Greetings from IEA! The IEA Officers and Executive Committee Members wish you and your families a happy and peaceful holiday season and all the best in 2020. This has been a very busy and productive year for IEA – we have many ongoing projects and are strengthening alliances with our own family societies and with external partners. We look forward to continued collaboration with you in 2020!

IEA and WHO Workshop on HF/E in Patient Safety
An ongoing joint activity of IEA and WHO (World Health Organization) is the development of a guidelines document on the application of human factors and ergonomics (HFE) principles to patient safety. A workshop was held in December to formulate guidance for healthcare workers and patients in high-risk situations for patient safety. The guidelines will graphically represent practical and easy-to-implement solutions for the use of medical devices, tools, and medication. Another goal of the project is to provide a framework for assessment by means of a checklist of HFE inputs to the design of healthcare work systems.

IEA and ILO Joint Document
A team of international HF/E experts organized by IEA has developed a document on: “Principles and Practices for Human Factors/Ergonomics (HF/E) Design and Management of Work Systems.” IEA is working with the ILO to finalize the review process, and joint publication is expected early next year.

October Global Ergonomics Month: Activities Around the World
Global Ergonomics Month (GEM) is a month-long observance held annually to raise awareness of human factors/ergonomics, musculoskeletal disorders, and physical and cognitive hazards in work and living spaces.

In Canada, the Ontario Ministry of Labour and its health and safety system partners hosted a number of activities and events during October to contribute to GEM. 

As part of the observance of the European Month of Ergonomics, APERGO (Portuguese Ergonomics Association) in collaboration with the Autonomous Section of Ergonomics of the Faculty of Human Motricity, held a seminar on autonomous driving. Participants included several ergonomists and researchers in partnership with the Lusophone University of Humanities and Technologies (ULHT), the Faculty of Engineering of
The Colombian Society of Ergonomics participated in a UMNG radio station program focusing on “Voices of Safety and Health at Work.” Leading the effort was Professor Martha Helena Saravia, president of the Colombian Society of Ergonomics and a faculty member at the Universidad Javeriana. Her remarks focused on ergonomics and the Colombian society—its functions, projects, and interactions with the world of work. Also discussed was forensic ergonomics, which is a new global development in the field.

UPCOMING EVENTS

2020 IEA Council Meeting
Please mark your calendar for the next IEA Council meeting - 20-21 August, 2020 in Beijing, China. Details will be sent out in the beginning of next year.

ODAM: Call for Submissions
The 13th International Symposium on Human Factors in Organisational Design and Management, will be held on 28-29 April 2020 in Stratford-upon-Avon, UK. This symposium is being held jointly with the annual meeting of the Chartered Institute of Ergonomics and Human Factors (CIEHF). Please submit your abstract by 19 December 2019 at: https://events.ergonomics.org.uk/event/odam2020/

IEA Slips, Trips and Falls Technical Committee Conference