

June 16, 2024

Council Members
International Ergonomics Association (IEA)

Subject: Motivation for election into Vice-President Secretary General Role

Dear Council Members of the IEA,

Please accept this expression of my interest in the role of Vice-President Secretary General of the International Ergonomics Association (IEA) for the 2024-2027 term. This letter describes my motivation and relevant experience.

I first became aware of the operations of the IEA when, as president-elect of the Association of Canadian Ergonomists / *Association canadienne d'ergonomie* (ACE), an IEA Member Society, I participated in the IEA council meetings in Medellin, Colombia, in 2016. I was impressed by the cross-section of people gathered to advance ergonomics & human factors (EHF) across the world. It was an exciting chance to better understand the challenges and commonalities in the Member Societies, as well as IEA committees and officer roles. I found the IEA leaders to be accessible and passionate about their work and I wanted to pursue similar work. I enjoyed learning and making a positive difference during the three years of Council meetings I attended on behalf of ACE.

As a result, when ACE became the host society for the 2021 IEA triennial congress, I volunteered to co-chair the event's Technical Programme and Scientific Committee. Through this coordinating role I became aware of the key roles of Technical Committees (TCs) and the importance of the leaders and members of those groups in advancing EHF and IEA. While it was a lot of work, the networking I gained through this key role of the organizing committee of IEA2021 was of great value.

I happily accepted the role of Science Technology & Practice (STP) Standing Committee chair in 2021, when it was offered to me. Since then, with the STP co-chairs, Rosemary Seva (Philippines, focusing on TCs and Webinars) and Karen Lange Morales (Colombia, focusing on publications), I am proud of the support we have provided to TCs, to Member Societies, and the public. Initiatives during my tenure in this STP role include

- 1) Semi-annual meetings with TC chairs / co-chairs, including time to share relevant news and support inter-TC sharing of best practices to overcome challenges. We share minutes and recordings of these meetings for those unable to attend and for future reference using the IEA's Slack platform. These initiatives have facilitated improved, regular reporting from TCs. To measure the impact of these semi-annual meetings, we sent an electronic survey to the TC chairs and co-chairs of the 26 TCs; 20 responses were received, representing 16 of the 26 TCs and revealing that these meetings are valued. Constructive suggestions for further improvement have been compiled.

- 2) Supporting TC scientific initiatives, including promoting endorsement of TC events through IEA media channels (conferences, schools, webinars). We are compiling the impact of endorsements (what events, where they occurred, how many people participated in what format) which will help measure the value of IEA endorsement.
- 3) Supporting structuring of webinars, including certificates of thanks to presenters and opportunities to have webinar attendance recognized for continuing education credit valuable for *certified ergonomists*.
- 4) Improving documentation: clarifying processes (ex. operating procedure for event endorsement) and collaborating with the Congress Model definition publication (including writing a report for IEA and publishing a paper in *Applied Ergonomics* with IEA2021 Technical programming co-chair, Dr. Patrick Neumann).
- 5) Pursuing the “ergonomics in a nutshell” publications. “Giving your Business the Human Factors Edge” for executives was led by Andrew Thatcher, published in 2022 with CIEHF support and “Giving your Business the Human Factors Edge: Making it happen” of project manager led by Karen Lange Morales, will be published in 2024. A further publication focused on labour organization readers is planned to begin in 2024, with calls for publication team leaders and participants announced. A child-focused publication is considered; this would help communicate key elements of EHF to future workers and leaders.

I attended all Executive Committee and IEA Council meetings during the 2021-2024 term. I appreciated these opportunities to meet colleagues from around the world and to contribute to host-society activities associated with these gatherings.

With completion of my three-year term as STP chair, I wish to take on the role of Vice-President Secretary General of IEA for the 2024-2027 term. I am confident that I have the experience, abilities, and motivation to provide high standards of support to the EHF community through IEA Council, Member Societies, and Executive Committee, with the other elected IEA Officers. I am excited at the prospect of contributing to the IEA in this key role. Anticipating the time commitment for this role, and as Vice-Dean of the Faculty of Engineering at Université de Moncton, I have obtained the approval of the Dean to take on this role.

I hope that you will support my candidacy for Vice-President Secretary General. Please reach out to me if you have any further questions concerning my candidacy.

Yours truly,



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