



Human Factors and Ergonomics Society

Purdue University Student Chapter

Newsletter

Issue 12-01
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Our Mission

To promote the discovery and exchange of knowledge concerning the characteristics of human beings that are applicable to the design of systems and devices of all kinds.

Special Thanks to:

Our speakers for 2011 fall

- Dr. Mariaelena Tagliabue & Dr. Giulio Vidotto (U. of Padua, Italy)
- Mr. Mark Senn (ECN, Purdue)
- Mr. Arik-Quang Dao (NASA)
- Dr. Phillip Dunston (CIVL, Purdue)

Honors

2011, Outstanding Student Chapter Gold Award

2010, Outstanding Student Chapter Gold Award

2009, Second place in the National Ergonomics Month Best Action Plan Contest

2009, Outstanding Student Chapter Silver Award

2008, Outstanding Student Chapter Gold Award

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Highlights of 2011 Activities!

- Social event: We had a joint picnic at Squirrel Park with the Aviation Graduate Council, and a "Best Egg Packaging Design Competition" was held during the picnic. Students were given limited material and asked to design an egg package that could 1) withstand a fall of three feet, 2) be thrown a few feet, and 3) be reusable. This competition helped us demonstrate that correctly designed products have different (and sometimes competing) requirements. It also gave us a chance to meet some new HFES members and socialize. Congratulations to the winners!



- Field trip to the Simulator Facility at the Purdue airport! First, we listened to a presentation from the Director of Simulation at Purdue about the history of simulators and how they are used to train pilots. Then, we got the chance to fly different types of simulators to see differences between them. Finally, we were allowed to sit in one of Purdue's training aircraft to see how closely the simulators matched the real aircraft.



- HFES Purdue Alumni Dinner was held during the HFES 55th Annual Meeting at Las Vegas in Oct 2011. It allowed our HFES alumni, student members and faculty to stay connected.

Spotlight on Our Chapter Members - Jennifer Kirschner

While completing her BS at Purdue, Jennifer Kirschner decided to earn her FAA Flight Instructor's license, and spent a lot of time teaching students one-on-one about flying and safe aircraft operation. After reading about Captain Chelsey "Sully" Sullenberger's crash landing in the Hudson River, she was inspired to research ways to make aviation a better working environment for pilots. Her Master's thesis focused on the ways that undergraduate pilots cope with stress, and she is currently pursuing a PhD, also at Purdue University. Her research interests include the effects of stress on pilots, individual differences, and human-to-human interaction in the cockpit. She hopes to complete her PhD on schedule, and will continue to conduct research afterward.

