



# NewsBriefs

## February 2023

Dear IEA Community

Despite being a shorter month, February has been a busy one for the HFE community. In this edition you can look forward to reading about opportunities to apply for various awards for HFE students and professionals, upcoming events and the Spotlight on IEA societies feature, which takes us to Ireland where we learn a bit more about the Irish Human Factors and Ergonomics Society (IHFES). We look forward to receiving updates about HFE developments, events, and opportunities that would be of interest to the global IEA community. Contact the IEA NewsBriefs editor ([sma.ngcamu@gmail.com](mailto:sma.ngcamu@gmail.com)) if you would like to contribute to future editions of this newsletter.

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### **IEA/Tsinghua 2022 Awardees Announced**

The **IEA/Tsinghua Award** for Collaborative Human Factors/Ergonomics Education is given annually to honour leaders who, through international and/or inter-regional collaboration, have made significant and outstanding contributions to the success of postgraduate educational programs that include human factors/ergonomics courses or substantial HFE content in the curriculum. The award is highly competitive and we received excellent applications. With much pleasure we congratulate the 2022 Awardees:

- ~ Tarcisio Abreu Saurin, Brazil Ergonomics Society (ABERGO)
- ~ Ting Li, Chinese Ergonomics Society (CES)
- ~ Rauf Iqbal, Indian Society of Ergonomics (ISE)

#### **IEA Fellow Award applications open – Deadline 30 April, 2023**

The call for nominations for the 2023 IEA Fellow Awards is currently open. The IEA Fellow Award is given to recognize extraordinary or sustained, superior accomplishments of an individual. To be considered for the IEA Fellow Award, the candidate must have been a Full Member in good standing of a Federated or Affiliated Ergonomics Society for at least the preceding 10 years, and the candidate must have served the ergonomics community at an international level. In addition, the candidate's distinction as a Human Factors/Ergonomics professional must be demonstrated. Please nominate deserving

colleagues by 30 April 2023. Download the application from <https://iea.cc/annual-awards/iea-fellowship/>

### **IEA/Tsinghua and IEA/Kingfar 2023 applications now open – Deadline 30 June, 2023**

The **IEA/Kingfar Award** is given annually to early career professionals to promote and reward high-quality original research and applications on new and emerging HFE issues or issues specifically related to industrially developing countries, as well as to promote a career path in HFE. Nominees can be from any country including both IDCs and developed countries. Up to 13 winners can be recognised each year, with 8 awards given to PhD students, and 5 awards to early career scholars/researchers (within 10 years of completing a PhD). The award amount is \$1,000 for each selected student and \$1,500 for each selected early career researcher. See <https://iea.cc/iea-kingfar-award/> for the IEA/Kingfar Awards criteria.

As noted above, the **IEA/Tsinghua Award** for Collaborative Human Factors/Ergonomics Education is given annually to honor 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 human factors/ergonomics (HFE) courses or substantial HFE content in the curriculum. The intent of this award is to mobilize educators worldwide for HFE education. Up to 4 programs may be awarded. Each program may be represented by up to two nominees. The award consists of a monetary prize of \$4,000 per selected program. See <https://iea.cc/iea-tsinghua-award> for IEA/Tsinghua Award criteria.

### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

#### **Webinar: HFE perspectives in manufacturing when adopting new Industry 4.0 technologies: 15 March 2023, 13:00 (UTC)**

It has been demonstrated that the best time to introduce HFE is during concept and design stages of the life cycle of products and work systems. With the rapid advancement of the fourth industrial revolution some have argued that we are already lagging behind in integrating HFE into these advanced systems of the future. The fourth webinar in the series on the future of work and HFE from around the world will focus on the challenges and opportunities for the future of work in adopting human factors in manufacturing performance development. If you already work in this area or are curious as to the role of HFE in manufacturing systems of the future then join this webinar on the 15<sup>th</sup> of March at 13:00 UTC. Registration is open to all and attendance is free. The registration link can be accessed **here** or on the IEA Webpage (<https://iea.cc>).

#### **Online Events, Congresses and Summer Schools**

Check out the IEA Endorsed events website for upcoming congresses on Slips, Trips and Falls, Advanced Robotics, Health Informatics, Organisational Design and Management and other HFE themes at <https://iea.cc/meetings/endorsed-events/>.

### **RECORDED WEBINARS**

In case you missed the two recent webinars that were featured in the previous IEA NewsBriefs, links to the recordings have been provided below:

- Without ergonomics, no effective work-directed care for patients with musculoskeletal disorders, **9 February, 2023:**
- HFE perspectives on the future of work from South-East Asia, **16 February, 2023:**

Visit the IEA YouTube channel to catch up on past webinars:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCDnjCjRcYB7rBR2PJFw6k6w>.

## SPOTLIGHT ON IEA SOCIETIES

In this edition of the IEA NewsBriefs, we set the spotlight on Ireland, an island in the North Atlantic Ocean, in North-Western Europe. Traditionally known as the island of 'Céad Míle Fáilte' or one hundred thousand welcomes, Ireland is home to the Irish Human Factors and Ergonomics Society (IHFES). True to their welcoming nature, IHFES willingly agreed to share information about their society with the IEA community, which we are thankful for. Read more about IHFES below and learn about how they have built a strong foundation for the HFE professionals while also contributing to the development of the discipline in Europe.

We look forward to hearing from other IEA societies that have not yet been featured. If your HFE society would like to part of future editions of the IEA NewsBriefs please email the IEA NewsBriefs editor ([sma.ngcamu@gmail.com](mailto:sma.ngcamu@gmail.com)).

### IRISH HUMAN FACTORS AND ERGONOMICS SOCIETY (IHFES)

The society started off as an informal group in October 1984. In March 1985 the group was accepted as a Regional Group of the Ergonomics Society (U.K.). The Group ran seminars once or twice per year and was involved, from 1985 onwards, in the development of the ideas and processes for the title "European Ergonomist". The aim was to provide the mechanism for establishing and controlling a recognised professional level for Ergonomists throughout Europe, in order to provide mobility between member states and to protect the public from those who are unqualified and/or not competent. The standards were agreed in 1992 and provided the mechanism for the Irish Ergonomics Group to become a fully Irish society.

A constitution was approved at an AGM in March 1993 and the Irish Ergonomics Society (IES) was formally launched on 5th March 1994 and, later that year, held its first Annual Conference at the University of Limerick. IES was admitted to the International Ergonomics Association (IEA) as an Affiliated Organisation at its 12th Triennial Congress in Toronto on 14th August 1994. This made it the officially recognised society for Human Factors and Ergonomics in Ireland. The IES became a Federated Member of the IEA in August 1995. At an AGM on the 6th June 2019 the name of the Society was amended to the Irish Human Factors and Ergonomics Society (IHFES) to reflect the international practice.

#### IHFES Fact sheet

- **Established:** Formerly launched in 1994 but started as an informal group in 1984
- **Approximate number of members:** 70
- **Approximate number of HFE professionals:** 32 (4 fellows and 28 registered professionals)
- **Website:** <https://ihfes.org/>
- **LinkedIn:** <https://www.linkedin.com/groups/2705865/>

## Overview of IHFES activities

IHFES aims to pursue and promote work on a range of issues (e.g., social and organisational issues, control room design, musculoskeletal injuries, human reliability, training, and health and safety) across the 32 counties in Ireland and to maintain close involvement with HFE developments at a European level.

While it does not itself certify HFE professionals, the IHFES serves and supports its members by establishing relationships with strategic organisations as well as organising events and providing platforms where members can network and share ideas. Details about some of the activities that IHFES is involved in are provided below:

- The IHFES hosts an annual conference and publishes the proceedings. Previous conference proceedings can be found here: <https://ihfes.org/publications/>
- The IHFES has a good working relationship with the UK Chartered Institute of Ergonomics and Human Factors (CIEHF) with some of the IHFES committee members also serving in CIEHF special interest groups. The societies are co-hosting a webinar on “International Perspectives in Healthcare: A look at HFE in healthcare in a trio of countries” on 1<sup>st</sup> March 2023. For more details and to register please see [here](#).
- The society provides monthly Lunch N’ Learn seminars for members. See [here](#). The next Lunch N’ Learn event takes place on 30<sup>th</sup> March 2023 where invited guest Ingrid Margo from the Active Ageing and Community Care programme in Malta will present and discuss “Patient Handling Risk Management in Long Term Care”. For more details and to register please see [here](#).
- IHFES makes HFE inputs and provides advice with regard to relevant standards, educational courses, safety and health activities, and government initiatives.
- The IHFES has a close relationship with the Irish Health and Safety Authority (<https://www.hsa.ie/>) and the Irish Society of Chartered Physiotherapists (<https://www.iscp.ie/>).

## IHFES upcoming events

The IHFES annual conference will take place in TUDublin (Technical University Dublin) on Friday June 16<sup>th</sup> 2023. The theme of the conference is “Human Factors in The Era of Digital Transformation” and the call for papers is now open. Presenters are required to write either an extended abstract or full paper (guidance is available on our website). Papers will be subject to peer review and reproduced in a book of proceedings titled “Irish Ergonomics Review 2023”. Proceedings have an ISSN number and will be available internationally through the British Library. As a first step, it is necessary to indicate your interest in presenting at the conference by sending an email to [info@ihfes.org](mailto:info@ihfes.org). Registration will be available shortly via the Society Website – [www.ihfes.org](http://www.ihfes.org)

## IHFES Membership

There are three routes to becoming a registered member of the society:

1. Subject matter expert by way of holding a Ph.D. in a Human Factors/Ergonomics subject plus normally two ISI peer reviewed journal papers as first author.
2. Graduate from a recognised qualifying taught Master’s degree.
3. Human Factors/Ergonomics Competency assessment: applicants who have completed a Master’s qualification (NCTE level 9) and obtained skills through non-recognised qualifying programmes can consider two routes to entry based on their level of Human Factors Ergonomics competency.

Affiliate membership is open to anyone who has an interest in the application of Human Factors Ergonomics. Associate membership is open to anyone who has a third level qualification in a subject area that interfaces with Human Factors Ergonomics. A Fellow

is normally a registered member of the IHFES for a minimum of 10 years and has made an important contribution to the Society/Discipline.

The IHFES membership registration form can be accessed here: <https://ihfes.org/registration/>

### IEA LINKS OF INTEREST

**Archive** of previous NewsBriefs.

More **news** from IEA.

IEA Press **publications**.

IEA **YouTube** channel (includes recorded IEA webinars).

IEA **LinkedIn** page.

IEA **Facebook** page.