



International Ergonomics Association

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## President's Newsletter No. 11 September 30, 2011

Dear IEA Council Members and Friends:

With the coming season comes excitement and anticipation for change and new beginnings. Most notably, the upcoming IEA Triennial Congress in Recife is a little more than four months away. While at IEA2012 we will be together again for our annual IEA Council meeting where we will elect new officers, select the venue for the 2018 Triennial Congress, and vote to make the changes in the Rules that Council directed the Executive to make at our last meeting in South Africa. In the meantime, here is news from around the world.

### IEA 2012

Congress Chair Marcelo Soares and his team have been working hard organizing the Triennial Congress in Recife from February 12-16. Together with Science Technology and Practice Chair, Karen Jacobs, the team is organizing an interesting and informative scientific program. The Congress features 13 internationally recognized keynote speakers representing a wide range of ergonomics practice and research.

As a reminder, to those presenting papers, at least one of the authors must be registered for Congress by **October 31, 2011** to be guaranteed publication of the paper. Register today!

Please encourage members of your federated societies and networks to register and make travel reservations early, as this is a particularly busy time of year in Brazil. This will be the first time that an IEA Congress will be hosted in Latin America. We thank the Brazilian Ergonomics Society (ABERGO) and the network of Latin American Ergonomics Societies (ULAERGO) for their cooperation and support.

You can get information about registration, travel, social programs and scientific content at the congress website <http://www.iea2012.org/>. Act soon so you can assure your place in Recife. We are looking forward to seeing you there.

All-Ukrainian Ergonomics Association	Chilean Ergonomics Society	Gesellschaft für Arbeitswissenschaft	Inter-Regional Ergonomics Association	New Zealand Ergonomics Society	Società Italiana di Ergonomia
ASEAN-ES	Chinese Ergonomics Society	Hellenic Ergonomics Society	Institute of Ergonomics and Human Factors (U.K.)	Nordic Ergonomics Society	Société d'Ergonomie de Langue Française
Asociación de Ergonomía Argentina	Croatian Ergonomics Society	Hong Kong Ergonomics Society	Iranian Ergonomics Society	Österreichische Arbeitsgemeinschaft für Ergonomie	Société Tunisienne d'Ergonomie
Associação Brasileira de Ergonomia	Czech Ergonomic Society	Human Ergology Society	Irish Ergonomics Society	Perhimpunan Ergonomi Indonesia	Spanish Association of Ergonomics
Asociación Ecuatoriana de Ergonomia	Ergonomics Society of Korea	Human Factors and Ergonomics Society of Australia	Israel Ergonomics Society	Philippines Ergonomics Society	Swiss Ergonomics Society
Associação Portuguesa de Ergonomia	Ergonomics Society of Nigeria	Human Factors and Ergonomics Society (U.S.A.)	Japan Ergonomics Society	Polish Ergonomics Society	Turkish Ergonomics Society
Association of Canadian Ergonomists	Ergonomics Society of Singapore	Hungarian Ergonomics Society	Latvijas Ergonomikas Biedrība	Slovak Ergonomics Association	ULAERGO
Belgian Ergonomics Society	Ergonomics Society of South Africa	Indian Society of Ergonomics	Nederlandse Vereniging Voor Ergonomie	Sociedad Colombiana de Ergonomia	
	Ergonomics Society of Thailand			Sociedad de Ergonomistas de Mexico	

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



## **IEA Special Session: International Network for Junior Researchers in Ergonomics**

IEA will be sponsoring several special sessions at the IEA2012 Congress in Recife. One of these will be a special meeting of the International Network for Junior Researchers in Ergonomics. The organizing committee for RJCE and IEHF has provided the following information that should be shared with all young researchers.

### **Background and aims**

To our knowledge, there are two support groups for junior researchers in ergonomics in Europe. In France, the Réseau des Jeunes Chercheurs en Ergonomie (RJCE) was founded in 2008 and numbers about 50 members. In the UK, the Early Career Researchers Special Interest Group has been building since mid 2011 a support network within the Institute of Ergonomics & Human Factors. Both groups aim to establish a community of peers that is supportive socially and technically to promote the sharing of ideas, concepts and theories in all areas of ergonomics in both educational entities and industry. They further aim disseminate research findings and maintain close contacts with industries and practitioners. Having established contact with each other, the RJCE and the Early Career Researchers SIG are now actively working to build a gateway to a larger worldwide network. The 18th triennial IEA congress at Recife provides the opportunity to create a unique forum for friendly exchanges and dialogues with research students from other countries.

### **Objectives and agenda of the meeting**

The main objectives of this special meeting are:

1. To develop links with research students from as many countries as possible;
2. To learn about the specificities of the ergonomics discipline and of research curricula in the different countries.

From this perspective, the program of the meeting will include:

1. A short presentation of both the RJCE and the Early Career Researchers SIG;
2. Presentations of the specificities of the ergonomics discipline and of research curricula in different countries;
3. A time dedicated to sharing ideas on how to cement international cooperation links between research students.

Students and junior researchers interested in this initiative are encouraged to give a short informal presentation about their country on topics such as: history of ergonomics, current situation of research in ergonomics, progress and difficulties in doing a research degree, or any other topic in alignment with fitting the general objectives of the meeting.

### **Participation**

If you are interested in participating in this meeting, please get in touch with the organizing committee ([iea2012@rjce.fr](mailto:iea2012@rjce.fr)) as soon as possible. If you know research students who might be willing to attend, please forward them this call for participation.

Organizing committee ([iea2012@rjce.fr](mailto:iea2012@rjce.fr))

\_ RJCE: François Palaci, Maria Sol Perez Toralla, Stanislas Couix, Vincent Boccara

\_ IEHF Early Career Researchers SIG: Tamsyn Edwards, Claudia Krehl, Victoria Kendrick

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## IEA EC Midyear Meeting

The Executive Committee held its midyear meeting in Istanbul, Turkey from September 10-11 to coincide with our participation in the ILO 19<sup>th</sup> World Congress on Occupational Health and Safety at Work, which took place from September 11-15. We were fortunate to be hosted by Ahmet Özok at Istanbul Technical University where we were housed and held our meeting. Our thanks go to our host for the accommodations and the opportunity to experience Istanbul.

While the major focus of this meeting was the Triennial Congress and its preparation, we did discuss several important matters that will come up at our next Council meeting in February.

1. The EC approved the Rules Changes made by the Rules Committee. As Council directed the EC in Grahamstown, South Africa, changes were made to: a) maintain our non-profit status for our registration in Switzerland; b) update the changes voted on in Bruges on officers' titles; and c) update the Rules to make them more current and separate Rules from Procedures. David Caple and Ernst Koningsveld made the initial changes. A second committee, including: John Wilson, Lynn Strother, Dave O'Neill, Christine Waring, Klaus Zink and Yushi Fujita, reviewed the changes and provided feedback. Their valuable input was incorporated into a version that came before the EC and was approved.

The next step will be to send these proposed changes to the Rules to all federated societies shortly for review. Any responses or suggestions for changes need to be sent in by **December 31, 2011**. These changes will be considered and re-sent if necessary. Council members need to come to Recife to vote to approve the Rules changes. This is critically important for organizational reasons and for maintaining our registration and non-profit status.

2. We will follow up with a generous proposal by the Japanese Ergonomics Society to provide a consistent information technology infrastructure support. To date, the administration and management of the website, communication, time management and archiving has changed with each executive. This causes inconsistencies in how and what we communicate. President Saito and his leadership team have offered to provide a consistent level of support for a fixed period of time. This infrastructure could provide a solid backbone for future executives. We will be identifying user requirements and defining responsibilities over the next few months to determine our needs and the best ways to address them.
3. We will support the second phase of the coffee bean harvesting basket project in Nicaragua. Barbara Silverstein's group has secured partial funding for this validation phase and IEA will make up the balance to complete this project. The completion of this lighthouse project sets an example of how IEA can be involved in showing the way to implement projects, particularly in Industrially Developing Countries (IDCs).
4. IEA will support delegates from IDCs to attend the IEA 2012 Congress following the same procedure that was used at the last Congress in Beijing. We will send out letters to the Presidents of the five newest

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federated societies and federated societies from the ten industrially developing countries with the greatest need. The member societies will select the recipients of these stipends and communicate the names to Vice President and Secretary General Eric Wang. These funds can be collected after the second day of the Congress in Recife from Vice President and Treasurer Klaus Zink. Stipends will be for \$500USD and each federated society may select up to four recipients.



Your Executive Committee at mid-year meeting in Istanbul, Turkey  
 Ralph Bruder, Andy Imada, Klaus Zink, David Caple  
 Eric Wang, Yushi Fujita, Barbara Silvestein, Karen Jacobs, Marcelo Soares

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## International Meetings

### HEPS 2011

The third international conference on Healthcare Systems Ergonomics and Patient Safety (HEPS) conference, sponsored by the IEA, took place in Oviedo, Spain, from June 22-24 2011. The conference was co-organized by the Asociación Española de Ergonomía and the Società Italiana di Ergonomia, and attracted more than 250 people from 50 countries. In addition to a range of high quality scientific oral presentations and posters, the conference gave the opportunity to representatives of the WHO Patients for Patient Safety Program to comment and provide advice and suggestions. I would like to thank the AEE, the SIE and the HEPS steering committee for a successful conference; the IEA is proud to support and promote this important initiative.

I was pleased to participate in this meeting and believe that this is an area where our discipline can make a major contribution through research and practice. I encourage all federated societies to explore this arena because this is a significant application that demands high quality of performance and error mitigation when people need it.



IEA PSE Chair Yushi Fujita with ABERGO and ULAERGO dignitaries at Jornada Internacional 2011 in Sao Paulo, Brazil

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### **International ABERGO ULAERGO Conference**

Jornada Internacional ABERGO Ulaergo 2011 was held in August in Sao Paulo, Brazil where the theme of the meeting was Ergonomics, Safety and Resilience. At the invitation of President Jose Orlando Gomez, Yushi Fujita, Chair of the Professional Standards and Education Committee, conducted a four-hour course on the maintenance of safety and how our profession can contribute more to having a resilient society. Fujita also delivered an hour long keynote address on Resilience Engineering. He also held an interview with the Brazilian media who were keenly interested in the developments at the Fukushima nuclear power plant.

We are pleased to hear about ULAERGO's engagement of so many ergonomists from the region to confer on matters of joint interest. We are also indebted to Yushi Fujita for his willingness to travel from Tokyo to Sao Paulo and give so generously of his time. IEA is pleased to support efforts of individual federated societies and networks in promoting ergonomics in the region.

### **ILO 19<sup>th</sup> World Congress on Occupational Health and Safety at Work**

Because of IEA's relationship with ILO, we were asked to propose a special session at the 19<sup>th</sup> World Congress in Istanbul. We participated in two events. First, the IEA sponsored a symposium entitled "Ergonomics and OSH strategies in relation to governmental activities". This was organized and chaired by IEA Development and Promotion Chair and GfA President Ralph Bruder. Presenters included: IEA Past President David Caple (HFESA), Alain Piette, National Secretary (BES), Christina Johansen, President (EHSS), and Jan Dul (NVvE). Second, IEA and ICOH co-sponsored a second symposium entitled "Successful participatory ergonomic strategies to improve OSH". This symposium was co-chaired by Past IEA Treasurer and current ICOH President Kazutaka Kogi and me. Presenters included: Ira Janowitz (HFES), IEA International Development Chair Barbara Silverstein (HFES), Toru Yoshikawa (Human Ergology Society), and Tsuyoshi Kawakami and Valentina Forastieri (ILO). These sessions were well attended and well received.

### **NES2011 Oulu, Finland 18-21 September**

Vice-President and Treasurer Klaus J. Zink represented the IEA at the 2011 conference of the Nordic Ergonomic Society in Oulu, Finland. While there he delivered a keynote address titled "Stakeholder-oriented Management Concepts as Challenge for Macro-Ergonomics: How can Macro-Ergonomics Contribute Successfully to Quality and Sustainability". On the first day about 150 attendees discussed such topics as Design and Organizing for All, Cognitive Ergonomics and Human Factors, Management and Development for Sustainability, and Social and Health Care. Topics on the second day included: Human Factors in Product & Service Development, Physical Ergonomics Visual ergonomics, Safety Critical Systems and Transport. Promotion of Health, Safety and Wellbeing at Work was a topic for both days.

The Ministry of Social Affairs and Health made an important statement during the opening ceremony. The political goal of Occupational Health and Safety in Finland shall be officially replaced by the term Wellbeing. This is an interesting development giving a more positive and attractive image to our activities. Congratulations to the Conference Chair, Prof. Seppo Väyrynen from the University of Oulu, for organizing an interesting event in a wonderful venue.

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## International Relations

### WHO

Alex Ross, Director in the Department of Partnerships from WHO, reported that the Executive Board recently reviewed the report of IEA collaboration from 2008-2010 and has decided to maintain relations with IEA for 2011-2013. The board commented that they appreciated the report, the successful collaborations and the support IEA has given to WHO. This is great news that builds on the framework that David Caple and the last executive developed. Thanks to Wendy Macdonald, David Caple, and Eric Wang for their work on the report.

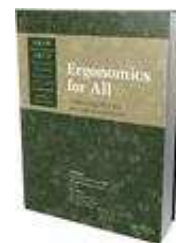
## Calls for Nominations

### IEA Officers

As we discussed at our last Council meeting in Grahamstown, the Call for Nomination of Officers is now open. According to the IEA Rules, the nomination from the federated societies should be received 60 days prior to the Council meeting, **December 14, 2011**. The nomination form can be obtained from Vice President and Secretary General Eric Wang ([mywangeric1@gmail.com](mailto:mywangeric1@gmail.com)). We strongly encourage all federated societies to consider nominating members for President, Vice President and Secretary General, and Vice President and Treasurer. This is a richly rewarding experience and a chance to work with a great team at the international level.

To be eligible for office, a candidate must be a member of a Federated Society and either have served previously on the Council or be the current representative. A candidate should have demonstrated service to IEA and continuity of attendance at Council meetings. In addition, a candidate for President should have served at least one term on the Executive Committee.

**Ten complimentary copies of “Ergonomics for All: Celebrating PPCOE’s 20 Years of Excellence” available to IDCs**



The 9<sup>th</sup> Pan-Pacific Conference on Ergonomics (PPCOE 2010), an IEA endorsed conference, was held in Kaohsiung, Taiwan in November 2010. The conference celebrated its 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary by having CRC Press of Taylor & Francis Group published selected papers from the conference with the title of “Ergonomics for All: Celebrating PPCOE’s 20 Years of Excellence” (List price: £121). As a return to IEA endorsement, Ergonomics Society of Taiwan has generously offered ten complimentary copies of the book to IEA. We decided to give these books to the first ten IDC federated societies who are interested in having a copy. Please contact Vice President and Secretary General Eric Wang ([mywangeric1@gmail.com](mailto:mywangeric1@gmail.com)).

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## Future IEA Meetings

### IEA 2013 Council Meeting

The Executive is open to nominating a site for the 2013 Council meeting. Consideration will be given to offers from federated societies, affiliates or networks to host our 2013 annual council meeting.

### IEA 2018 Bids Closed

Four bids were received for the 2018 Congress and have been sent to a review committee, who will review each proposal to ensure that they meet the requirements for the meeting. Without making recommendations about which venue to select, the committee presents the qualified bids to the IEA Council. We will vote on the 2018 Congress at the next Council meeting in Recife.

### Upcoming IEA Endorsed Events

[2nd EAEFS & AES 2011 / The 2nd East Asian Ergonomics Federation Symposium and Asia Ergonomics Summit 2011](#)

5-8 October, 2011, Hsinchu, Taiwan, ROC

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[Human Factors & Ergonomics Society in Australia inc. \(HFESA\) 47th Annual Conference-2011](#)

7-9 November, 2011, NSW, Australia

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[First International Conference on Ergonomics Assessment in Industrial Practice](#)

1-2 December, 2011, Darmstadt, Germany

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[2nd SEANES International Conference](#)

9-12 July, 2012, Langkawi, Malaysia

In closing I want to thank all of you who work on committees so diligently and often anonymously. I have come to appreciate the many contributions of time, treasure and talent that you offer. It reminds me of why it is rewarding to be a part of the IEA family.

Sincerely,



Andrew S. Imada, Ph.D.  
President

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