

Aging Technical Group

Summer 2004

Message from the Chair

Darin Ellis
Aging TG Chair

I hope this summer finds you all well. As I find myself half way through my term at TG chair, I am pleased that the TG remains a stable and rewarding home base in HFES for those of us interested in addresses issues faced by older adults. Membership remains well above the 200 mark, our finances solid, we have developed and maintained a website, and delivered 2 quality newsletters to our members. As you all have noticed, traffic on our email distribution list has stayed light and hopefully relevant.

As you will see from this newsletter, we have another high quality program lined up for the Fall HFES conference. I would like to thank all of you who support our program, whether it was by submitting, reviewing, or planning to attend. We maintain our presence at the annual meeting due to your interest. As for other annual meeting news, our annual business meeting for the TG will be Wednesday as usual - I already have 15+ confirmed attendees. There is still room for more though! Please let me know if you can come so we can make sure we can accommodate everyone comfortably.

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HFES Conference Update

Randa Shehab
2004 - Program Chair
Assistant Professor, University of Oklahoma

The Aging TG has planned an excellent program for the 2004 HFES 48th Annual Meeting. We have selected 9 papers for presentation as lectures and 4 papers for presentation as posters. The first Aging TG Session (Wednesday, September 22, 8:30 am) is titled Technology Aids for Aging and includes research focused on how technology can be better designed or used for older adults. The second Aging TG Session (Wednesday, September 22, 1:30 pm) is the Aging General Session and includes great research on a variety of topics related to aging. Look for the poster schedule at the conference to find the 4 Aging TG posters – they include issues related to driving and internet use. They also are of very high quality and should be interesting. All of our authors have done an outstanding job presenting relevant research in the field of aging. I hope you are able to attend each of the presentations!

Randa Shehab

Aging TG Program Chair 2004

A1: Technology Aids for Aging

Wednesday, September 22, 8:30 am

PDA's as Memory Aids for Medication Adherence in Young and Older Adults

An Analysis of Why People Lose Objects, How They Find Them, and Their Attitudes about a Technology Aid

Potential Intrusiveness of Aware Home Technology: Perceptions of Older Adults

Designing Web Sites for Older Adults: The Relationship Effects of Computer Presentation Format on Learning in the Elderly

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PLUS Calendar of Events

AGING BY DESIGN

September 27-28, 2004

Bentley College

Waltham, MA

Co-Sponsored by Bentley and AARP

Aging by Design will explore the intersection of an aging population, the world of business, and product design. We hope to appeal to a broad cross-section of the business (particularly financial services and healthcare), design/usability, and academic communities. The conference will present an outstanding selection of speakers from academia, business, and design. Please visit the conference site for further details

<http://www.bentley.edu/events/agingbydesign2004> or email us at AgingByDesign@bentley.edu.

CONFERENCES HIGHLIGHTS

A recent conference, IT and Public Policy Symposium: Addressing the Healthcare Needs of Our Aging Population With Technology sponsored by IEEE concluded 4 June 2004. The technology related topics included: insurance prospectives, needs for individuals with cognitive impairments, video and sensor analysis for geriatric care, and medical devices in the home.

The presentations define metrics, models and examples. In her presentation on **Technology to Support Individuals with Cognitive Impairment** Martha Pollack (Computer Science & Engineering at Univ of Michigan) included a discussion on 'why build cognitive orthotics?' The motivating points for cognitive orthotics research included:

- Cognitive impairment can impact performance of daily activities
 - Can lead to decreased quality of life, and potentially institutionalization: Costly and Further decreases quality of life
 - Goals: Improve performance of routine functional activities and thereby support longer aging-in-place and Reduce caregiver burden
- Pollack's and other presentation topics and power point presentations are posted on line:

<http://www.ieeeusa.org/conferences/geriatrictech/>

Conference Schedule continued from p.1

A2: Aging General Session (Wednesday, September 22, 1:30 pm)

Expertise and Aging in a Pilot Decision-Making Task

Aging Vision In Visual Clutter

Age-Related Effects on Warning Symbol Comprehension

Investigating Issues in Aging and Work Performance Using a Customer Service Task Simulator

Aging TG Posters:

Implications of Cognitive Changes on Driving Performance

Internet Searching by Ear: Decision Flow Diagrams for Sightless Internet Users

Visual Characteristics of Elderly Drivers--Aging Effects of Visual Acuity

The Effect of Aging on Driving Performance

Message from Chair continued from p.1

As I look forward to the second half of my term, I intend to focus on working with our officers and members to ensure I leave you with a strong TG. Our TG is still in line to provide a state-of-the-art whitepaper on aging and HF/E to support an effort being promoted by the Council of Technical Groups. I will keep you all informed of ways you can contribute as things progress.

I also hope to increase our membership through some outreach activities to other societies and finally I intend to work with our officers and volunteers to identify and begin work on some resources that could be of shared benefit using avenues such as our website. I welcome your input and efforts in this regard.

I hope to see many of you in N'awlins, and hear from the rest of you soon.

With warmest regards,

Darin

HUMAN/FACTORS ERGONOMICS
DESIGN GUIDANCE TARGETING
DESIGN OF SYSTEMS AND
PRODUCTS TO ACCOMMODATE
PEOPLE WITH COGNITIVE
DISABILITIES

Members of the HFES are representing U.S. interests on ISO TC159 WG1, a standards committee that has the goal of developing a technical guidance document that lays out ergonomic guidance for accommodating people with disabilities in the design of systems, services and products, generally. While WG1 members from other countries are focussing on developing guidance related to sensory and physical disabilities, the United States has been asked to chair the challenging subgroup of the committee developing guidance related to cognitive disabilities. Input is urgently needed by this subgroup about the availability of solid performance data related to cognitive disabilities that are ready for translation into technical guidance for design. We welcome participation in this session from anyone with expertise, interest, or experience in the area of cognitive disabilities and design to help us uncover relevant databases and sources of information from which technical standards may be developed, as well as the substance/content of design guidance that can be generated in the near-term.

This Discussion Session will be scheduled for Wednesday or Thursday afternoon at the HFES Annual Meeting, probably between 1:30 and 3:30. If interested, please keep your eyes open for the exact date/time in the final program. This will probably be billed as a "Birds of a Feather" session, and held in the room reserved for those sessions.

Hope to see you there.
Daryle Gardner-Bonneau, Ph.D.
Member, ISO TC159 WG1

AGING TG MEMBER UPDATE

Frank Winn has moved from the Department of Physician Assistant Studies at East Carolina University to the Albany Medical College. You can now contact him in New York:

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He still holds an appointment as a Consulting Associate with the School of Nursing at the Duke University Medical Center and an appointment as an adjunct associate with the P.A. Program at the Medical College of Georgia.

In January of this year, he was appointed as an Associate Editor of Ergonomia which is the official publication of the Committee on Ergonomics of the Polish Academy of Sciences.

Congratulations Frank!

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

Count of members in TGs as of the end of the second quarter, June 30.

Aerospace Systems 320	Macroergonomics 200
Aging 241	Med Sys & Rehab 284
Cognitive Engineering 547	Perception & Performance 299
Communications 115	Safety 476
Computer Systems 312	System Development 137
Consumer Products 332	Surface Transportation 316
Education 153	Training 235
Environmental Design 125	Test & Evaluation 201
Forensics 264	Virtual Environments 151
Individual Differences 120	
Industrial Ergonomics 489	

Lynn Strother, CAE
Executive Director
Human Factors and Ergonomics Society

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

48th Annual HFES Meeting

September 20-24, 2004
Sheraton New Orleans Hotel
New Orleans, Louisiana

Aging By Design

September 27-28, 2004
Bentley College
Waltham, MA
Co-Sponsored by Bentley and AARP

<http://www.bentley.edu/events/agingbydesign2004> or
email us at AgingByDesign@bentley.edu.

57th Annual Scientific Meeting of the Gerontological Society of America

November 19th-23rd, 2004
(Exhibit Dates: November 19-22, 2004)
Washington, DC
Marriott Wardman Park and the Omni Shoreham Hotels
http://www.eshow2000.com/geron/about_the_meeting.cfm
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The 2005 ASA-NCOA Joint Conference

Thursday-Sunday, March 10-13, 2005
Philadelphia, USA.
<http://www.agingconference.org/jc05/info.cfm>

AGING TECHNICAL GROUP OFFICERS

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The National Institute on Aging (NIA) seeks small business applications in specific areas to enhance the coordination and optimization of the SBIR and STTR grant programs across and within NIA's four programs of research: Behavioral and Social Research, Biology of Aging, Geriatrics and Clinical Gerontology, and Neuroscience and Neuropsychology of Aging. All four of NIA's programs are participating in this initiative. This program announcement is NIA's first systematic effort to solicit SBIR and STTR research proposals within a strategic perspective that emphasizes the importance and viability of public and private-sector research collaboration as part of NIA's overall mission to improve the health and well-being of older Americans through translational research.

More information:

<http://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/pa-files/PA-04-064.html>