. However, before submitting the manuscript to another journal, the author should take into account the reviewers’ comments, because the same reviewers may be approached by the new journal.

How to Facilitate the Review Process

It is sometimes difficult to find good reviewers, especially for the manuscripts outside an editor’s research area. The panelists recommended that authors specify suggested reviewers during the submission process and provide reasons for recommending those reviewers. The suggested reviewers should have no conflict of interest with the authors.

Authors were advised to check the journal’s guidelines to find out how long the review process will take. For many journals, the time from submission to first decision is about 60 days.
Authors should not hesitate to send a polite inquiry to the editor about the status of a manuscript if a lengthy period passes without a decision. When the reviews do come back, and the submission of a revised manuscript is invited, authors have the responsibility to submit the revision in a timely manner.

**How to Select a Journal**

The panelists explained that the Impact Factor, a journal metric that reflects how many times articles from that journal have been cited in other articles, is only one gauge of the quality of the journal. In addition, it is important to keep in mind that the Impact Factor is manipulable, in the sense that an editor can ask the authors to cite papers from his/her journal when they submit a manuscript.

The panelists recommended considering the Impact Factor among other factors when choosing a journal to which a manuscript is to be submitted. Authors should also think about where their manuscript will have the most impact and who the readership will be. The number of citations to individual articles sometimes is worth more than the journal’s Impact Factor; in other words, the quality of the article is of greatest importance.

The panelists noted that the Impact Factor of most behavioral science journals is not as high as that for the natural sciences. Journals with very targeted audience (e.g., *Human Factors*) tend to have lower Impact Factors compared with other fields’ journals, but that does not mean that the quality of the journal is low.

**How to Handle Authorship**

Authorship should belong to those who have made an intellectual contribution to the paper. In determining if a person deserves authorship, consider whether the work could have been done, or would have been substantially different, without that person. It may be useful to students to discuss the topic of authorship with the faculty mentor or project director at the beginning of a project, before the work gets started.

Student authors should inform their advisers regarding any discussions with third parties to avoid potential conflicts about contributions to the work later in the process.

*Jing Chen is a PhD candidate in the Psychological Science Department at Purdue University.*

**PUBLIC POLICY MATTERS**

**Election Update**

*By Lewis-Burke Associates LLC*

As has been well-reported in the news media, in a sweeping victory, Republicans took the majority in the U.S. Senate, expanded their majority in the House of Representatives, and gained a net of three governorships.

Although Republicans had been favored to gain the Senate majority, the extent of their victory was a surprise to many forecasters. Provided the two current independent senators from Vermont and Maine continue to caucus with the Democrats, Republicans will control at least 54 seats in the 114th Congress, a gain of up to 10 seats. (Senator Mary Landrieu (D-LA) will face a runoff after failing to gain 50 percent of the vote in Louisiana.) In the House, gains were slightly higher than expectations; Republicans added 13 seats to their majority with the results of several races outstanding at the time of this writing.
Forecast for the 114th Congress and What’s Ahead

Republican congressional leaders have indicated their desire to use their unified majority to move away from brinkmanship, prove they can govern effectively, and pass legislation meant to showcase their differences with President Obama. Areas of bipartisan interest that are expected to be considered next year include new trade agreements such as the Trans-Pacific Partnership, patent reform legislation to address patent “trolls,” and legislation to support new infrastructure investments. Without a filibuster-proof majority in the Senate, Republicans in the coming 114th Congress are also likely to use reconciliation, a legislative vehicle that requires only a simple majority for budget-related measures, to push through changes in mandatory spending, tax provisions, and other key priorities. This was used by Democrats to pass the Affordable Care Act and by Republicans to pass major tax code changes in the early part of President George W. Bush’s administration. However, President Obama’s veto power will likely prevent any major changes to his priorities or legacies.

The 114th Congress will also face numerous challenges that will test its ability to find consensus and move key legislation. These include raising the debt ceiling, returning to sequestration in fiscal year (FY) 2016, and passing a so-called Medicare doc fix. Other legislation of importance to the higher education and research community that will likely be considered in the 114th Congress includes the Higher Education Act reauthorization; cybersecurity legislation; National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) reauthorization; COMPETES reauthorization for the National Science Foundation, National Institute of Standards and Technology, and the Department of Energy science and innovation programs; transportation research and infrastructure reauthorization; and reauthorization of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA, otherwise known as the No Child Left Behind Act).

Opportunities to advocate on behalf of community priorities and to influence policy in key areas of interest will arise as Congress enters a unified era that should see an increase in legislation passed (if not signed). In each of these areas, there will be opportunities to emphasize certain priorities over others as Congress continues to consider how to allocate limited resources in a constrained budgetary environment.

Top Congressional Issues To Be Addressed in “Lame-Duck” Session

Before the new Congress is sworn in, the 113th Congress faces a tight legislative schedule and a number of key bills to finalize in a so-called lame-duck session over the next two months. At the top of the list is final work on FY 2015 appropriations. Leaders and appropriators from both parties have indicated their desire to pass omnibus legislation during the lame-duck session to clear the 2015 calendar for new challenges. However, there is uncertainty on whether an omnibus or long-term spending bill can pass, as conservative “tea party” Republicans push for a short-term continuing resolution that will allow FY 2015 appropriations to be considered next year under the new Republican Senate majority.

Other key “must-pass” legislation includes extensions of several tax provisions set to expire at the end of this year and legislation that prevents states from taxing Internet access. A key wildcard for progress on the omnibus and these issues is the promise of President Obama to take executive action on immigration following the elections. Similarly, the White House is trying to wrap up a nuclear agreement with Iran later this month, which could lead to executive actions to ease Iranian sanctions. Such actions, depending on the policy and timing, could portend increasing conflict between Congress and the president and endanger significant lame-duck activities.

Other major pending legislation—such as the annual defense authorization bill—is being negotiated during the election recess to pass quickly in the absence of time for substantial debate. Democrats in the Senate also hope to use the waning days of their majority to try to confirm outstanding Obama Administration executive branch and judicial nominees. However, Republicans
are expected to oppose consideration of any high-profile nominees, such as a replacement for departing Attorney General Eric Holder, until the new Congress is in place.

In all these discussions, there remains bipartisan support for research agencies and education programs. However, with the speed at which many proposals will have to be considered, final negotiations will be made by only a handful of members at the table.

Policy Updates and Funding Opportunities

Below are links to Lewis-Burke’s reports on policy updates and funding opportunities relevant to HF/E.

Policy Updates:

- Advanced Manufacturing Partnership Steering Committee 2.0 Releases Report (October 29)
- Think Tanks Push Connecting Department of Energy National Laboratories to Regional Innovation (October 2)

Funding Opportunities:

- Advanced Research Projects Agency-Energy Workshops Preview Potential New Funding Opportunities (October 15)
- White House Announces New NNMI Center in Integrated Photonics (October 8)
- Update on BRAIN Initiative Funding and New NSF Solicitation for Understanding Neural and Cognitive Systems (October 7)
- USAMRMC Releases FY 2015 Broad Agency Announcement (October 2)
- Office of Naval Research Releases FY 2015 BAA (October 1)

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.

OTHER NEWS

Fish Tossing with Mr. Sulu: Conferring on Automotive User-Interfaces in Seattle

By Peter A. Hancock, Provost Distinguished Research Professor, University of Central Florida

Recently, I had the pleasure of attending the 6th International Conference on Automotive User Interfaces and Interactive Vehicular Applications that was held in Seattle, Washington, from September 17 to 19, 2014. This turned out to be a particularly stimulating and exciting meeting, attended by more than 200 participants from countries around the world. Put simply, HF/E is alive and well and the subject of great study and debate on the future of our road vehicles. The meeting was superbly hosted by the University of Washington (UW) and was organized and overseen by Linda Ng Boyle and her colleagues and students.

The first day was composed of workshops held on the picturesque UW campus. I was lucky enough to be in the largest workshop, which was addressed first by Chris Monk of NHTSA, then by Linda Angell of Touchstone Evaluations, and finally by Joanne Harbluk of Transport Canada. These respective luminaries laid out the various problems and standards that are being promul-
gated internationally on automotive user interfaces and how respective legislative efforts are progressing.

The second half of the workshop focused heavily on practical, hands-on methods to evaluate driver performance (particularly using detection-response tasks). Paul Green of the University of Michigan and his colleagues ported three simulators into the workshop itself to showcase a number of respective tasks and supportive assessment systems.

The second day began the formal program with my own keynote, and it is naturally up to attendees to comment on that presentation. Fortunately, the kind and accomplished students of UW recorded the speech, so discerning readers can thus judge for themselves by clicking here.

The program itself was filled with a tempting smorgasbord of cognitive offerings with varied comparisons of voice-activated systems to assessments as to what drivers perceived to be “natural” interfaces. A strong feature of the overall meeting was the number of young professionals attending. Largely, these were from involved companies and manufacturers, and their grasp and mastery of HF/E science was impressive and encouraging. It is nice to see so many accomplished individuals growing up in the profession, although the issue of where the next generation of academic teachers is coming from still persists (see: Brill, Lawson, Durso, Hancock, & Shappell, 2014).

I had a very interesting experience at lunchtime on the first day of the conference. With a colleague from the Seattle area, Justin Morgan of Battelle, I walked a few blocks down to the oldest existing Starbucks, where I bought my obligatory souvenir mug, which sits in my office today. However, after the vital, life-reinforcing latte, we walked just across the street to watch the tossing of fish at the Pike Place Fish Market. It was perhaps the apotheosis of my career, since that day they had a guest fish catcher who we quickly identified as George Takei (Mr. Sulu of the original Star Trek fame). It turned out that he was rather an accomplished fish catcher, and all I can say for such conferences experiences is: Isn't science wonderful!

Back at the conference proper and following the jealous looks of our fellow, but non-Mr. Sulu visiting attendees, we witnessed “one-minute madness.” This is the short but lively reprise of poster content, which morphs into a full, involving, and informative poster session. We do have these events at HFES, but I really think they need to be featured more, if only to see what people can come up with in one minute!

The second formal day was packed with studies. The strict acceptance criteria for the conference (around a 50% rejection rate) assured a continuous stream of informative investigations. A particularly appealing element was the international flavor, as the papers emanated from different countries and regions, featuring their own unique cultural perspectives on essentially common scientific issues. I have to highlight the paper by Jonathan Dobres of MIT, whose unusual and intriguing study of Chinese fonts for in-vehicle devices provided a whole new vista of emerging research possibilities. Who knew that fonts could be so fascinating? Surely this is why we attend meetings, in order to expand our horizons and improve our perspective, predicated upon the ideas of others. Dobres opened my mind, and I am accordingly grateful. From a purely personal perspective, I also learned much from Mohan Trivedi's articulate and insightful exposition. His work on de-individuation of driver identity for privacy reasons promised extensive application throughout the whole of society well beyond issues confined to current and future vehicles. This was indeed the epitome of our science. Founded in theory yet replete with application, on the surface relevant to mostly one specific area yet in reality impactful of so many; it was worth the price of admission alone.

The underlying subtext of many of the papers and discussions at the conference was the race between the respective developments in autonomous vehicles (which drive themselves) as opposed to those of a more driver-centered slant (which act to assist the driver in control). These perspectives pit the innovative segments of computational software giants (e.g. Google, Microsoft, etc.) against more traditional vehicle manufacturers (e.g. Toyota, Mercedes). I think that these respective approaches must eventually asymptote to some common hybrid form (no pun
intended) in which vigilance and sustained attention to highly complex automation will be of central importance (and see Hancock, 2013). These issues were addressed by an expert panel, and the conference was rounded out by “Works in Progress” and a session presenting various analyses of trends from the past to the future. Each year, this conference crosses the Atlantic. If your travels and schedule don’t take you to Nottingham, England, next year, make sure to see where the next North American location will be for this jewel to appear. It will be well worth it.

References


Peter A. Hancock is Provost Distinguished Research Professor and Pegasus Professor at the University of Central Florida, where he directs the Minds in Technology, Machines in Thought Laboratory. He is a past president and Fellow of HFES and a Fellow of the International Ergonomics Association.

Liberty Mutual Medal Winner Announced

A team of nine researchers has won the 2014 International Ergonomics Association (IEA) Liberty Mutual Medal. The researchers received the honor for their scientific paper, “Technologies in the Wild (TiW): Human Factors Implications for Patient Safety in the Cardiovascular Operating Room” (*Ergonomics*, Vol. 56, No. 2, pp. 205-219, 2013). The winning paper describes technologies that could lead to a medical error in the cardiovascular operating room. The medal winner was announced at the Product Design/Health Care Technical Groups Networking Reception on October 28.

The research team members are Priyadarshini R. Pennathur, David Thompson, James H. Abernathy III, the late Elizabeth A. Martinez, George R. Kim, Jill A. Marsteller, Ayse P. Gurses, Peter J. Pronovost, and Lisa H. Lubomski.

The IEA/Liberty Mutual Medal is awarded annually to recognize outstanding original research leading to the reduction of work-related injuries and/or to the advancement of theory, understanding, and development of occupational safety research. The Medal carries a stipend of $10,000. To access the study online, please visit [http://www.tandfonline.com/](http://www.tandfonline.com/).

International Ergonomics Association Congress Call for Abstracts

The 19th Triennial Congress of the International Ergonomics Association will be held August 9–14, 2015, at the Melbourne Convention & Exhibition Centre in Melbourne, Australia. The Human Factors and Ergonomics Society of Australia and the Human Factors and Ergonomics Society of New Zealand are jointly hosting the event and welcome abstract submissions through November 30, 2015.

Contributions on all topics related to HF/E are invited, including practical, technical, empirical, and theoretical aspects. Case studies of the latest technology design for all domains of use
and practice will be given particular attention. Please visit http://IEA2015.org for more information.

MEMBER MILESTONES

Remembering Thomas R. Waters
By NIOSH Colleagues and Friends

Friend and colleague Thomas R. Waters passed away on Wednesday, October 29, at the age of 62. Tom had a remarkable and distinguished 24-year career at NIOSH in the field of occupational safety and health, highlighted by his seminal contributions to research on work-related musculoskeletal disorders. His status as one of the most pre-eminent scientists in the field was achieved through his dedicated work with domestic and international collaborators, both in academia and industry, to plan, conduct, and report on state-of-the-art advances in the fields of risk analysis and intervention development.

Waters’s research has had a significant impact in the manufacturing, retail trade, warehousing, and health-care sectors, enabling the protection of workers for generations to come. Ushered by Waters, research on musculoskeletal disorders was advanced to new heights, and the global awareness of work-related musculoskeletal disorders—specifically of the lower back—was brought to the forefront, where it is now beginning to be addressed. His outstanding accomplishments are in the areas of the revised NIOSH lifting equation, manual material handling, occupational lifting in pregnancy, safe patient handling and movement, and youth in agriculture.

Many may know Waters from his presentations at numerous international conferences, including HFES and the International Ergonomics Association meetings, and the International Scientific Conference on Prevention of Work-Related Musculoskeletal Disorders (PREMUS). In addition, he made presentations in Canada, China, France, Italy, Singapore, Spain, and South Korea.

Waters’s work has undoubtedly led to the avoidance of lasting injury for many thousands of individuals through healthier workplaces, and this impact will arguably continue in the future—not just on the health of countless more underserved workers but on their workplace productivity, their families, and thus on society as a whole. He will be missed.

CALENDAR

Featured Events

2015 Symposium on Human Factors and Ergonomics in Health Care: Improving the Outcomes, April 26–29, 2015, Baltimore, MD.


19th Triennial Congress of the International Ergonomics Association, August 9–14, 2015, Melbourne, Australia.

March 2015


2015 iConference, March 24–27, 2015, Newport Beach, CA.