



International Ergonomics Association

## President's Newsletter No. 10

June 30, 2011

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Dear IEA Council Members:

The year is flying by quickly since we had our IEA Council meeting in Grahamstown, South Africa. It was great to see so many of the Council Members attend the meeting and support the activities of the Ergonomics Society of South Africa (ESSA) and the Human Factors in Organizational Design and Management (ODAM) conference. We are grateful to ESSA and the organizers of the conference for their warm hospitality and support for our meeting.

A lot has been happening since the conference and I wanted to let you know about the exciting events that have been going on as we move on to our Triennial Congress – IEA 2012 – in Recife Brazil.

## IEA Events

### IEA Council Meeting

The 2011 Council Meeting was held at Rhodes University in Grahamstown, South Africa with 29 council members from 18 federated societies, one affiliated society and two networks in attendance. Proxy votes were held for six societies who were not able to be present at the meeting. We appreciate the great effort and distance that people traveled to attend the meeting. While there were many important reports and discussions, I would like to highlight a few items. You can find all the details in the Secretary General's Report of Minutes, which will be released soon after this newsletter.

IEA Rules. Council agreed in principle that we should undertake a restructuring of the IEA Rules to allow for smoother administration and transparency. David Caple will head up a committee that will restructure the Rules to achieve several goals. First, Separate the Rules (by-laws) from Operation Rules (ORs), which will allow greater flexibility for future Executives to change procedures as required. Second, update the Rules and ORs to reflect the changes previously voted on by council (e.g., Vice President titles). Third, include changes that will allow the IEA to qualify for tax-exempt status under Swiss law. David's committee will send their draft to a review committee for comment. Once the drafting and review committees have an acceptable draft, we will send this out to all members. Please review this with your constituents and have comments prepared before coming to the Council meeting in Recife. Please come prepared to vote on the changes at the Council meeting in February 2012. This is an important administrative matter.

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The IEA is registered as an association at the Commercial Registry of the Canton of Zurich, Switzerland: Company-Nr. CH020.6.001.285-4

**IDC Support at IEA2012.** We used part of the afternoon on the first day to get Council's input on different criteria that may be used for determining support for attendees from IDCs. The small group discussion generated a wide range of ideas for supporting people to attend. This input from council members is valued and important to how we function as an organization.

**Future of Ergonomics.** Jan Dul and Bas van der Doelen, who are spearheading the Future of Ergonomics Committee, used the second afternoon to get council members' input on: a) definition of strategies/goals and core values in 5-10 years; and b) growing and developing the demand for core values for external stakeholders. The council meeting was one of many samples that this team will draw from to come up with one view of the future of our field. This is an important project for the IEA to begin a discussion about charting the future of our field. Council's time and input were very much appreciated.

### Opening nominations for IEA officers.

On April 3, 2011 the council was notified that the IEA is receiving nominations for officers (President, Vice President Secretary General, and Vice President Treasurer) for the 18<sup>th</sup> Executive. Formal written nominations and candidate statements should be sent to the Secretary General 60 days before the triennial meeting (December 14, 2011). We encourage all federated societies to contribute to the future leadership of the IEA, preferably by **December 1, 2011**.

### Opening nominations for IEA 2018 Triennial Congress.

On April 2, 2011, the council was notified that IEA is receiving bids for the IEA 2018 Triennial Congress. This bid should be received by **October 15, 2011**, which will allow a review committee to determine the suitable possible venues. Federated societies and voting members will receive this packet of proposals by January 2012. Council will hear brief presentations by each of the candidate sites and vote at the council meeting in Recife in 2012.

### WHO Meeting in Oslo

EC member Ralph Bruder, IEA Representative to WHO Wendy Macdonald, and Owen Evans attended the WHO Planning Committee Meeting Collaborating Centres for Occupational Health in Oslo, Norway on 16-17 June 2011. IEA had been invited to this meeting in our capacity as an officially recognized non-governmental organization (NGO). The larger context of this meeting is WHO's Global Plan of Action (GPA) on Workers Health (2007-2017). WHO Collaborating Centres for Occupational Health contribute to the GPA according to a global workplan on occupational health. This workplan includes objectives "to protect and promote health at the workplace (GPA objective 2)", or "to incorporate workers' health into non-health policies and projects (GPA objective 5)". Recent developments in the current workplan (2009-2012) for the Collaborating Centres were presented and plans for the new workplan (2012-2017) were also discussed.

IEA has contributed to the workplan with the development of a tool kit for the prevention of work-related musculoskeletal disorders. The work on the tool kit is coordinated by the TC Musculoskeletal Disorders (contact: Enrico Occhipinti and Wendy Macdonald).

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IEA's participation on the work plan for the Collaborating Centres is highly welcomed. The workplan will be formulated at the next meeting of the WHO Collaborating Centres in Cancun from 15-17 March 2012.

### **HEPS Conference in Oviedo, Spain**

I attended the Healthcare Systems Ergonomics and Patient Safety (HEPS) conference, which took place 22-24 June in Oviedo, Spain. I was pleased to support this conference that the IEA sponsors and had the pleasure of extending the attendees our full support for this work at the opening ceremony. Though the conference was smaller than expected, I found the quality of the papers to be high and the diversity of topics and approaches to be enriching. The HEPS organizing committee, the Asociación Española de Ergonomía (AEE) and Newtowns SpA deserve credit for organizing a successful event. This is an area that I believe we can contribute in large measure. I would encourage all of the federated societies to take an active interest in the next conference in three years.

### **FEES Board Meeting**

While in Oviedo, Spain I visited briefly with the Federation of European Ergonomic Societies (FEES) board at their annual meeting. Congratulations to the new slate of FEES officers: Pieter Rookmaaker, President; Reiner Hoftijzer, Treasurer; Christophe Maes, Secretary General. As with any relatively young organization, FEES faces important challenges. At the same time, FEES has opportunities to take on Pan-European issues that individual societies may not be able to address. Please join me in welcoming this team of energetic FEES officers who I am sure are up to the challenge.

### **IEA 2012**

#### **Proposals and Review Process**

Congress Chair Marcelo Soares and his organizing team have been working hard over the past several months organizing the website and processes for accepting submissions for the IEA 2012 Triennial Congress. We are indebted to them for their great work. We are now in the process of reviewing the many submissions that we received. I would like to thank the many Technical Committee (TC) chairs, individual reviewers, and our Science, Technology and Practice Chair, Karen Jacobs, for the hard work of evaluating these submissions. We have a wide range of topics, world-renowned keynote speakers, and a scientific program that are worthy of a world event. Stay tuned for more details.

### **Venue and Logistics**

As I indicated in the last newsletter, our site visit to Recife gave us a better idea of what the organizing committee had in mind when planning the event. The venue, social milieu, Brazilian cultural events, traffic and city offer a rich experience for all attendees. At the same time, it will mean that we have to approach this meeting differently than we have in usual conferences held in the northern hemisphere, summer events. At the council meeting we discussed the time of day, lunches, and transportation differences. While it is different than our usual expectations, I would encourage all federated societies to convey to members that we should approach this as a cultural experience or adventure. After all, we are an international organization and we learn so much more from others when we are guests and approach it with an open mind. After meeting with our colleagues, I

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feel confident that they know the environment and city best and we should trust their local expertise while we become adventurers on an international journey.

### IEA2012 Sponsorship Opportunities

We have received platinum and gold level sponsorships from several international companies. Companies and industries have an opportunity for more visibility by becoming sponsors to the IEA2012 Congress. This may be especially useful for companies doing business in Brazil or Latin America or companies engaged in or wanting to be associated with the theme of the conference – Designing a Sustainable Future. We encourage federated societies to contact potential sponsors or to refer them to Marcelo Soares. [chair@iea2012.org](mailto:chair@iea2012.org)

### Federated Societies Helping other Federated Societies

The IEA is supporting participation from industrially developing countries (IDCs) and encourage federated societies to do the same. Several “sister” or “twin” societies who have common interests, language, or cultural links are encouraged to support each other.

Alternatively, federated societies can contribute to the IEA’s fund to support delegates from IDCs. We will be receiving and reviewing applications for financial support and can use your funds earmarked for this purpose. As always, we appreciate all of the support for our fellow ergonomists who have difficulty attending our important triennial event.

## NOTABLE NEWS

### Passing of Past-President Hal W. Hendrick

It is with great sadness that I report to you that Past IEA President (1991-1994) Hal W. Hendrick passed away on May 13, 2011 after a long battle with cancer. Hal was an inspirational leader in the IEA, a great champion for our discipline, and a valued friend to so many around the world. The HFES and Hal’s wife Mary have received messages from all parts of the world conveying what Hal meant to them and ergonomics. Hal will be missed but not forgotten. The HFES is organizing a special issue of the Bulletin to be released later this summer. There are also numerous events planned for the HFES annual meeting from September 19-23 in Las Vegas, Nevada, USA. In the interim you may see the HFES tribute to Hal at:

<http://www.hfes.org/Web/DetailNews.aspx?ID=%20234>

### Passing of ACE Past-President Patrick J. Foley

I was informed recently of the passing of Patrick J. Foley on May 14, 2011. Professor Foley was the second President of the Human Factors Association of Canada (ACE) and a noted researcher and teacher in the fields of vision and recognition. In 1966 he joined the Industrial Engineering Department at the University of Toronto where he was the first to teach Human Factors Engineering. Professor Foley was an inspiring teacher and mentor to many internationally known ergonomists, including Ian Noy and Lia Buarque de Macedo Guimarães. Popular with students, he was celebrated for an annual lecture on Human Factors Engineering given to the whole first year engineering class in Convocation Hall. Professor Foley is another great leader we will miss.

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## IEA Future of Ergonomics Committee

In December 2010 the IEA established an ad hoc Future of Ergonomics Committee (FEC), chaired by Jan Dul. The goal of the committee is to formulate a position paper on strategies toward the future of the ergonomics discipline. The paper will present the view of the committee based on individual experiences, intensive discussions, and a wide range of inputs from people inside and outside the ergonomics discipline worldwide. Organizations (including the IEA) and individuals can use this viewpoint to rethink their strategies, tactics and operations to prepare for the future.

The FEC organized a startup meeting in Amsterdam last March. The approach and first results were reported to Council at our meeting in South Africa. Council members were challenged to brainstorm about possible strategies to create an external demand for “good” ergonomics. Next steps were made by the FEC during a meeting in Paris the second week of June. Currently a green position paper is being drafted, which will be open for inputs from ergonomists worldwide. You are kindly encouraged to participate in that process. Please send your details to the committee’s secretary Bas van der Doelen (Netherlands) at [b.van.der.doelen@bma-ergonomics.com](mailto:b.van.der.doelen@bma-ergonomics.com). After rounds of consultations and discussions, including people from outside the ergonomics discipline, a final position paper will be available at IEA2012

## Japanese Colleagues Survive Disaster and Contribute to Recovery

Presidents Saito, from the Japanese Ergonomics Society (JES) and Maie, from the Human Ergology Society (HES), report that all their members are confirmed to be safe and none were directly affected. Of course the tsunami and events at the nuclear power station in Japan affected many people in many ways. But it is good to know that members of the IEA family are safe.

Despite the hardships, our colleagues in Japan continue to contribute and take positive actions. Though most of the information is in Japanese language, it is good to know that our colleagues are informing the public about ergonomics and contributing to our common interests. Examples include the following:

1. HES continues their work on “Ergonomic Checkpoints for Human Care Work” under the leadership of Kazutaka Kogi and the working group, which met in December and January and is completing action phases. The project is scheduled to be completed in November and we look forward to seeing this 60-item checklist.
2. The JES President sent a message that reviewed ergonomics role in dealing with the earthquake, tsunami and accident at the nuclear power station. <http://www.ergonomics.jp/usertype/company/3173.html>
3. JES presented the IEA President’s message to the JES and Japanese public on its website. <http://www.ergonomics.jp/usertype/company/3211.html>
4. An urgent joint conference of JES and CPE in Japan was held entitled "Ergonomist and JES could do anything now under the present serious accident!" <http://www.ergonomics.jp/official/page-docs/product/newsletter/newsletter027.pdf>
5. A Message from the committee of Safety Ergonomics in JES was issued. The main points of the message include: Learning a lesson from the present nuclear power station accident from the ergonomic point of view, and that finding causes is more important than assigning responsibility. [http://www.ergonomics.jp/official/wp-content/uploads/2011/05/news\\_110524.pdf](http://www.ergonomics.jp/official/wp-content/uploads/2011/05/news_110524.pdf)

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6. Ergonomic advice on how to adjust to the darker conditions caused by the Japanese government's requirement to reduce energy consumption by 15% during the hot summer season (July to September). This will enable stopping the many nuclear power stations nationwide. Committee on Certified Professional Ergonomists of JES published this advice.  
[http://www.ergonomics.jp/cpe/kankoubutsu/CPE\\_sagyouteigen\\_20110630.pdf](http://www.ergonomics.jp/cpe/kankoubutsu/CPE_sagyouteigen_20110630.pdf)

President Saito believes that everyone is doing his or her best effort to overcome the present disaster and revive the society with remarkable resilience. We applaud their efforts and stand by them during this difficult time.

### Organizing Ph.D. Students in Ergonomics

I received an exciting note from François Palaci and Vincent Boccara, Presidents of the Association of French Ph.D. Students in Ergonomics (RJCE). The RJCE was founded in 2008 and currently has about 50 members. RJCE goals are to: 1) provide a structure allowing young researchers in ergonomics to exchange theoretical and practical knowledge; 2) promote the interests of PhD Students in Ergonomics; and 3) promote the development of research, teaching, and practice in Ergonomics. Current projects include:

1. Organizing one-day symposium on ergonomics and design, and on methods of collective activity
2. Making a movie about ergonomics (the movie will be broadcast at the next Congress of SELF, which is a financial contributor to the project)
3. Identifying education programs involving ergonomics in France (with a focus on practice or on research), in collaboration with CE2 (Association of French lecturers in Ergonomics)

We plan to support the RJCE activity at the IEA2012 meeting in Brazil to create a forum for others those with common interests to gather and organize. In the meantime, you can make contact directly at [president@rjce.fr](mailto:president@rjce.fr)

## AWARDS

### IEA K.U. Smith Student Award

The IEA K.U. Smith Student Award honors two deserving students responsible for applications of or contributions to ergonomics/human factors (E/HF) worthy of recognition. The next awards will be presented during the IEA 2012 Triennial Congress, scheduled to convene February 12-16, 2012, in Recife, Brazil. The Award winners each will receive a cash award of US \$3,000. Depending upon need, an additional stipend for travel to the Congress also may be awarded to the winner(s).

Any student enrolled in an accredited post-secondary institution (college, university, technical, or vocational school) worldwide is eligible to apply for the award. All areas of E/HF are eligible for consideration. Examples of applicable projects include an applied E/HF project, a human performance study or analysis, a design project or product, a research project undertaken in the laboratory or field, or a theoretical/conceptual contribution to E/HF. For more information go to: [http://www.iea.cc/05\\_awards/Current%20IEA%20Awards.html](http://www.iea.cc/05_awards/Current%20IEA%20Awards.html). Click on Learn more now to download the specific information. Please note the deadline submitting abstracts, resumes and advisor letters is **31 July 2011**. Act now and submit deserving student papers!

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| • All-Ukrainian Ergonomics Association | • Chinese Ergonomics Society                           | • Ergonomics Society of Taiwan                  | • Inter-Regional Ergonomics Association | • Österreichische arbeitsgemeinschaft für Ergonomie | • Sociedad de Ergonomistas de Mexico      |
| • Asociación Española De Ergonomia     | • Croatian Ergonomics Society                          | • FEES  | • Iranian Ergonomics Society            | • Ergonomie   | • Società Italiana di Ergonomia           |
| • Asociación de Ergonomia Argentina    | • Czech ergonomic Society                              | • Gesellschaft für Arbeitswissenschaft          | • Irish Ergonomics Society              | • Polish Ergonomics Society                         | • Société d'Ergonomie de Langue Française |
| • Association of Canadian Ergonomists  | • Ergonomics Society (U.K.)                            | • Hellenic Ergonomics Society                   | • Israeli Ergonomics Society            | • Associação Portuguesa de Ergonomia                | • South East Asia Ergonomics Society      |
| • Belgian Ergonomics Society           | • Ergonomics Society of Australia                      | • Hong Kong Ergonomics Society                  | • Japan Ergonomics Society              | • Slovak Ergonomics Association                     | • Swiss Society for Ergonomics            |
| • Brazilian Ergonomics Association     | • Ergonomics Society of Federal Republic of Yugoslavia | • Human Factors and Ergonomics Society (U.S.A.) | • Nederlandse Vereniging Voor Ergonomie | • Sociedad Chilena de Ergonomia                     | • Turkish Ergonomics Society              |
|  | • Ergonomics Society of Korea                          | • Hungarian Ergonomics Society                  | • New Zealand Ergonomics Society        | • Sociedad Colombiana de Ergonomia                  | • ULAERGO                                 |
|  | • Ergonomics Society of South Africa                   | • Italian Society of Ergonomics                 | • Nordic Ergonomic Society              |   |   |

## PUBLICATIONS

### Ergonomic Checkpoints FREE download

Thanks to the cooperation of Dr. Shengli Niu from the ILO, you can download a copy of ILO/IEA publication Ergonomic Checkpoints (2<sup>nd</sup> edition) free of charge. Go to the IEA web page: [www.iea.cc/](http://www.iea.cc/) under Latest News on the right for the free download. Alternatively you can go to the ILO website:

[http://www.ilo.org/global/publications/ilo-bookstore/order-online/books/WCMS\\_120133/lang--en/index.htm](http://www.ilo.org/global/publications/ilo-bookstore/order-online/books/WCMS_120133/lang--en/index.htm)

This reflects the ILO and IEA's joint commitment to collaborate in coming up with ergonomic solutions to workplace safety and health problems. This and other publications demonstrate the close working relationship and common goals we share with the ILO. Our sincere thanks to Dr. Niu and the ILO as we look forward to more joint efforts.

### Ergonomic Guidelines Available and for Sale

This useful guide for implementing ergonomics in occupational health and safety programs has been getting warm reception wherever we have introduced it. Several practitioners have asked for this valuable publication. This is a joint publication from the IEA and the International Commission on Occupational Health (ICOH). To order a copy contact [ergonomia Verlag](mailto:ergonomia) ([info@ergonomia.de](mailto:info@ergonomia.de)). The IEA will send free copies for anyone organizing workshops in IDCs. To get free copies for your IDC workshop, contact Barbara Silverstein [bassilver@comcast.net](mailto:bassilver@comcast.net)

### Personal Libraries Available

In the recent past with several prominent ergonomists passing away or retiring, their personal libraries have become available. If there is any interest in textbooks, journals or other ergonomic publications, please contact me and we will see how we can match people who can use these publications with the book holders. We currently have no infrastructure or mechanism for shipping or inventory of books at the moment. This is a first attempt to find a solution to this opportunity. If you know of a way to distribute books to those who could benefit, we would be interested in hearing from you.

Sincerely,



Andrew S. Imada  
President

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|--|---|---|--|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• All-Ukrainian Ergonomics Association</li> <li>• Asociación Española De Ergonomía</li> <li>• Asociación de Ergonomia Argentina</li> <li>• Association of Canadian Ergonomists</li> <li>• Belgian Ergonomics Society</li> <li>• Brazilian Ergonomics Association</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chinese Ergonomics Society</li> <li>• Croatian Ergonomics Society</li> <li>• Czech ergonomic Society</li> <li>• Ergonomics Society (U.K.)</li> <li>• Ergonomics Society of Australia</li> <li>• Ergonomics Society of Federal Republic of Yugoslavia</li> <li>• Ergonomics Society of Korea</li> <li>• Ergonomics Society of South Africa</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ergonomics Society of Taiwan</li> <li>• FEES</li> <li>• Gesellschaft für Arbeitswissenschaft</li> <li>• Hellenic Ergonomics Society</li> <li>• Hong Kong Ergonomics Society</li> <li>• Human Factors and Ergonomics Society (U.S.A.)</li> <li>• Hungarian Ergonomics Society</li> <li>• Italian Society of Ergonomics</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Inter-Regional Ergonomics Association</li> <li>• Iranian Ergonomics Society</li> <li>• Irish Ergonomics Society</li> <li>• Israeli Ergonomics Society</li> <li>• Japan Ergonomics Society</li> <li>• Nederlandse Vereniging Voor Ergonomie</li> <li>• New Zealand Ergonomics Society</li> <li>• Nordic Ergonomic Society</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Österreichische arbeitsgemeinschaft für Ergonomie</li> <li>• Polish Ergonomics Society</li> <li>• Associação Portuguesa de Ergonomia</li> <li>• Slovak Ergonomics Association</li> <li>• Sociedad Chilena de Ergonomia</li> <li>• Sociedad Columbiana de Ergonomia</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sociedad de Ergonomistas de Mexico</li> <li>• Società Italiana di Ergonomia</li> <li>• Société d'Ergonomie de Langue Française</li> <li>• South East Asia Ergonomics Society</li> <li>• Swiss Society for Ergonomics</li> <li>• Turkish Ergonomics Society</li> <li>• ULAERGO</li> </ul> |
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