



International Ergonomics Association

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## President's Newsletter No. 12 November 30, 2011

Dear IEA Council Members and Friends:

We are now less than 90 days from IEA2012 – our 18<sup>th</sup> Triennial Congress – and our next Council meeting. We look forward to this, our most important event where we share our scientific contributions to advance our discipline, meet as a Council to carry on IEA's work, and meet other professionals to match the valued ones we already know in our field. However, there are important announcements, updates, administrative matters and events around the world that we would like to share with you before you travel to Recife, Brazil.

### Announcing 2011 IEA Liberty Mutual Medal Winner

The IEA review committee has selected the winner of the 2011 IEA/Liberty Mutual Medal in Occupational Safety and Ergonomics and the appropriate boards have endorsed the selection of a paper by Marie Ward, Nick McDonald, and Rabea Morrison, of the Aerospace Psychology Research Group (APRG), School of Psychology, Trinity College (Dublin) and Des Gaynor, M.A., and Tony Nugent of Trinity aeroTec (Dublin). The paper, "A Performance Improvement Case Study in Aircraft Maintenance and its Implications for Hazard Identification," was published in and nominated by the journal *Ergonomics*. We extend our heartiest congratulations to the authors on receiving the most prestigious recognition in our field for this research. I have attached a press release for further information dissemination. Please feel free to include this in your own Newsletter and encourage your members to apply for the award next year. Feel free to circulate this release to your own media, universities and other professional associations.

We thank the Liberty Mutual Research Institute for Safety for their generous support of this award and to the review committee, under the leadership of Mike Smith, for their careful examination of a highly competitive field of submissions.

### IEA2012 Recife, Brazil!

Marcelo Soares reports that there have been many interesting and a wide range of topics to be covered in the Triennial Congress program. Karen Jacobs, IEA Science, Technology and Practice Chair, has been working on the scientific program with the Technical Committee Chairs, and the organizing committee to come up with 19 confirmed workshops, 12 keynote speakers, and 66 symposia. Additionally, this Congress will have a new type of session. Ruud Pikaar has organized 23 company

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Nederlandse Vereniging Voor  
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Perhimpunan Ergonomi Indonesia  
Philippines Ergonomics Society  
Polish Ergonomics Society  
Slovak Ergonomics Association  
Sociedad Colombiana de Ergonomia  
Sociedad de Ergonomistas de Mexico

Società Italiana di Ergonomia  
Société d'Ergonomie de Langue  
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case studies. This should provide valuable lessons for implementing ergonomics in different contexts. This gives you a flavor of the energizing activities we can expect at IEA2012 in Brazil (If you need an invitation letter to apply for your visa to Brazil, please contact with Professor Marcelo Soares).

### Important IEA Administrative Matters

We will have a full agenda when we meet for our Council meeting in Recife, Brazil on February 11 and 12. You are invited to a brief Council reception on Friday evening, February 10 at the Golden Tulip Hotel. A New Council Member Orientation will precede this reception. Details will be forthcoming. Save the dates!

Federated Societies have already received a draft of proposed changes of the IEA Rules and Operating Procedures, which we will vote on at that meeting. We are awaiting your feedback before releasing the voting item. We will also be voting for the new officers, venue for the 2018 Triennial Congress (with four good proposals), and the venue for the 2013 Council meeting.

### Call for Nomination of Officers

There will be an election for the next IEA President, Vice President Secretary General, and Vice President Treasurer. Nominations will be received from the Federated Societies on the attached Nomination Form and Statement from the Candidate Form. These forms must be received by December 11, 2011. Council will be informed of the nominations for the IEA Executive Office by December 30.

We urge you to nominate willing and able leaders for these critical roles in the IEA. We look forward to receiving your input!

### Proxy Votes

We will be voting on several matters that require a quorum and it is important that we get the required representation in voting. If no one from your society will be attending the Council meeting, we urge you to vote by proxy (please fill out the attached Proxy Statement and send to Eric Wang by January 15, 2012). If you know that another society will not attend, please contact them to encourage them to assign their proxy votes.

### IDC Support to Attend IEA2012

A select group of federated societies received notices that the IEA will support one member nominated by the society to receive a stipend of \$500USD. Presidents of these federated societies must submit their nomination to Eric Wang. The stipend will be paid to the named recipient on the second day of the Congress.

### Paypal Option for Paying Dues

As a reminder, it may be advantageous for some members to make their dues payment using the Paypal option that Klaus Zink and his team have established. It could be less expensive and more convenient for your society to use this option depending on the amount of the payment.

### Receiving Nominations for the 2013 Council Meeting

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We are now accepting nominations for hosting the 2013 IEA Council meeting. If your society is willing and able to host Council, we will gladly put your proposal up for vote at our February meeting. Please submit your proposal to Vice President and Secretary General Eric Wang.

## Events Around the World

### Latvian Ergonomics Society

The Latvian Ergonomics Society held its first international scientific and practical ergonomics conference on October 7, 2011 in Riga, Latvia. IEA Vice President Treasurer Klaus Zink and FEES President Pieter Rookmaaker shared their expertise in keynote addresses at this meeting, which centered on “Contemporary Ergonomics and Business 2011”. President Zenija Roja and Board Member Henrijs Kalkis expressed their satisfaction and appreciation for the international support at their first ergonomics event.

### 2nd EAEFS and AES 2011

The IEA endorsed 2<sup>nd</sup> East Asia Ergonomics Federated Symposium and Asia Ergonomics Summit 2011 was held on October 4-8, 2012 in Hsinchu, Taiwan. The conference theme is “Ergonomics in Asia: Development, Opportunities, and Challenges”. IEA Vice President and Secretary General Eric Min-yang Wang chaired the Asia Ergonomics Summit 2011. 12 Presidents and delegates of Federated Societies in Asia shared their experience, issues and vision about the ergonomics development in Asia. It was decided that the summit should be continued.

### WHO Events

Jose Orlando Gomez (President, ABERGO) represented the IEA at the WHO World Conference on Social Determinants of Health (WCSDH) in Rio de Janeiro Oct 19-21, 2011.

Alma Maria Jennifer Gutierrez (Vice President, PHILERGO) represented the IEA at the WHO Regional Committee Meeting for the Western Pacific on October 10-14, 2011 in Manila.

### Sociedad Colombiana de Ergonomía Congress

I was fortunate to be invited by SCE to attend their annual meeting, which was held in conjunction with the 17<sup>th</sup> meeting on Occupational Health in Medellín, Colombia from November 2-4. This meeting drew more than 1,000 professionals from Occupational Medicine, Safety, Industrial Hygiene and Ergonomics. My son, Adam, and I were hosted by SCE President Emilio Cadavid Guzmán and IEA Council member Luz Mercedes Saenz Zapata and treated to warm Colombian hospitality and friendship. We visited a meat processing plant to assist a company that had engaged an SCE member to reduce MSD injuries. I also presented a one-day workshop on macroergonomics and a symposium on participatory ergonomics. It was an energizing experience to be among such a vibrant and eager group of ergonomists. Jose Orlando Gomez (President, ABERGO and ULAERGO) also attended the meeting and gave a perspective on ergonomics throughout Latin America. We were pleased to participate in the meeting and support the growing interest in Colombia and throughout Latin America.

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Thank you for all your efforts during the past three years to promote ergonomics. You have made it a great honor for me to serve as your President. Best wishes to everyone for a good finish to the year and a healthy and happy year in 2012. Enjoy the holidays!

Sincerely,

Andrew S. Imada  
President

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Pieter Roomaaker (FEES), Klaus Zink (IEA), and Attendees to the First Latvian Ergonomics Society Event Riga, Latvia on 7 October 2011

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SCE Friends at the Congress



SCE 15 year celebration



Jose Orlando Gomez (ABERGO, ULAERGO), Emilio Cadavid Guzmán, Luz Mercedes Saenz Zapata (SCE), Andrew Imada (IEA)

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Luz Merce Saenz Zapata SCE, Andrew Imada IEA, and Emilio Cadavid Guzmán SCE

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