



NewsBriefs

October 2023

October is used to commemorate ergonomics month in various parts of the world. While raising awareness about human factors/ ergonomics issues is a daily activity that most HFE academics, practitioners, and students engage in throughout the year, during October, HFE awareness takes centre stage. True to Margaret Fuller's words, "If you have knowledge, let others light their candles on it", we witnessed HFE professionals from different parts of the world sharing their knowledge, experience, and skills with others. We thank everyone who continues to contribute to advocating for and raising awareness about HFE within their scope of influence.

This edition of the IEA NewsBriefs contains information about the upcoming IEA2024 conference, a reminder of the open call for nominations for various IEA awards, and upcoming events. In the Spotlight on IEA Societies feature we turn our gaze to the Peruvian Society of Ergonomics (SOPERGO), located in Peru, the third largest country in the continent, and home to the ancient archaeological Machu Picchu which is one of the 7 wonders of the world. We hope you enjoy this edition and look forward to receiving your contributions to future editions of the IEA NewsBriefs, which can be forwarded to the editor (sma.ngcamu@gmail.com).

ANNOUNCEMENTS

IEA ANNUAL COUNCIL MEETING

On October 18th and 19th representatives of the federated and affiliated societies that make up the governing body of the IEA met for the annual Council meeting. The meeting was hosted by the Chilean Ergonomics Society, SOCHERGO, and the network of South American ergonomics societies, ULAERGO, who held a combined congress immediately afterward with the theme Inclusion and Diversity. The Council meeting was a hybrid event allowing the members who were not able to participate in person to participate online.

During the meeting the decision was made to accept two new federated societies to the IEA family, the Bulgarian Association for Ergonomics and Human Factors and the Ergonomics and Workplace Management Society of Romania. A series

of workshops were held to discuss issues of common interest so that experiences could be exchanged and ideas for future activities developed. The themes included membership acquisition and support of early career members, society development strategies, and promoting education programs.

The IEA Council also approved an update to the IEA logo which will be part of the corporate image development. The executive committee thanks all of those who contributed to a very successful meeting and was very pleased with the participation and enthusiasm of so many people from a region that often is not able to participate with large numbers of representatives.

IEA2024 CALL FOR PAPERS

Have you started working on your abstracts and preparing for the IEA 2024 triennial conference that will take place in Korea from 25-29 August 2024? Abstract submissions from researchers, academics, practitioners, and professionals from around the world are still welcome. Submissions that were received before the 31st of October 2023 will receive a decision by November 30th, 2023. Papers submitted later will receive a decision by the 15th of March 2024. Optional full paper submissions must be submitted before the 15th of April 2024. This conference, which is one of the largest gatherings of HFE professionals and stakeholders globally, provides an opportunity to network and learn about some of the HFE advances being made around the world. For more details about this conference, check the congress website <https://www.iea2024.com/>.

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS FOR IEA AWARDS

The call for applications for various IEA awards is still open! There are 8 different IEA Triennial Awards, the annual IEA Fellow Awards, IEA/Tsinghua Awards, and IEA/Kingfar Awards for students and early career researchers, and the newly introduced Thomas Waters Memorial Award for students. **The award nomination submission deadline for all the awards is 15 January 2024** to provide sufficient time for awardees can make travel and presentation arrangements for the IEA2024 Congress on Jeju Island, South Korea. We encourage everyone to check this list of awards carefully and nominate colleagues, students, and early career researchers who deserve to be recognized. Please see the list of available awards below with links where you can find detailed information on the awards.

ANNUAL AWARDS

- The [IEA Fellow Award](#) for distinguished long-serving members of IEA Member Societies.
- The [IEA/Kingfar Award](#) for students and early career researchers
- The [IEA/Tsinghua Award](#) for leaders and facilitators of collaborative, programmatic HF/E education initiatives.

TRIENNIAL AWARDS FOR STUDENTS

- ***New Award: The [Thomas R. Waters MSD Memorial Scholarship Award](#) for work that significantly advances the science underpinning physical manipulation of people and materials research.

- The [IEA K.U. Smith Student Award](#) students responsible for contributions to human factors/ergonomics.

IEA TRIENNIAL AWARDS

- [IEA/Elsevier John Wilson Award](#) for major contributions in the field of applied ergonomics.
- [The IEA Distinguished Service Award](#) is for individuals who have made outstanding contributions to the promotion, development, and advancement of the IEA.
- [IEA Triennial Outstanding Educators Award](#) for individuals who have made outstanding contributions to human factors/ergonomics education for having:
 - Developed ergonomics education programs.
 - Produced new methodology and/or materials for teaching ergonomics.
 - Graduated persons who have become outstanding ergonomists.
- [IEA Award for Promotion of Ergonomics in Developing Countries](#) for individuals who have made outstanding contributions to the development of infrastructure of human factors/ergonomics in an industrially developing country.
- [IEA Triennial Ergonomics Development Award](#) for an individual(s) who has had an international impact on human factors/ergonomics in terms of contributing or development that:

*Significantly advances the state of the art of an existing HF/E sub-specialty.

*Opens a new area of HF/E research and/or application.

- [IEA Human Factors/Ergonomics Prize](#) for a group, institution, or organization that has made significant contributions to research and development, and/or application of knowledge generally in the field of human factors/ergonomics.
- [The IEA President's Award](#) is for persons who have made outstanding contributions to human factors/ergonomics or the furthering of human factors/ergonomics, and whose contribution does not fall into one of the other award categories.

UPCOMING EVENTS

NES 2023 conference: 9-10 November 2023 (Online)

The annual conference of the Nordic Ergonomics and Human Factors Society (NES 2023) will take place from the 9th to the 10th of November 2023 (NES 2023). The theme for the conference is "Work Smart: Ergonomics in the Digital Age" and the topics that will be presented throughout the conference will delve into how HFE can be used to support work in the digital age. To get more information on the conference, please visit the conference website here: <https://ehss.se/nes2023/>

Webinar: Emerging Researchers and Practitioners in Human Factors in Healthcare: 1 December 2023, 05h00 UTC

This webinar series focuses on HFE research in healthcare done by Early Career Researchers and Practitioners (ECR/Ps) across the IEA network. ECR/Ps are PhD students and those who are within 0 to 5 years post-PhD (including career

interruptions) or practitioners who have been working in Human Factors in healthcare for less than 5 years. The best presenter of the 2023-2024 in this webinar series will win the inaugural Richard Cook prize.

The next webinar in this series will be held on the 1st of December at 05:00 (UTC) and the list of presentations that will be covered is provided in the table below. Attendance is free but registration is critical. Register here to attend: https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_Jld4VJ7HRJ6gBgd5jc5Spw#/registration

PRESENTATIONS	PRESENTER DETAILS
A human factors approach to optimising laparoscopic skills training	Dr Kirsty McLeod Clinical Skills Development Service, Royal Brisbane and Women's Hospital Queensland, Australia
Built environment for resilient performance in health services	Natália Ransolin Macquarie University, Sydney, Australia
Quantifying landmark annotation accuracy on radiographs using a probabilistic approach: measuring pelvic tilt as an example	Yuan Chai University of Sydney, Sydney, Australia

Reminder: November events

In case you missed these previously advertised events that will be taking place in November, please see the list below and the [IEA Webpage \(https://iea.cc/meetings/endorsed-events/\)](https://iea.cc/meetings/endorsed-events/) and <https://iea.cc/meetings/iea-webinars/>:

- **9 November:** The webinar on “What is Ergonomics and Human Factors” will provide a quick introduction to the discipline of Ergonomics and Human Factors (E/HF). Join this free webinar by registering here: https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_u7Xc0SiHTu2AioWqDzQGpQ
- **16 November:** The future of work and the challenges for HFE from the United States of America. Registration link: https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_maW38wCETW-fWQPwa8wOcg#/registration
- **19-22 November:** National Conference of the Human Factors and Ergonomics Society of Australia <https://conf.ergonomics.org.au/>

SPOTLIGHT ON IEA SOCIETIES

Peru may be well-known for being home to one of the oldest ancient civilisations, but it is also a country where HFE professionals are making headway in advancing the widespread implementation of the discipline across different industries. The Peruvian Society of Ergonomics (SOPERGO) is a critical stakeholder in this regard. Established almost two decades ago, SOPERGO has progressively expanded its contribution to changing the HFE landscape in South America and continues to support industry in improving the implementation of ergonomics across the country. In this feature, SOPERGO shares some of the HFE advocacy and awareness-raising activities that they engage in. They also share the challenges that they have identified in this journey, which may serve

as great insights for other IEA societies. [We extend our appreciation to SOPERGO for their contribution to this IEA NewsBriefs feature, and we wish the society the very best with their future endeavors.](#)

If your society would like to be featured in the Spotlight on IEA societies feature, please email the IEA NewsBriefs editor (sma.ngcamu@gmail.com).

PERUVIAN SOCIETY OF ERGONOMICS (SOPERGO)

The Peruvian Society of Ergonomics (SOPERGO) was founded on the 14th of April 2004 as a nonprofit association comprised of multidisciplinary professionals committed to improving working conditions in Perú. SOPERGO is not only a federated society of the IEA, but is also a member of the Latin American Ergonomics Union (ULAERGO: http://www.ulaergo.com/Quienes_somos.php).

SOPERGO Fact Sheet

- **Established:** April 2004
- **Approximate number of members:** 72
- **Website:** <http://sopergo.com/v2/>
- **Facebook:** <https://web.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100067776783741>
- **Enquiries:** Lic Jacqueline López
(secretary) secretaria@sopergo.com

While there are 72 SOPERGO members, it is estimated that there are approximately 500 academically trained ergonomists in Peru. Many of them have academic backgrounds from both Peru and abroad, with diplomas, master's degrees, and doctorates. One of the challenges for the current SOPERGO board is to establish a certification process for Peruvian HFE professionals to standardise and regulate HFE competencies in Peru. This would be necessary to ensure that HFE professionals stay at the forefront of high-quality HFE concepts and practices.

Ergonomics in Perú began to gain significance following the introduction of RM 375-2008-MINTRA, which requires companies nationwide to maintain basic ergonomics records. Additional legal requirements for managing ergonomic risks are provided in Law 29783, the Occupational Safety and Health Law, which mandates companies to conduct occupational monitoring regarding HFE and psychosocial factors. While implementing HFE is a legal obligation, it is worth noting that most transnational companies in mining, fishing, and formal sectors implement HFE programs while this is less common in smaller businesses.

SOPERGO has identified a commonly occurring challenge experienced by other IEA societies globally, that of improving the awareness of HFE given the high percentage of informal labour and the general population's lack of awareness about workplace safety and health issues. SOPERGO understands that widespread implementation of HFE will continue to be a challenge if HFE awareness is not improved. It is for this reason that SOPERGO engages in various awareness-raising activities. To facilitate access to some of the awareness-raising activities, SOPERGO does not charge entrance fees to attendees.

Overview of SOPERGO activities

An overview of some of the activities provided by SOPERGO is listed below and on the SOPERGO web page.

- Monthly free Ergonomics workshops
- Scholarships for International Ergonomics and Occupational Safety and Health Congresses
- Ergonomics Conferences, with discounts provided to members for participation in the National Ergonomics Congresses
- Integration and camaraderie meetings with SOPERGO members

Upcoming SOPERGO events

The next major event that SOPERGO will be hosting is the VII International Ergonomics Congress that will be held in Lima, Perú, from 1-2 December. For more information regarding this conference, please email informes@phvaperu.com or call +51 951158586

SOPERGO Membership

To become an associate of the Peruvian Society of Ergonomics, certain requirements must be met, as outlined on SOPERGO's website: <http://sopergo.com/v2/sopergo-quienes-somos/membresia/>

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.