



HFES FELLOWS PROFILE



Name: Bill Marras

Email address: marras.1@osu.edu

Short biography: William S. Marras holds the Honda Chair in the Department of Integrated Systems Engineering at the Ohio State University and serves as the Director of the Spine Research Institute at the Ohio State University. Dr. Marras holds joint academic appointments in the Department of Orthopaedic Surgery, the Department of Neurosurgery, and the Department of Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation. His research is centered on understanding multidimensional causal pathways for spine disorders through quantitative epidemiologic evaluations, laboratory biomechanical studies, personalized mathematical modeling, and clinical studies of the lumbar and cervical spine. His findings have been published in over 250 peer-reviewed journal articles, hundreds of refereed proceedings, and numerous books and book chapters including a book entitled *The Working Back: A Systems View*. He holds Fellow status in six professional societies including the American Society for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) and has been widely recognized for his contributions through numerous national and international awards including two Volvo Awards for Low Back Pain Research and an honorary Sc.D. degree. Professor Marras has been active in the National Research Council (NRC) having served on over a dozen boards and committees and has served as Chair of the Board on Human Systems Integration for multiple terms. He has also served as Editor-in-Chief of *Human Factors* and is currently Deputy Editor of *Spine* and is the past President of the Human Factors and Ergonomics Society (the world's largest such society). Dr. Marras is an elected member of the National Academy of Engineering (the National Academy of Science, Engineering and Medicine), recorded a TEDx talk entitled *Back Pain and your Brain* and has been featured on NPR's *All Things Considered*.

Career philosophy/mission statement: Help people avoid spine disorders and treat them effectively.

Advice for students: Follow your passion and everything else will follow.

Specialty Area(s): Academia & Teaching; Research & Development; Applications & Practice; Management & Supervision

Field of Interest(s): Aerospace; Aging; Applied Research; Aviation; Basic Research; BCPE; Biomechanics; Cognition; Cognitive Psychology; Consultant; Educator; Ergonomics or Ergonomist; Healthcare; Human Performance; Individual Differences; Industrial Engineering; Manager or Management; Methods; Military; Musculoskeletal; Neuroergonomics; Occupational Health; Physical Ergonomics; Product Design; Researcher; Safe Patient Handling; Safety; Simulation; Statistics; Task Analysis; Theorist or Theoretical; Transportation

Geographic Location: Columbus, Ohio

Willingness to communicate with students/availability for face-to-face or virtual meetings: Yes, I am available



HUMAN FACTORS AND ERGONOMICS SOCIETY

If you are willing to communicate with students, how can students contact you? Email

Fellow status: Active

HFES Technical Group Affiliation(s): Education Technical Group; Occupational Ergonomics Technical Group (formerly Industrial Ergonomics)

Year inducted as a fellow: 1995

Awards/Honors: National Academy of Engineering (elected 2009), 2002 Volvo Award for Low Back Pain Research in Biomechanics, Gotenborg, Sweden

Links to publications/Lab website/Research Gate or similar profile:

<https://spine.osu.edu/people/marras.1>

[CV/Resume](#)