

The Users' Perspective



The HFES Potomac Chapter Newsletter

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Call for Nominations *by Dick Horst*

The immediate past president of the chapter historically takes charge of the election of new officers. Usually this occurs in time for a slate of new officers to assume their positions in January, with three of the new officers being a President-Elect, Secretary-Elect, and Treasurer-Elect. Those individuals then function as part of the chapter's Executive Council for the year, so that they are ready to "hit the ground running" the following January when they assume their intended offices. That's the way it's supposed to work.

In recent years we have typically not held the elections for the coming year until the middle of the year before, thus only allowing the "elect" positions a few months of seasoning before taking over their destined roles. In 2004 the Executive Council voted to make the Secretary and Treasurer positions two-year terms of office. The thinking was that this would provide better continuity, and that we would stagger the elections for these two offices such that only one would need to be filled in a given year.

As the chapter President in 2004, I have been particularly lax in not fulfilling the election duties in 2005. As chapter President in 2005, Tom Mayfield has graciously agreed to stay on through the first part of 2006. Kris Hager has been informally functioning as both Secretary and Newsletter Editor since mid-2005, having volunteered for the former role when our previous Secretary had to cut back her involvement. Mike Eidelkind has continued doing a great job as both Treasurer and Membership Chair, two roles that go hand in hand and are thus logical to be filled by the same person.

One thing influencing the Executive Council's decision about how to deal with this situation is the looming HFES annual conference being held in Baltimore in 2007 (the culmination of the Society's 50th anniversary year, by the way). Our chapter had the experience of hosting the annual meeting in 2002, when it was also held in Baltimore, on somewhat short notice (Pittsburgh was originally scheduled as the venue, but there was a problem with scheduling the hotel there). Thus we know that being the host chapter for the annual meeting involves a lot of work, but at the same time provides a lot of visibility within HFES and also brings a welcome injection of revenue to the chapter.

Realizing that we would need to mount a significant effort in preparation for the HFES annual conference in the fall of 2007, probably starting soon after this year's annual meeting in October, the Executive Council voted in January, 2006 to maintain the 2005 slate of officers into the first part of 2006, to hold elections in mid-2006, and then to have the newly elected slate of officers take over in the fall of

2006, in time to start coordinating the 2007 annual conference with the national HFES staff. This same group of officers would then continue in office through 2007. Sometime early in 2007, Tom will orchestrate another election to fill the “elect” positions for 2007. Those individuals would then take over their destined offices in 2008, and we would be back on track with regard to historical precedence.

Thus, we are now soliciting nominations for the slate of officers-elect who would assume their new positions this fall (i.e., briskly moving through their “elect” periods and into their full-blown roles at some point late this year when the national HFES is ready to start talking about the 2007 annual conference). Our intent is to hold the election later this summer. Mike Eidelkind has agreed to run for President-elect. Kris Hager has agreed to officially run for Secretary-elect, in essence continuing the role he has so ably filled unofficially for about a year now. One of our new members, Derek Schultz, has agreed to run for one of the two Director-at-large positions as well as Program Chair. We would welcome a volunteer for the Treasurer-elect and Membership Chair positions, a key role that Mike would vacate if he becomes President. We would also like someone to take over the Newsletter responsibilities. So there is plenty of room for new blood. Moreover, although in recent years we have only had one candidate for a given office, we would of course welcome additional candidates for the offices mentioned above.

The coming year should be an exciting one, with our chapter being in the thick of national HFES activities. Please contact me, in the next 30 days (let’s say by August 11), with your additional nominations and suggestions.

Thank you,
Dick Horst
Potomac Chapter Past-President -- 2004
dhorst@userworks.com
301-431-0500 voice 301-431-4834 fax

Book Reviews by Jerry Krueger

As many of you know, I serve as the Book Review Editor for the HFES Ergonomics in Design (EID) Quarterly of Human Factors Applications. In that role, sometimes I have too many good book reviews in the queue awaiting printing in EID that the printing of the book becomes outdated beyond our EID policy for publication of the reviews themselves. However, as several of our members had pointed out, some of these book reviews may still be of interest to our membership. With permission of these book reviewers, we begin here a section of our newsletter which will print some of them for our interested members.

Jerry Krueger, JerryKrueg@aol.com
Space Psychology and Psychiatry
Nick Kanas and Dietrich Manzey
2003, 195 pages, \$105.00
Dordrecht, The Netherlands: Kluwer Academic Publishers
ISBN 0-4020-1341-8
REVIEWED BY JASON P. KRING

Critics of plans for a human mission to Mars often cite the seemingly insurmountable technological challenges and the exorbitant monetary costs of such an endeavor. *Space Psychology and Psychiatry* suggests the human mind may be the biggest obstacle to lengthy space travel. This excellent book draws heavily on the decade-long work of Nick Kanas, a professor of psychiatry, and Dietrich Manzey, an industrial/organizational psychology professor. Whereas other reviews of the psychological factors of long-duration spaceflight cite findings draw from ground-based research in space analogs like submarines and Antarctic research bases, this book focuses on empirical work carried out in-flight aboard the Russian Mir space station and the U.S. Space Shuttle.

The seven chapter authors effectively portray how the mind reacts and adapts, often with significant difficulty, to the unique characteristics and stressors within the space mission environment. In addition to salient issues such as isolation, confinement and microgravity, the authors highlight lesser-known but equally important concerns like cultural differences and their effects on crew interactions, and how extended missions affect family members left back on earth, as well as problems that occur when the spacefarer returns.

Space Psychology is not just a record of what can go wrong with regard to mental health and performance, for it explores a number of prudent psychological, ergonomic, and design engineering countermeasures to help guide future mission planners and spacecraft engineers. For example, simple crew quarter design accommodations can afford a greater sense of control over privacy and personal space. The authors also present solid recommendations for training and in-flight support activities to help prevent minor psychiatric problems from spiraling out of control. The final chapter concludes with a valuable discussion of key psychological issues for a human mission to Mars.

Written in a clear and engaging style, this book will not only interest the general space enthusiast, but all human factors specialists and anyone else studying the human reaction to extreme and unusual environments. As a comprehensive account of what we have learned so far about the psychological challenges of space travel, *Space Psychology and Psychiatry* should be on the bookshelf of any researcher plotting the future course of human spaceflight.

Biographical sketch:

Jason P. Kring, Ph.D., is an assistant professor in the Human Factors and Systems Department at Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University in Daytona Beach, FL. His research interests include human activities in extreme environments, crew performance issues of long-duration spaceflight, and interpersonal interactions in isolated and confined environments. He is currently President of the Society for Human Performance in Extreme Environments (HP EE).

GMU Arch Lab Speakers *by David Cades*

The George Mason University's Arch Lab has invited the following speakers for their monthly meetings starting in September. Speaker biography and talk titles coming soon.

Date: 10/3/06 at 7:30pm

Dr. Rob Tannen

Director of Human Factors, Electronic Ink

Date: 10/31/06 at 7:30pm

Dr. Valerie Gawron

Technology Fellow, General Dynamics

Date: TBD

Dr. Peter Hancock

Department of Human Systems Integration Research, Institute for Simulation and Training at University of Central Florida

Date: TBD

Bryant Coen

Washington Federal Practice, PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP

For more information, contact David Cades at dcades@gmu.edu.

Topic	Speaker	Location	Date	Time
The Healthcare Environment: Implications for Ergonomics	Susan Blitz, M.D., M.P.H.	Building 10, Lipsett Amphitheater	29-Jun	2:00-3:00 PM
Lessons Learned in Laboratories	Zachary J. Koutsandreas, CPEE	Building 10, Lipsett Amphitheater	29-Jun	3:00-4:00 PM
Office Ergonomics	Marjorie Werrell, PT, CIE, CPEE	Rockledge II, Room 9100	19-Jul	10:00-11:30 AM
Laboratory and Healthcare Ergonomics	Cynthia L. Roth, R.N., CEO	Building 10, Lipsett Amphitheater	24-Aug	2:00-3:00 PM
Ergonomics and the Aging Work Force	Cynthia L. Roth, R.N., CEO	Building 45, Conference Room C	13-Sep	10:00-11:00 AM
Office Ergonomics	Mark Vettrano, M.D.	Building 45, Conference Room C	13-Sep	11:00 AM-12:00 PM
Office Ergonomic 101	Zachary J. Koutsandreas, CPEE	Executive Plaza North, Room H	19-Sep	10:00-11:30 AM

Notes: You can take the Metro to NIH. Be sure to allow time to check in with security in order to get onto campus. Coming by car also requires check in, and takes longer.

For more information, visit http://dohs.ors.od.nih.gov/ergo_speaker.htm

2006 MANPRINT Practitioners' Workshop

The 2006 MANPRINT Practitioners' Workshop will be held at the Doubletree Hotel, Crystal City-National Airport, October 31 – November 2. The theme this year is "Meeting New Challenges."

If you are interested in presenting at the workshop on a topic that is relevant in the community, please take the time to let us know. All we are asking for is a short description of the presentation and then the actual presentation within 2 weeks of the workshop. There is no need for a formal paper to be done. If you have any questions or would like to submit a topic or description, please contact Crystal McKay.

This also means it is time for Practitioner of the Year Awards. If there is someone in your organization that should be recognized for outstanding workmanship in the 2004-2005 timeframe, please go to the website and nominate them (form also attached). There are six categories for which to nominate: Military Practitioner, Army Materiel Program, Automated Info System Programs, Combat Developers, Functional Proponent Communities, and Technology R&D/Studies. Please email your completed nomination form to Crystal McKay at crystal.mckay@hqda.army.mil.

For more information and registration information keep checking our website, www.manprint.army.mil. To make hotel reservations, please contact the hotel directly and be sure to mention that you will be attending the MANPRINT Workshop <http://www.doubletreecrystalcity.com/>. This will ensure that you receive government per diem for the room and that you are put in the block of rooms that we have reserved.

CALL FOR PRESENTATIONS

MANPRINT Practitioners' Workshop

“Meeting New Challenges”

DoubleTree Hotel – Crystal City, Arlington, Virginia
October 31-November 2, 2006

Two half-day sessions at the Workshop will be devoted to presentations by individuals in the MANPRINT community (YOU). The goal is to share your experiences, insights, lessons learned, etc., with other Practitioners. These sessions will complement the overall theme of the conference. Copies of the presentation materials will be posted on the MANPRINT web site after the Workshop. Written papers are encouraged but not required.

Topic Areas

1. MANPRINT Applications
 - Success Stories
 - Challenges
 - Opportunities
 - ...
2. Relevant, Ready, Responsive and Joint
 - QRC/REF
 - "HSI on the fly"
 - Interagency and Multinational Collaboration
 - GWOT and the IED fight

Important Dates

Abstract Deadline September 15, 2006
Notice of Acceptance October 1, 2006

Submission of Abstracts

Please submit abstracts electronically by September 15, 2006 and include the following detailed information:

- 1) name and address of author(s)
- 2) organization, address, phone/fax numbers, e-mail
- 3) title of presentation
- 4) associated conference topic
- 5) one page summary (100 words or less) describing the scope and major thrust of the presentation.

For questions and abstract submissions please e-mail to:

crystal.mckay@hqda.army.mil

**For further information please reference the MANPRINT website at
www.manprint.army.mil**

For more recent job postings, visit the HFES POC Job Openings at <http://users.erols.com/hfespoc/jobopen.htm>

To advertise your position on this HFES POC site and in the HFES POC newsletter, contact:
Jack Laveson
Phone: (703) 642-3677
j.i.laveson@ieee.org

Research Psychologist/Team Leader (GS-180-14) US Army Research Institute Fort Benning, GA

Opening in June for RESEARCH PSYCHOLOGIST/TEAM LEADER (GS-180-14) Research on training effectiveness, leader development, and technology-based training conducted in schoolhouse, simulation facilities and the field. Immediate research focus on reshaping the Army training/educational system based on recent advances in adult learning and educational technology. Located near Columbus, GA (Pop. 180,000), Fort Benning is the Home of Infantry and is becoming the Army Maneuver Center. Good quality of life. Looking for experienced Ph.D's in experimental, cognitive, I/O, educational psychology or related areas. This a career civil service position (GS-180-14) with a pay range of \$87,533 - \$113,791. Relocation costs provided. For additional information, contact Dr. Scott Graham, (706) 545-2362 or scott.graham@benning.army.mil. Checkout our website: <https://www.infantry.army.mil/arifb/>.

Research Psychologist SAIC

McLean, VA

Job Description:

SAIC's Human Factors Engineers have been supporting the U.S. Department of Transportation Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) for over ten years. FHWA's program in human centered research revolves around a number of laboratories that aid the design of safe and efficient roadway infrastructure through the analysis of driver and pedestrian behavior. SAIC's Human Centered Systems (HCS) Team, using a wide range of testing facilities, conducts research into a broad spectrum of geometric, traffic control, and operational issues, as well as the effects of these elements on drivers and pedestrians. The Research Psychologist will serve as the Program Area Lead in the Pedestrian and Bicycle Program and will work with a multi-disciplinary team of human factors and traffic engineering professionals conducting Transportation Research for the FHWA. Provide onsite research and technical support to the FHWA Human Centered Systems Team at the Turner-Fairbank Highway Research Center. Conduct laboratory and field research in Highway Safety, Highway Operations and Intelligent Transportation Systems. Assist the government in the development of research programs and plans: design, implement, conduct and document empirical research studies. Manage and review research contract activities. Support publication, outreach, conferences and meetings. Candidate must be able to obtain a security clearance.

Education:

MA with a minimum of four years, or PhD with a minimum of two years demonstrated experience in research specific to the transportation field including highway safety or ITS. Degree subject in Experimental Psychology, Human Factors, or related field.

(Research Psychologist job posting continued)

Required Skills:

Knowledge and experience in experimental psychology, applied psychology, applied human factors, engineering, ergonomics, behavioral research, cognitive psychology or some combination. Knowledge and experience in literature review, data analysis, statistics, experimental design and technical reporting. Must have experience working independently as the Principal Investigator on at least one successful major behavioral or human factors study, as well as experience managing and supervising subordinate personnel. Research or development work experience beyond the highest degree: MA with a minimum of four years, or Ph.D. with a minimum of two years demonstrated experience in research specific to the transportation field including highway safety or ITS. Excellent computer, communications and writing skills.

Desired Skills:

Knowledge and experience in the human factors of surface transportation systems; in simulator research, especially driving simulators; in simulator sickness; in the human factors of highway infrastructure design and in-vehicle information systems; in highway safety and Intelligent Transportation Systems; in highway and traffic engineering, with an emphasis in pedestrians & bicycles research. Knowledge and experience in providing technical and administrative support in developing government programs and budgets, and in government procurement activities.

Ref No. PAM137363

For further information, please contact:

Kerri McMahon, PHR

Sr. Recruiter, SAIC Recruiting Resource Center

Phone: (858) 826-5251

E-mail: kerri.a.mcmahon@saic.com

Notes from Membership Chair by Michael Eidelkind

Renewal notices will be going out by the end of August. As with past years, the initial notice will be sent via email as a Microsoft Word attachment for those members with email addresses in the Chapter database. If your email address has changed since last year, please send me the update as soon as you can to avoid undeliverable messages from me. (Note: for those of you who do not have email addresses, the notices will continue to be mailed.)

The chapter is now in its 40th year. In honor of this occasion I am updating the past officer lists that had been discontinued several years back. The updated lists will be included in the Chapter Directory, which will be published this summer. In order to complete the lists I need your help (at least those of you who were members in the 1990s). I have the original lists that go from 1967 through 1995 and through memory and archives posted on our Website been able to piece together the officers going back to 2000 definitively. But that leaves some holes from 1996 through 1999. So if anyone has recollections or saved materials (Yearbooks and newsletters) from those years that could help fill in the gaps or correct the names listed, please forward it on. Anyone who sends info that helps lead to recovery of the lost data will be formally thanked in our next newsletter! Here you go:

1996: Pres - Mark Hofmann, Secy - Kiran Ghadda, Treas - Doug Griffith, Directors at Large - unknown

1997: Pres - Ron Hoffman, Secy - Daniel Welch, Treas - unknown, Directors at Large - unknown

1998: Pres - Bill Killam, Secy - Donald Weitzman, Treas - unknown, Directors at Large - Christopher Heasley, Jimmie Johnson

1999: Pres - Jack Laveson, Secy - unknown, Treas - unknown, Directors at Large - Jimmie Johnson, Dennis Faust

Officers for 2005-2006

President

Tom Mayfield
Evans Incorporated
Phone: (703) 663-2480
email: tmayfield@evolvenow.us

Secretary

Kris Hager
BearingPoint
Phone: (703) 403-7090
email: kris.hager@gmail.com

Treasurer

Michael Eidelkind
Northrop Grumman
Phone: (703) 272-5360
email: michael.eidelkind@ngc.com

Directors at Large

Sue Evans
Evans Incorporated
Phone: (703) 663-2480
email: sevans@evolvenow.us

Dino Piccione
Federal Aviation Administration
Phone: (202) 493-5305
email: DINO.PICCIONE@FAA.GOV

Committees for 2005-2006

Awards

Tyson Rose
IBM
Phone: (301) 240-3237
email: ctrose@us.ibm.com

Membership/Directory

Michael Eidelkind
Northrop Grumman
Phone: (703) 272-5360
email: michael.eidelkind@ngc.com

Newsletter

Kris Hager
BearingPoint
Phone: (703) 403-7090
email: kris.hager@gmail.com

Chapter Meeting Program Director

Donna Smith-Lopez
Sverdrup CESS
Phone: (703) 445-1616 x117
email: smithdl@jpmoip.org

WebMaster

Jack Laveson
Integrated Systems Research
Phone: (703) 642-3677
email: j.i.laveson@ieee.org