



Awards Committee

2026 IEA Council Meeting, Florianópolis, Brazil, 02-03 November 2026

José Orlando Gomes, IEA Past President & Awards Committee Chair

The Awards Standing Committee is responsible for organizing the formal recognition of members of the Federated Societies that have made outstanding contributions to the field of HFE on an international level. There are annual and triennial Awards. Most Awards are granted after application from a Federated Society and approval or decision by appropriate peers, chosen by the Awards Standing Committee Chair.

The key goal for this term is to improve and expand the promotion of the awards and raise interest and attractivity of IEA triennial awards. The main benefits to stakeholders are promotion of HFE across the globe, acknowledgement, prestige, benefit of society membership, advertisement/publicity for sponsors, monetary award (reward and investment in future).

Annual awards include the IEA Fellow Award, the IEA/Tsinghua Award, and the IEA/Kingfar Awards:

The IEA Fellow Award recognizes outstanding and sustained performance in the field of ergonomics and human factors at an international level, as well as an extensive publication record in international journals or international consulting or service at a high level. In 2026 we had 9 nominations, and all candidates were approved by 2/3 of the selection committee and confirmed by the IEA Executive Committee. **Congratulations to the new IEA Fellows!**

- Prof. Yuval Bitan – IEHFA (Israel)
- Prof. Anna-Lisa Osvalder – NES (Nordic Countries)
- Dr. Elina Parviainen – NES (Nordic Countries)
- Dr. Erwin Speklé – HFNL (Netherlands)
- Prof. Leonard O'Sullivan – IEHFS (Ireland)
- Prof. Manuel Escobar – SOPERGO (Peru)
- Prof. Marianne Lacomblez – SELF (France)
- Prof. Chien-Chi (Max) Chang – EST (Taiwan)
- Dr. Mercedes Sanchis Almenara – AEE (Spain)



2026 IEA/Kingfar and IEA/Tsinghua Awards

The awards are accomplishing their goals to cultivate global citizens who will thrive in today's world and become tomorrow's leaders, to significantly promote and reward high-quality original research and applications on new and emerging HFE issues or issues specifically related to industrially developing countries (IDCs), and to promote a career path in HFE.

This year we received 2 nominations for the IEA/Tsinghua Award, 10 nominations for the IEA/Kingfar Student Award, and 7 nominations for the IEA/Kingfar Early Career Researcher Award. The candidates are representatives of IEA's worldwide membership. Competition has been especially high for the IEA/Kingfar Student and IEA/Kingfar ECR award. **Congratulations to the new IEA Awardees!**

The IEA/Tsinghua Award for Collaborative Human Factors/Ergonomics Education honors 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 HFE courses or substantial HFE content in the curriculum. Applications are evaluated by renowned international reviewers, and we thank the selection committee chair, Prof. Mario Vidal, and his team for their excellent work.

2026 IEA/Tsinghua Awardee

- Prof. Shuping Xiong (ESK – South Korea)
- Prof. Myung Hwan Yun (ESK – South Korea)

The IEA/Kingfar Award for Research in Human Factors and Ergonomics Issues is given annually to honor students and early career researchers who have high-quality human factors/ ergonomics (HFE) research achievements. The purpose of the award is to significantly promote and reward high-quality original research and applications on new and emerging HFE issues or issues specifically related to industrially developing countries (IDCs), as well as to promote a career path in HFE.

2026 IEA/Kingfar Student Awardees

- Giselle Staffen (ABERGO, Brazil)
- Yubin Xie (CES, China)
- Yzhen Wang (CES, China)
- Jasper Vermeulen (HFESA, Australia)
- Mehrdah Hassani (HFESA, Australia)
- Aditya Nath (ISE, India)
- Payam Khanlary (ISEHF, Iran)
- Danie Jon (SELF, France)

2026 IEA/Kingfar ECR Awardees

- Jansen Atier Estrázulas (ABERGO, Brazil)
- Sadeem Munawar Qureshi (ACE, Canada)
- Shiqi Fan (CES, China)
- Masoumeh Abedi (HFESA, Australia)
- Arindam Dey (ISE, India)

Other activities in 2025-2026

MSc. Program in HFE for Central America and Caribbean Region, and Caribbean HFE Society

The Master of Science (M.Sc.) on HFE project is in the final phase and then to be approved by Technical University of Costa Rica (UTN) authorities then it will be sent to the National Council of Costa Rican Rectors (CONARE). Both steps are expected to occur this year. There is an expectation to start the M.Sc. in the 1st semester of 2027.

UTN is one of the country's five public universities that train professionals in environmental engineering and safety, occupational health, and industrial hygiene, among other careers (<https://www.utn.ac.cr/content/ingenieria-salud-ocupacional-ambiente-salud-ocupacional>), besides to be an IEA Corporate Sustaining member.

For the M.Sc. it was used an updated proposal of one already designed by Profs. Andrew Todd, Paulo Antonio Barros (Brazil), Juan Carlos Velasquez (PhD Program in HFE for Latin America/Colombia), and Jose Orlando Gomes during the Yushi Fujita and Kathleen Mosier terms for a Panamanian university (UDELAS). In addition, after the master the students will have the opportunity to enter the Universidad del Valle's PhD Program in HFE for Latin America, based in Cali, Colombia.

Last but not least, UTN has agreed to provide the necessary infrastructure for the headquarter of the Caribbean Human Factors and Ergonomics Society (CHFES), which will certainly be fundamental for the development and consolidation of HFE in 6 Central American countries and 13 island nations in the Caribbean Sea, as well as some colonies still in the region.

PhD Program in HFE for Latin America, Cali, Colombia and some spin-offs

It has been provided ongoing support to consolidate the Doctoral Program in HFE for Latin America, serving as an ad honorem professor, participating in teaching, research, advising, and assisting with its management. This year is scheduled to have the first PhDs concluded and a new student's cohort for the 5th year.

M.Sc. in HFE, University of Atacama, Chile

It is also worth mentioning that two Chilean doctoral students completing their studies this year at the PhD Program at University del Valle have designed and had approved a Master program in HFE at the University of Atacama that will begin in the first semester of 2027, for countries in South America.

1st. International Conference on Informal Work (IEA/ICOH/IOHA)

Due to a major earthquake that occurred in Colombia, and particularly in Cali, this year, the conference is being postponed to a future date yet to be determined. Continuous assistance has been provided to the organization of the 1st. International Conference on Informal Work by the partnership IEA/ICOH/IOHA and Universidad del Valle and other stakeholders, in Cali, Colombia.



IEA BRICS Plus Project in HFE, Public Health & Innovation.

The IEA BRICS Plus Network board along with IEA societies from the BRICS countries are initiating a project that links HFE (Health, Safety, and Environment), Public Health, and Innovation. This project aims to connect different stakeholders linked to public health in the BRICS countries, such as universities, ministries, and institutions that formulate public health policies, and innovation providers to seek solutions for existing social demands in BRICS countries and Global South ones.

Reminder to all in the Council:

Please spread the word to your society colleagues and nominate deserving society members for the IEA Triennial Awards!