

08-01OCTOBER
2008

Newsletter

Upcoming Events

Oct 13 & Oct 14: Fall Break

Oct 17: Last day to submit entry for website competition

Oct 21@ 5:30PM: HFES meeting with Dr. Eric Kukula (Biometrics) and SIGGRAPH speakers. Also competition winners will be announced.

Nov 11 @5:30 PM: HFES meeting with Dr. Hong Tan (Haptics HF)

Nov 26 – 29: Thanksgiving vacations

Upcoming Academic Deadlines

Oct 17: Last day for "exam/degree only" registrants to submit the report and forms.

Dec 05: Last day for students to pass the final examination.

Dec 05: Final examination reports must be received by the Graduate School, Room 170, Young Hall.

Contact

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If you have any concerns, or would like to feature your research here or have any preferences for what you would like to see in the next newsletters, send us an email.

Letter from the President:

I would like to welcome all new members to our chapter and say 'Aloha' to our returning members. Great to have you all here with us.

The newsletter is back with a bang. Last year, we had revived the chapter's newsletter and this year we are taking it a step ahead. We want this newsletter to be a common thread for past, current and future members and to serve our goal of increasing awareness of HF/E. I hope you will support our efforts in all ways you can.

There will be more frequent issues of the newsletter and they will have pertinent information for all. For example, the current members can utilize the events calendar that includes the approaching academic deadlines. They can also promote their individual research or lab research in spotlight section. The past members can continue to get updates on the chapter activities and ongoing research. Future members can get a glimpse of the variety of events conducted by the chapter as well as be aware of the research done.

2008-2009 is the 15th year of our chapter and we are celebrating the diversity of HF research done at Purdue. We have technical speakers from aviation, biometrics, haptics for the Fall semester. Spring semester will feature speakers from psychology and healthcare. For NEM (October), we have co-organized with SIGGRAPH, a campus wide competition for website design. Check our website for details and for winners.

Our members and executive board members have been working hard to organize the outreach programs, community service events, callouts, technical meetings and design competitions. We have gained valuable experience in marketing, oral communication, leadership and offline collaborations. You don't need to be a board member to gain these experiences. If you would like to participate in organizing an event or an outreach activity, contact any executive board member and we can find a job that matches your needs.

If you are not a member of HFES or our chapter as yet, I extend to you an invitation to join the HF/E community. If you would like to know more about Human Factors and Ergonomics, you can start at our website

<http://cobweb.ecn.purdue.edu/~hfes>

Looking forward to meeting all of you at our next event.

Amit Lagu

Newsletter

Faculty News

Prof. Ji Soo Yi joined the School of Industrial Engineering in Fall 2008. His interest areas are information visualization, ubiquitous computing, and universal design, especially for Healthcare settings. Welcome to Purdue.

Dr. Eric Kukula joined the College of Technology as a Visiting Assistant Professor and Senior Biometric Researcher, after completing his Ph.D. in Summer '08. Congratulations to him on behalf of all members.

Prof. Barrett Caldwell was inducted as a fellow of the Human Factors and Ergonomics Society at its 52nd Annual Meeting in New York. Congratulations to him on behalf of all members.

Have a joke or trivia about Human Factors or Ergonomics, or maybe just a comment about our newsletter or a past event that you attended? Send it in and we will try to publish it in our newsletter.

You know what we did last summer

HFES Purdue was active during the hot months of June and July. Deepti presented videos about IE and HFES to high school girls who were visiting Purdue as a part of LEAP program. Ashley, Esther and Deepti gave a presentation about HF/E to middle school girls participating in the EDGE through the Women In Engineering Program. Amit and Deepti were mentors for undergraduate students as a part of the SURF program at Purdue.

Upcoming HF/E related conferences

The National Ergonomics Conference and Exposition, December 2-5, 2008, Las Vegas, Nevada

15th International Symposium on Aviation Psychology
April 27-30, 2009, Dayton, Ohio (Submission deadline 14 November 2008)

Research Spotlight : Ms Keena Byrd

Ms. Byrd's research evaluates the ability of maintenance experts to use small, mobile, hand-held electronic devices to view and execute critical task procedures. Although advanced generation PDAs, ultra mobile PC's, and other intelligent electronic displays are prevalent, many low-production, high-risk operations still display/present their procedures in a paper format. With recent technical advances, the screen real estate of electronic devices has decreased; however, their interfaces have grown more complex. This complexity could cause cognitive overload, longer task completion times, and errors that affect performance if used in safety-critical environments. Her dissertation titled "Examining the Effect of Decreasing Mobile Device Information Display Size on Procedural Task Performance" established a minimum mobile screen size for use by expert technicians involved in safety-critical tasks and included field work at Marshall Space Flight Center in Huntsville. Alabama.

