



FELLOW PROFILE

Name: Ronald G. Shapiro, Ph. D.

Degrees, certifications, etc.: BA University of Rochester
MA Ohio State University
PhD Ohio State University
CHFP #18, Board of Certification in Professional Ergonomics (BCPE)

Current status: Independent Consultant,
Ronald G. Shapiro, Ph. D.
HFES Fellow
HFES Secretary-Treasurer

Homepage: <https://profiles.google.com/DrRonShapiro/about>



Biography (How you got involved in the field, your major career activities and milestones):

I was interested in both people (psychology) and technology (computers).

Major career activities: consulting, designing systems for people to use, managing, teaching.

Milestones:

- Graduated with PhD
- Taught: Denison University, Assistant Professor Full time; Subsequently Evening Faculty at University of Connecticut, Dutchess Community College
- Small Consulting Firm: Dunlap and Associates, Principal Associate
- IBM focusing on Human Factors: Staff, Advisory and Senior Engineer, Senior Engineering Manager, Corporate Coordinator
- IBM focusing on Learning: Skills Leader IBM Software, Learning Integrator IBM Software; Manager -- Technical Learning, Technical Leadership, New Employee Orientation (2nd line), Employee University Education, Career Coaching
- Independent Consultant: Human Factors/Ergonomics, Career Development, Learning, Human Resources.

Employment History (List top 5 positions):

1. Independent Consultant: Ronald G. Shapiro, Ph. D.
2. IBM Manager: Technical Learning, Employee University Education, Career Coaching, New Employee Orientation (2nd line)
3. IBM Corporate Coordinator: Human Factors/Ergonomics
4. IBM Manager & Senior Engineer: Human Factors/Ergonomics, Data Systems Division
5. Evening Faculty: University of Connecticut, Dutchess Community College

What were your significant contributions to the field?

1. Helping and guiding students and professionals towards having a great career in our profession.
2. Organization and Management of Human Factors.

3. Explaining Human Factors to non-HF professionals and helping them to gain an appreciation and knowledge of what HF is and how it can benefit them.
4. Initial development of National Ergonomics Month.
5. Design of large computer operating systems and system programmer tools.

Did you receive any notable awards or recognition during your career?

1. Fellow Status:
 - a. Human Factors and Ergonomics Society (HFES)
 - b. American Psychological Association (APA)

2. Awards:
 - a. HFES: Oliver Keith Hansen Outreach Award
 - b. Ohio State University: Graduate School Leadership Award
 - c. Society of Human Resources (SHRM): Innovative Business Solution Award (2007) awarded to IBM for **Blue Opportunities, an Innovative Approach to Career Development**, a program which I conceived of and designed
 - d. American Society for Training and Development Excellence in Practice Award (2007) awarded to IBM for **Your IBM New Employee Orientation Program** which I managed (2nd line).

3. Recognition:
 - a. Secretary-Treasurer: HFES
 - b. Executive Council: HFES
 - c. President: APA, Division 21 (Applied Experimental & Engineering Psychology)
 - d. Chair: Computer Systems Technical Group, Council of Technical Groups HFES, National Ergonomics Month
 - e. President: Hudson Valley Chapter HFES
 - f. Secretary: Council of Graduate Students: Ohio State University
 - g. Graduate Council Student Representative: Ohio State University
 - h. Marquis Biographee:
 - i. Who's Who in America
 - ii. Who's Who in Science and Engineering
 - iii. Who's Who in the World

Please provide any links to your online articles, essays, blogs, Wikipedia pages, etc., that pertain to your research, publications or practice.

- BCPE Listing: <http://www.bcpe.org/profiles/3435>
- The Human Factors Blog: <http://humanfactorsblog.org/2011/01/28/profiles-in-human-factors-dr-ron-shapiro>
- Career Recommendations For Students: <http://www.hfes.org/web/Students/career.html><http://www.hfes.org/web/Students/quicktips1.html>
- Games To Explain Human Factors: Come, Participate, Learn & Have Fun description: <http://sites.google.com/site/gamestoexplain>

What advice would you give someone considering HF/E as a profession?

Human Factors/Ergonomics can provide an outstanding career opportunity for students in interested in people and technology. Your work may be very exciting. You may save or improve the quality of life for many people. The job market looks very good so are salaries. On the other hand, in professions like ours you may need to live where the jobs are or travel much of the time. While you may save more lives than colleagues who do rescue or clinical work, unlike your colleagues you may not ever know whose life you saved by making the plane, train, car, computer

or medical system safer, easier, more reliable to use.

If you are interested in our profession and are considering working in industry or securing contracts while working in academics learn all the business skills which you can from business faculty. Learn how to build and evaluate business cases. Learn how to communicate in business (it is different than in academics). Develop and practice leadership skills. Read the information on careers on the HFES web site. Do at least one internship. It is never too early to begin planning your career and networking with professionals in the field.