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President's Message

by Lila Laux
President



2003-2004 was an interesting and exciting time for the RM HFES. As hosts of the national HFES meeting in October of 2003, we were given a budget that allowed us to have Mountain Muse develop our attractive and informative web site. Lindy Baer spearheaded that effort and deserves our thanks.

We've had some great recent programs, too. Michael Lorenzo's March presentation that tied NIOSH and HFE together was well attended, and was excellent and informative. Michael is a great speaker and educator! The 1st Annual RMHFES Research Symposium in April presented a number of interesting and thought provoking papers, and although the turnout wasn't enormous, it was large enough to reach some significant groups of people in the Denver area who practice in fields related to HF, but never thought to identify themselves



Chris Chen, of the Art Institute of Colorado, presents research at the RMHFES Spring Symposium on the use of safety equipment in extreme sports. See page 2 for more on the Spring Symposium.

as HF practitioners. Thanks to J.P. Purswell and Lindy Baer for having the idea and working to make the symposium happen. The meeting at the Air Force Academy was a special event and one that attendees felt gave them important insight into HF in the Air Force.

I am grateful for the success of programs we have had since we got revitalized as a chapter. Both Maureen Hunter

and Lindy Baer have done a great job finding programs and lining things up. I'd like to see us keep up our streak of great programs. So I hope you will let me know of programs you would like to see us present, or programs you know about that we could present. We are a diverse group with many interests and skill sets. We've had great presentations on things as diverse as the ergonomics of den-

RMC Chapter Activities

June Meeting: Crew Station Design Tool at MA&D

On Thursday, June 17, the Rocky Mountain Chapter of the Human Factors and Ergonomics Society will meet at Micro Analysis and Design (MA&D) in Boulder.

The meeting will feature free pizza and then a presentation by Brett Walters of MA&D on “Integrating Multiple Tools and Processes Within a Single Crew Station Design Tool: An Overview, Demonstration and Case Study.”

Walters will give an overview of the Crew Station Design Tool (CSDT). This tool allows designers to visualize and optimize their choices of controls and displays, and the position of those elements in a workstation. In order to accomplish this, the CSDT communicates with three different software tools: 1) the Improved Performance Research Integration Tool (IMPRINT) - a task network modeling tool, 2) OpenInventor - a three-dimensional graphics environment, and 3) JACK - a human figure (anthropometric) modeling tool.

Walters will also give a demo of the tool and discuss a study that compared the layout of a Boeing 767 with a cockpit designed by the CSDT.

Meeting time and agenda:

- Dinner at 6:00 p.m.
- Chapter meeting at 6:45
- Presentation at 7:00 p.m.

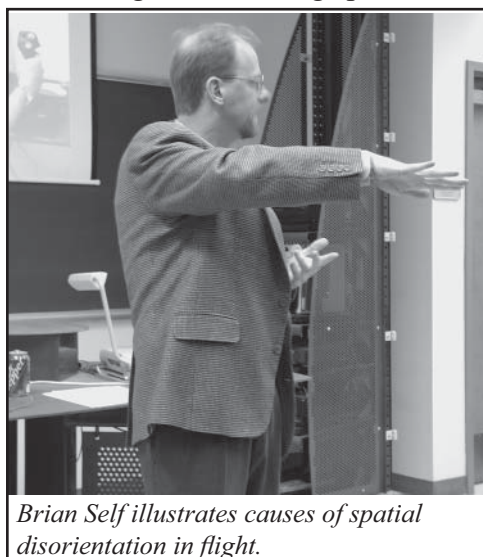
Meeting Report: Spring Symposium

The RMC’s Spring Symposium was held on Saturday, April 3, in Denver. This event featured almost a full day’s worth of presentations, including the following speakers and topics:

Hal Hendrick: “Cognitive Complexity, Conceptual Systems and Behavior: Implications for Ergonomic Design.” This talk described how a person’s ‘cognitive complexity’ could affect work performance.

Jerry Purswell: “A Historical Perspective on the Approach of OSHA and NIOSH to Occupational Ergonomics.” This was a valuable history of workplace ergonomic regulation.

Chris Chen: “Applying User-Centered Design to Extreme Sports Safety and Safety Education.” Chen presented students’ research on factors that affect the use of helmets in biking, skateboarding and skat-



Brian Self illustrates causes of spatial disorientation in flight.

ing.

Brian Self: “Spatial Disorientation Research at the US Air Force Academy.” Self presented the different approaches the AFA uses to study and correct

problems with being disoriented after an aerial maneuver.

J.P. Purswell: “Development and Description of a Database of Empirical Evaluations of Warnings.” This talk showed an online database that would display relevant research results to nearly any particular warning situation.

J.P. Purswell: “The use, application, and interpretation of the Revised NIOSH Lifting Equation, including the use of programs to calculate the Recommended Weight Limit, the Lifting Index.” Purswell’s program allows a user to enter lift parameters and calculates the Lifting Index automatically.



RMC News

Volume 3, No. 2
June, 2004

To share your ideas, publish your articles or announcements and comment on material in previous editions, please contact Beth Meyer at bethmeyer@mindspring.com.

Lila Laux, President

Carol Tolbert, Treasurer

Bonnie Hautamaki, Secretary

Hal Hendrick, Director-at-Large

Andy Keller, Director-at-Large

Beth Meyer, *RMC News* Editor

Conne Bazley, Membership Chair

Fred Malmstrom, Nominations/
Elections Chair

Membership/Annual Call for Dues

by Conne Bazley
Membership Chair

The Rocky Mountain Chapter is looking forward to an eventful 2004. We will be offering some exciting workshops and programs that you won't want to miss.

If you are interested in becoming a member or you are a current member and would like to renew your membership now is a great time to do so. Please complete the attached form, at the end of this newsletter, and mail it along with your check to the Membership Chair at the address located at the bottom of the form. If you are applying

President's Message

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tistry and macro ergonomics, so please, don't be reticent to recommend a program that may not seem like "mainstream" ergonomics or HF to you. All suggestions are encouraged and will be followed up on.

Our next meeting is at Micro Analysis & Design (MA&D) on June 17th. MA&D is located at 4949 Pearl E. Circle (just east of Foothills Parkway on Pearl). After a social hour starting about 6, MA&D will provide pizza and cold drinks. The program (at 7) will be a presentation and demonstration of a new tool developed by Brett Walters and his team at MA&D to give guidance to

designers of crew stations. I think you'll enjoy seeing this tool that integrates an interface for the designer to define the human operator and the job/environment where the job will take place, with a 3D design tool and a human manikin tool. This integrated tool allows designers to see their design and how it "works" for the people who will use it and should allow the military to design effective work stations for soldiers/sailors and avoid making disastrous and costly design mistakes.

I hope you'll come to MA&D for the June meeting. You'll enjoy it!

Lila Laux

Treasurer's Report

The following transactions have taken place since March of this year:

Income:

\$200.00 (Dues, Symposium CDs)

Expenses:

\$784.41 (National HFES)

\$79.97 (Catering for meeting)

\$10.00 (new checks)

Our current balance is:

\$4095.63

-Carol Tolbert

for new membership be sure to include a short biography or resume with your form and check. Would you like more membership information? Please visit our website at www.rmhfes.org and click on membership.

Colorado Tablet PC Users Needed

Arnie Lund at Microsoft (formerly of US WEST here in Boulder) is looking for people in the Colorado Springs area who might be current Tablet PC users. They want to do some usability testing and focus groups there, but don't have an existing user pool list from the area. They have been building it using a kind of 6 degrees of separation approach, so any leads people might have would be appreciated. (For example, if someone knows someone in the Academy or the University that he could contact, that would be at least a start.)

If you can help or are interested yourself, please contact Arnie at:

alund@windows.microsoft.com