

IEA NewsBriefs: April 2022

Dear IEA Community

The April edition of the IEA NewsBriefs brings you news about upcoming events, research funding opportunities and a chance to recognise fellow HFE professionals who have contributed to developing our discipline. In this edition, we also get to know the Human Factors Ergonomics Society of Malaysia in the IEA societies spotlight feature.

To include an item in a future issue, please email the IEA NewsBriefs Editor at: sma.ngcamu@gmail.com.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

IEA Fellow Award applications closing 30 April 2022

There deadline for nominations for the 2022 IEA Fellow Awards is fast approaching. If you have not already done so, be sure to submit your nominations by the 30th of April. Nominate deserving HFE colleagues that have contributed extraordinary or sustained, superior accomplishments within the discipline. Nominees should be full members in good standing of a Federated or Affiliated Ergonomics Society for at least the preceding 10 years and must have served the HFE community at an international level. Applications close on the 30th of April 2022. Download the application from <https://iea.cc/annual-awards/iea-fellowship/>

IEA/Tsinghua and IEA/Kingfar applications open until 30 June 2022

The IEA/Kingfar Award is given annually to early career professionals to promote and reward high-quality original research and applications on new and emerging HFE issues or issues specifically related to industrially developing countries, as well as to promote a career path in HFE. Nominees can be from any country including both IDCs and developed countries. Up to 13 winners can be recognised each year, with eight awards given to PhD students, and five awards to early career scholars/researchers (within 10 years of completing a PhD). The award amount is \$1,000 for each student winner and \$1,500 for each early career winner.

The IEA/Tsinghua Award for Collaborative Human Factors/Ergonomics Education is given annually to honor persons (e.g., researchers, teachers) who, through international and/or inter-regional collaboration, have made significant and outstanding contributions to the success of postgraduate educational programs that include human factors/ergonomics (HFE) courses or substantial HFE content in the curriculum. The intent of this award is to mobilize educators worldwide for HFE education. Up to four programs may be awarded. Each program may be represented by up to two nominees. The award consists of a monetary prize of \$4,000 per selected program.

Further details on these two awards, including the nomination criteria can be accessed here: <https://iea.cc/iea-kingfar-award/> for the IEA/Kingfar Awards and here:

<https://iea.cc/iea-tsinghua-award/> for the IEA/Tsinghua Awards. The deadline for submission of applications for both awards is the 30th June, 2022.

Biannual IEA Executive Meeting

On 6th April 2022 the IEA Executive met in an online meeting to finalise the strategic planning for the 2021-2024 Executive term. The IEA Executive is composed of the elected officers, the appointed chairs of the six standing committees and ad-hoc committee chairs (see relevant page on the IEA website for further information). The executive team works on a voluntary basis for three years. Their tasks are broadly defined by the strategic goals of the IEA, which are set by the IEA Council (the representatives of the 50 plus HFE societies that make up the IEA). To support the strategic planning process, we are using validated tools from our own profession. This is organisational ergonomics in practice and is a valuable learning experience for those whose training was largely in other domains. There are a large range of activities planned to develop the goals, including an exciting program of webinars, scientific and educational exchanges, projects to promote young career professionals and, of course, the planning of the triennial congress in 2024 in Korea.

Beware of phishing and scams

The IEA officer addresses are regularly used by people who send emails to our contacts requesting their help, generally with a financial transaction. We will never write to any of our members by email for such help. Please delete these “requests” if you receive one and let the IEA know so we can take appropriate action.

IEA Webinar Recordings

The IEA has conducted several webinars recently covering a range of topics. These webinars are a great way of keeping up with the current state of science regarding various HFE applications, challenges and new developments. If you missed any of the recent IEA webinars or wish to revisit some of the points raised during the webinars, you can subscribe to the IEA YouTube channel and follow the IEA’s social media pages (links to which can be found at the end of this newsletter). Some of the more recent webinar recordings that are now available include the following:

- Exoskeleton webinar: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qMXzbhjOois&t=57s>
- Musculoskeletal disorders: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IVAwN-mtF2E>

UPCOMING EVENTS

4th Troubles Musculo Squelettiques (TMS) 2022 Francophone Congress, 8-10 November, 2022: Monastir, Tunisia

The 4th TMS 2022 Francophone Congress will take place in Monastir from the 9th to the 10th November 2022. After postponements from 2020, this in-person event has over 200 planned presentations and is expected to attract more than 400 people. The congress will be held at the Hotel Regency Monastir, located in the heart of the Marina of Monastir and close to essential amenities such as the Monastir Habib Bourguiba international airport, hotels, and various tourist attractions. The congress language is

French. To register and find out more about this congress, please visit this site:
<http://www.congresfrancophone-tms-tunisie2020.com>

SPOTLIGHT ON IEA SOCIETIES

In this edition of the IEA NewsBriefs, we get to showcase another IEA society. This time we cast our gaze to Southeast Asia, and get to learn about the Human Factors and Ergonomics Society of Malaysia (HFEM).

We thank HFEM for their contribution to the development of HFE and for sharing insights about their society with the wider IEA community. If your society would like to be featured in future editions of the IEA NewsBriefs, please contact (sma.nqcamu@gmail.com).

Human Factors and Ergonomics Society of Malaysia (HFEM)

Since its establishment 11 years ago, HFEM has managed to grow to 404 members. For a relatively young society, HFEM is a great example of how much can be accomplished to raise awareness about HFE and assist industries to understand the benefits of adopting HFE.

Fact sheet and contact details

- **Established:** 11th August 2011
- **Approximate number of members:** 404
- **Website:** <https://hfem.org/>
- **Journal run by the society:** Human Factors and Ergonomics Journal (HFEJ):<https://hfej.hfem.org/>

Overview of HFEM activities

HFEM coordinates several different initiatives to support their members including the following:

- Special Interest Group (SIG) Program that includes SIGs for engineering, occupational ergonomics, transportation, and ergonomics in design for all (EinDfA).
- Training seminars and webinars on various topics covering physical, cognitive and organisational factors
- The Student Chapter which runs the ErgoCamp, among other activities
- Human Factors and Ergonomics Seminar (HFES)
- Human Factors and Ergonomics Malaysia Conference (HFEMC)
- Ergonomics Product Design Competition (ErgoLympic)

Status of Human Factors/ Ergonomics (HFE) in Malaysia

HFEM aspires to be a leader in Human Factors and Ergonomics development by advancing the discipline, profession, and society at large. This is partly motivated by the fact that HFE is still at a developmental stage in the country with awareness about the discipline being relatively low. HFE in Malaysia is practiced in most industries, including manufacturing, electronics, construction, oil and gas, agriculture, retail and wholesale, transportation, and product design. However, this is mostly the case in large enterprises, with levels of adoption of HFE being minimal to non-existent in small and medium enterprises. Some of the challenges and barriers to widespread implementation of HFE in Malaysia, that HFEM has identified, include lack of awareness, a deficient education system that cannot promote awareness and growth requirements, and a lack of integrated and coordinated HFE efforts and interventions in the country to showcase the discipline.

While there is no HFE-specific legislation mandating companies to implement HFE in the country, legal requirements for managing HFE are currently being drafted by the government in collaboration with HFEM. To work towards more wide-spread implementation of HFE, Guidelines on Ergonomics Risk Assessment at the Workplace were developed by HFEM and introduced in 2017, with the aim of providing guidance in assessing and managing poor physical ergonomics issues at workplaces. This was further supplemented by several ergonomics related guidelines - Guidelines for Manual Handling at the Workplace in 2018, Guidelines on Occupational Safety and Health for Lighting at Workplaces, in 2018. At the moment, there are 3 ergonomics-related Guidelines that are in the review process and are expected to be published in 2022:

- Guidelines on OSH for Standing at Work,
- Guidelines on OSH for Sitting at Work, and
- Guidelines on Ergonomics Risk Assessment for Display Screen Equipment

HFEM collaborates with strategic organisations, governing bodies, and institutions to raise awareness, and strengthen the implementation of HFE in private and government organisations. HFEM also runs an Occupational Safety and Health event annually in collaboration with The Social Security Organisation (SOCSSO) to contribute to the reduction of accidents and poor HFE-related injuries in Malaysia.

HFEM Membership

HFEM membership is open to Malaysian and international HFE professionals and others who are interested. Individuals who are interested in becoming members can visit <https://member.hfem.org/> to register. The contact details and social media page links provided below can also be used to keep up with developments within HFEM:

- **Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/HumanFactorsErgonomicsMalaysia>,
- **Instagram:** <http://instagram.com/hfemofficial>
- **LinkedIn:** <https://www.linkedin.com/in/hfemofficial/>
- **Inquiries:** secretary@hfem.org

LINKS OF INTEREST

Archive of previous NewsBriefs: <https://iea.cc/iea-newsbriefs-archive-of-past-issues/>

More news from IEA: <https://iea.cc/category/headlines/>

IEA Press publications: <https://iea.cc/publication/>

IEA YouTube channel (includes recorded IEA webinars):

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCDnjCjRcYB7rBR2PJFw6k6w>

IEA LinkedIn page: <https://www.linkedin.com/groups/1114517/>

IEA Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/InternationalErgonomicsAssociation>