
THE Interface

NEWSLETTER OF THE
HUMAN FACTORS &
ERGONOMICS SOCIETY
SOUTH JERSEY
CHAPTER

FEBRUARY 2003

2003 Premiere Issue

New Executive Council in motion, upcoming events announced, annual membership drive



A Message from the President

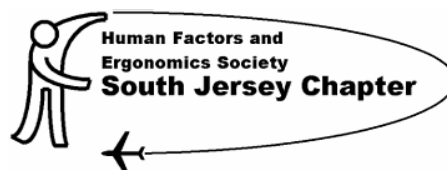
By Mke McAnulty

Welcome to the 2003 edition of the South Jersey Chapter of the Human Factors and Ergonomics Society. I hope to see you all at our activities this year. The Executive Council has held its first meeting, and we are planning at least six meetings and six newsletters this year. We may also hold some purely social events as well. Our agenda is to help meet the professional and social needs of our membership by providing a forum for learning and discussion about our discipline, and interaction with other members of the discipline. We actively solicit your input on ways the chapter can be even more beneficial to you.

I want to thank the membership for a very successful election last year. Many of you submitted nominations, nearly everyone nominated was willing to accept (those who could not had very valid reasons), and the percentage of members voting was very high, far higher than in political elections. Democracy in action! I also believe it represents your commitment to our chapter and discipline. Per-

sonally, I thank you for your votes for me as President (not that there was an option!), and for electing such an outstanding Executive Council. I welcome Kenneth Allendoerfer as President-Elect, Gulshan Panjwani as Secretary, Pam Della Rocco as Membership Chair, and Eddie Sierra as Program Chair. Everyone nominated would have made significant contributions to the chapter; it was a tough choice among them, but I believe this group will work well together to meet your needs. They, along with Jerry Hadley as Treasurer, Tanya Yuditsky as Nominations and Elections Chair, and Todd Truitt as Publications Chair, form the Executive Council, which is dedicated to developing a program that will support and invigorate our members.

Finally, I want to thank Mike Snyder, Nicole Sacco, and Kelly Longo; they have served our Chapter extremely well the last two years as President-Elect/President, Program Chair, and Secretary, respectively. 2002 was a difficult year for nearly all of us, with work and travel commitments, yet we still managed to have an above average (compared to all Chapters) number of meetings and activities. I hope 2003 will provide new opportunities for growth and mutual support for all of us.



Upcoming Events

By Edmundo A. Sierra, Jr.

There will be a number of events taking place this year. The Program Committee has scheduled the events to occur once every other month. Serving as members on the Program Committee are Gulshan Panjwani, Nicole Sacco, and Greg Niehus.

The first event will be a brown bag lunch at noon on Thursday, February 27 in the Research, Development, and Human Factors Lab briefing room. Two short presentations will be given during this event. The titles, authors, and abstracts are below.

Presentation #1

High Fidelity Simulation Test of New Air Traffic Control Concepts

Todd R. Truitt, Ph.D. & D. Michael McAnulty, Ph.D.

Abstract

Researchers at the William J. Hughes Technical Center examined an Air Traffic Control (ATC) concept that collocates Terminal Radar Approach Control (TRACON) and Air Route Traffic Control Center (ARTCC) operations while expanding the terminal airspace. The concept may provide benefits for inter-sector coordination, traffic sequencing (see **Events**, page 2)

Events

(Continued from page 1)

and spacing, holding, and overall traffic flow. By simulating arrival flows through two en route and two terminal sectors simultaneously, the researchers tested the effects of collocation and an expanded terminal airspace on system efficiency and Certified Professional Controller (CPC) performance, workload, and communication behavior.

Presentation #2

A Field Survey of Complexity in Air Traffic Control Towers

Anton Koros, Pamela S. Della Rocco, Ph.D., Gulshan Panjwani, Jean-François D'Arcy, Ph.D., and Victor Ingurgio, Ph.D.

Abstract

This study investigated sources of complexity and their incidence within Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) Air Traffic Control Towers (ATCTs). It was the second in a series of studies investigating ATC Specialists (ATCSs) decision-making processes and information requirements sponsored by the FAA Office of the Chief Scientific and Technical Advisor for Human Factors. A team of Human Factors Specialists (HFSs) from the William J. Hughes Technical Center investigated the incidence and nature of 29 sources of ATC complexity. This survey characterized the differences between facilities in terms of the key sources of complexity and their incidence. The relative contribution of each of the sources was site specific, but some were important across all sites.

Here are some more events to look forward to this year:

APRIL – Presentation: Knowledge Management by Mr. Dennis Filler, ACK-1

JUNE – Presentation: Human Factors in Human-Computer Interaction by Dr. Atwood, Drexel University

AUGUST – Tour: New FAA Labs

OCTOBER - Brownbag Movie: Topics

in Human Factors
DECEMBER - Panel Discussion: Statistics in Applied Research

Annual Membership Drive

By Pam Della Rocco

It's that time again. ..time to renew your membership in the South Jersey Chapter of the Human Factors and Ergonomics Society (HFES). It is still just \$10 per year.

Membership is open to anyone with an interest in human factors. You do not need to be a member of the national HFES to join. The benefits include a newsletter, hearing guest speakers, touring facilities with human factors programs or issues, sharing information and networking with colleagues, video presentations...and, of course, the good company. The program committee is already working on an interesting set of activities for this year.

If you've never joined or are new to the area, please join us. To join or renew your dues for 2003, please complete the form in this newsletter and/or contact Pam Della Rocco, Membership Chair.

Meet Our New Members

By Todd Truitt

Bonnie Kudrick

Bonnie joined Titan Corporation in the position of Staff Human Factors Specialist in October 2002 and is working at the William J. Hughes Technical Center. She is currently revising and updating The FAA Human Factors Design Guide.

Bonnie has a Bachelor's degree in Psy-

chology from Rutgers University and is working towards her Master's degree. She has experience in all facets of experimental design and has conducted studies in user interface design, voice recognition and user preferences for websites. She has developed prototypes, designed questionnaires, and conducted user needs analyses, user preference analyses and task analyses. Bonnie is also a Notary Public.

Bonnie has lived in New York, Connecticut, Rhode Island and moved to New Jersey 7 years ago. She lives in Jackson with her husband and daughter. Her son is currently living in Jersey City attending Seton Hall Law School.

In her spare time, Bonnie likes to read, entertain, travel, walk and swim. She is active in her church and is president of the Jackson High School Girls Field Hockey/Lacrosse Booster Club.

Edmundo A. Sierra, Jr.

Edmundo's interest in Human Factors began while taking a college course taught by a visiting instructor at Our Lady of the Lake University in San Antonio, TX. The visiting instructor was an Air Force Research Lab scientist with the Human Effectiveness Directorate at Brooks Air Force Base. Under his guidance, Edmundo completed his first Human Factors study, which explored using simulators to train the mental translations required to operate vehicles such as the RQ-1 Predator Unmanned Aerial Vehicle.

Encouragement by his professors and AFRL scientists led Edmundo to the Engineering Psychology graduate program at the Georgia Institute of Technology. Through assistantships in engineering and cognitive aging laboratories, he studied the use of multimedia in instruction. He was also selected to develop the content of an Applied Experimental Psychology capstone course
(see **Members**, page 3)

Members

(Continued from page 2)

for Georgia Tech seniors; instruction and evaluation methods which are still used today.

Edmundo joined the Air Traffic Systems Division of Titan Corporation in the position of Human Factors Engineer in August 2002. He is currently supporting the FAA WJHTC under the SEAS Contract. He recently participated in a simulation exploring the effects of en route GPS outages on air traffic controller workload. Edmundo is currently assisting the FAA in a computer modeling and simulation project, which also focuses on workload, in addition to a flight deck dynamic density study with NASA Ames research Center.

In his spare time, Edmundo enjoys running, going to the movies, and participating in theater.

Publications Committee is Forming

By Todd Truitt

As the Publications Chair, I have begun to form a Publications Committee. I want to thank Dr. Sehchang Hah and Mr. Robert "Bob" Muldoon for already agreeing to serve. Others who would like to serve on the committee are welcome and may contact me via email (Todd.Truitt@faa.gov) or telephone (609-485-4351). Our primary purpose is to compile and publish this newsletter. As such, the committee members will be contributing short articles that should be of interest to the members of the HFES-SJC. Beginning next month, please look for the first of these articles.

All members are encouraged to submit

articles for publication in The Interface, even if they don't want to be on the committee. Articles may contain any information or opinion that you think would be of interest to the membership. The Publications Committee welcomes your recommendations for books to read, summaries of journal articles, editorials, funny stories, etc.

Highlights of Recent Executive Council Meetings

By Gulshan Panjwani

January 16: Members present for the meeting included 2002 President Michael Snyder, incoming President Mike McAnulty, President-Elect Kenneth Allendoerfer, Pam DellaRocco, Jerry Hadley, Todd Truitt, Edumundo Sierra, and Gulshan Panjwani. Michael Snyder welcomed everyone and handed the meeting over to President Mike McAnulty.

Mike McAnulty welcomed the new council members. After brief introductions, the meeting embarked on business matters. Jerry Hadley provided the financial status and, due to a healthy financial status, the council decided that the annual dues would remain the same (\$10). Mike also welcomed proposals for events to occur in the upcoming year. He stated that his philosophy for the organization was to have more events of smaller scale rather than a few big events. The council agreed that events such as brown bag lunches and after work presentations would be (and have been) more appropriate than late evening events. In all, six events (three brown bag lunches and three late afternoon talks) happening every alternate month was set as the target for the current year. Our newsletter, The Interface, will be published every other month, intermittent with chapter events. The publication chair and the program chair would request participa-

tion from other members to serve on their respective committees to help fulfill their duties.

The council made and approved a proposal to sponsor an award for a science fair. The science fair at Stockton College will have participants in the behavioral sciences and the council decided to sponsor a prize for that event. The next issue considered was that of membership development. The council members made suggestions on ways to communicate the existence of the chapter to others. The Yahoo Group was discussed as one resource. Ways to communicate to people and encourage participation were also discussed. We agreed on the day and time of the Executive Council meeting to remain on the second Thursday of the month. Some of the ideas proposed for potential events included talks by local people that are planning on presenting or have recently presented papers at conferences and professional meetings. Ideas for visits included the new Human Factors Lab that is being constructed, other labs in the main building, the Coast Guard, etc. The council decided to maintain the content of The Interface and the source of distribution will still be Email. Finally, the council discussed the potential for an event in the last week of February. The program chair and others will be working on the details of the event.

South Jersey HFES Chapter Membership and Renewal Application

For the Year 2003

Applicant Name: _____

New Member (*complete all fields*)

Renewal (*complete this section only*)

I am (a Fellow / a Full Member / an Associate Member / Not a Member) of the National HFES (*circle one*)

Organization/Company: _____

Mailing address: _____

Daytime phone: () -

Evening phone: () -

Fax number: () -

E-mail address: _____

Endorsing SJC-HFES Member: _____

SJC HFES dues for 2003 are \$10. Make checks payable to the "Human Factors Society." Submit applications and checks to:

Pam Della Rocco
ACB-220, RDHFL Bldg 28
Wm. J. Hughes Technical Center
Atlantic City Int'l Airport, NJ 08405