

WEBVTT

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00:00:03.250 --> 00:00:04.290

Deb Boehm-Davis: Welcome.

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00:00:04.410 --> 00:00:12.210

Deb Boehm-Davis: I am Deb Boehm-Davis, and I'm here to talk about how you can get connected to volunteer activities within HFES.

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00:00:13.550 --> 00:00:23.089

Deb Boehm-Davis: and it saddens me to say that I've heard many times that it's hard for members who are interested to get connected to volunteer opportunities.

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00:00:23.530 --> 00:00:31.809

Deb Boehm-Davis: and I tell you this not to discourage you, but to let you know that although we are trying, we are not always as good as we'd like to be in this area.

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00:00:31.910 --> 00:00:34.010

Deb Boehm-Davis: and I hope that you won't give up

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00:00:34.610 --> 00:00:43.500

Deb Boehm-Davis: Today, I'm going to suggest some ways in which you can get connected, and it starts by going to the "Become a volunteer" section of our website

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00:00:44.990 --> 00:00:52.260

Deb Boehm-Davis: which you can reach from the groups and communities menu item on the main landing page and then selecting "get involved."

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00:00:52.960 --> 00:01:00.549

Deb Boehm-Davis: The second paragraph on this page outlines 3 ways in which you can reach out to get connected to volunteer activities.

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00:01:00.680 --> 00:01:02.429

Deb Boehm-Davis: So let me walk through them.

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00:01:04.110 --> 00:01:10.049

Deb Boehm-Davis: The 1st way to get connected is to complete the volunteer interest, form, the start of which is shown at the bottom.

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00:01:10.520 --> 00:01:17.629

Deb Boehm-Davis: This form will ask for your contact information and then ask for the type of commitment that you are interested in.

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00:01:17.870 --> 00:01:25.750

Deb Boehm-Davis: whether that's a 1-time short-term commitment, something longer or something that you aren't really quite sure about yet.

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00:01:26.450 --> 00:01:32.659

Deb Boehm-Davis: The form goes on to ask about your strengths, on the assumption that you would want to work to those strengths.

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00:01:32.990 --> 00:01:43.259

Deb Boehm-Davis: And, as you can see, they consider writing, editing, connecting people, organizing people or tasks, generating creative solutions and more.

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00:01:43.620 --> 00:01:50.029

Deb Boehm-Davis: This form goes to our society's volunteer coordinator, who will work with you to find a placement that suits you.

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00:01:51.830 --> 00:01:56.640

Deb Boehm-Davis: A second way to get connected to an opportunity is to look on Volunteer Central.

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00:01:56.900 --> 00:02:08.119

Deb Boehm-Davis: Every so often, the Volunteer Coordinator reaches out to Committee, Technical Group & Affinity Group chairs to ask if they have any open positions that they would like to have filled.

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00:02:08.430 --> 00:02:11.590

Deb Boehm-Davis: Those are then posted on Volunteer Central.

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00:02:11.840 --> 00:02:19.769

Deb Boehm-Davis: Now I will say that this has not been used to as much advantage as it might be, but it is a place to look for possible openings.

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00:02:21.600 --> 00:02:27.519

Deb Boehm-Davis: A 3rd way is to use our org chart to see what types of opportunities are possible

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00:02:27.780 --> 00:02:37.559

Deb Boehm-Davis: In this chart, which is actually much easier to read on the website, you'll see that we have 5 primary divisions, each containing a number of committees.

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00:02:37.710 --> 00:02:47.739

Deb Boehm-Davis: So, starting from the upper left and going counterclockwise, we have scientific publications, which focuses on the production of our journals, magazine and books.

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00:02:48.200 --> 00:02:54.799

Deb Boehm-Davis: Then we have technical standards which focus on developing standards based on HFE principles.

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00:02:55.900 --> 00:03:04.379

Deb Boehm-Davis: In the center, at the bottom, we see the Internal Affairs committees which are primarily focused on building community among our members.

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00:03:05.060 --> 00:03:13.900

Deb Boehm-Davis: To the right of that is the Education Division, which primarily focuses on producing our meetings and educational materials for our members.

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00:03:14.500 --> 00:03:25.499

Deb Boehm-Davis: And finally, at the top right is the Outreach Division which is focused on bringing HFE to people outside of our society, including the public and the government.

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00:03:26.690 --> 00:03:35.730

Deb Boehm-Davis: Now, once you find an area or a committee that sounds interesting. You can go to the directory of Committee, Technical Group and Affinity group chairs

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00:03:35.920 --> 00:03:37.070

Deb Boehm-Davis: shown here.

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00:03:37.560 --> 00:03:43.619

Deb Boehm-Davis: This site provides a listing of all of our committees along with a brief description for each.

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00:03:43.930 --> 00:03:50.120

Deb Boehm-Davis: You can also, on the right side, see a list of the members of that committee which includes the chair

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00:03:50.530 --> 00:03:54.760

Deb Boehm-Davis: That will let you reach out to see if they would like any additional volunteers.

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00:03:55.080 --> 00:04:06.609

Deb Boehm-Davis: Now, if you don't see their contact information in the listing, you can go to the Member Directory, which is available either under the member resources or membership tabs on the website.

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00:04:06.870 --> 00:04:11.529

Deb Boehm-Davis: There you can search by name and find the contact information for that individual.

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00:04:13.630 --> 00:04:26.549

Deb Boehm-Davis: So we've talked about 3 ways to find opportunities that might be of interest to you, using the volunteer interest form, Volunteer Central, and looking through our list of committees and reaching out to the chair.

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00:04:26.870 --> 00:04:34.100

Deb Boehm-Davis: But there's 1 more approach that I'd like to suggest, and that is to use our meetings.

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00:04:34.220 --> 00:04:46.770

Deb Boehm-Davis: Most Technical Groups and Affinity Groups meet in person at the annual meeting. And, during their business meetings, which are open to anyone, whether or not you belong to the group, they often solicit volunteers.

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00:04:47.010 --> 00:04:56.440

Deb Boehm-Davis: In fact, most groups solicit nominations for officers in the fall, with elections to be held in December, and the positions starting in January.

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00:04:56.640 --> 00:05:00.860

Deb Boehm-Davis: So the fall meeting is the ideal time to look for open positions.

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00:05:01.330 --> 00:05:07.769

Deb Boehm-Davis: The same is true for committees. The incoming President identifies committee chairs at the start of the annual meeting.

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00:05:07.900 --> 00:05:15.009

Deb Boehm-Davis: and those chairs are often looking for additional volunteers. Thus networking at the meeting can lead to connections.

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00:05:16.050 --> 00:05:23.419

Deb Boehm-Davis: Now I will share that I volunteered at my second HFES meeting to review for the next year's conference.

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00:05:23.900 --> 00:05:27.110

Deb Boehm-Davis: and all I heard was crickets.

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00:05:27.400 --> 00:05:39.419

Deb Boehm-Davis: When I inquired the next year, the program chair admitted that they had lost the sheet of paper with volunteer names on it. This was before email, so there wasn't an easy way to reach out to get new volunteers.

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00:05:39.900 --> 00:05:48.369

Deb Boehm-Davis: I did eventually get connected, and I hope that if you don't hear back initially, you'll try again and not think that it's personal.

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00:05:48.590 --> 00:05:50.290

Deb Boehm-Davis: If you still don't connect,

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00:05:50.490 --> 00:05:56.210

Deb Boehm-Davis: please contact the Leadership Development Committee, who will try to connect you to something you find of interest.

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00:05:57.660 --> 00:06:02.049

Deb Boehm-Davis: HFES couldn't exist without members volunteering their time.

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00:06:02.310 --> 00:06:10.339

Deb Boehm-Davis: We hope that this session has provided you with what you need to get involved and help make us stronger. So please volunteer.