

# ISOES NEWS

*Spring 2010*

## INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR OCCUPATIONAL ERGONOMICS & SAFETY

### **President's Column**

Robert J. Marley, PhD, CPE

Dear ISOES Members:

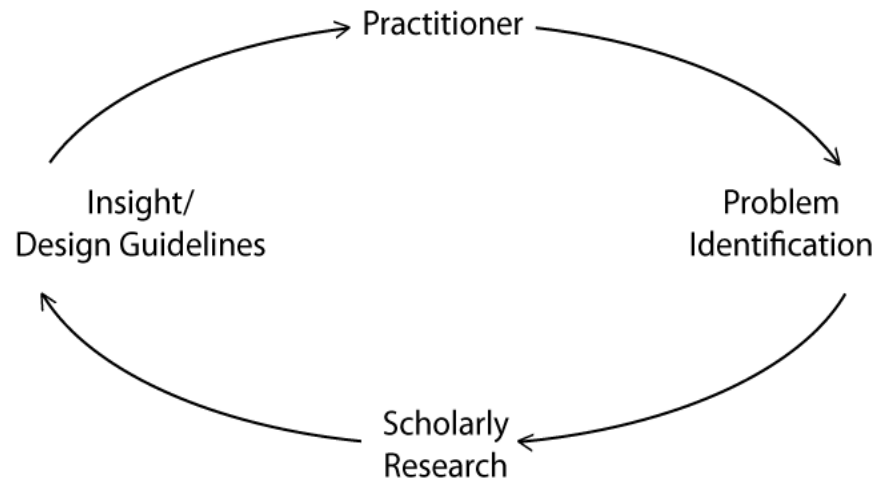
It is my great pleasure and honor to serve as your President. This Society has literally been a focal point of my professional life as it was initially formed during my days in graduate school studying industrial ergonomics. I did not fully appreciate then the unique niche that this Society represents within our professional interests. In subsequent years, however, I have truly come to admire and respect what the founding members had created. I made a comment during last year's Annual Conference that those of us who succeeded these founders truly "stand on the shoulders of giants." I am humbled and proud to follow in the footsteps of the giants of our field.

The unique niche I refer to has been generally understood by our members, but had never been formally articulated. I felt that, given newer generations of professionals coming on board, it was time to provide formal mission and vision statements for the Society to help clearly differentiate our Society from other ones to which many of us belong. Therefore, this year's Executive Committee approved of a proposal for the Society's official Mission and Vision statements. These are presented to you in this Newsletter and are also on our Website.

The intention of the mission statement is to reflect "what we do" in the most fundamental manner, whereas the vision statement is intended to reflect "how we will be known" to the public and to our constituents. What our Society's founders recognized many years ago is that an important gap existed in other organizations that were primarily focused on fundamental research or on practitioner issues. From the beginning, the ISOES presented an important venue for those of us who have feet in both camps.

For example, most of our faculty membership is also generally involved in addressing applied problems from industry where their students are employed. Of course, this is not to the exclusion of fundamental research questions that often arise from practical design challenges. Likewise, there are those practitioners who are engaged in the application of current knowledge and modern analysis tools in the workplace. It is these individuals who are literally on the front-line of working with industry in applying new knowledge as well as working to help identify the need for further research.

To visualize this interaction, consider the following simple graphical representation:



The bottom line is that other organizations may exist and serve any one of these areas; but our Society, in serving a wide breadth of professions focused on many different issues related to safety human work systems has a unique contribution to make. Today, the unique professional niche that our founders recognized is more important than ever.

### **Proposed Mission Statement**

*To promote through research, education and the professional practice of ergonomics, the creation of safer, healthier and more productive working environments around the world.*

### **Proposed Vision Statement**

*To be the leading international forum for the exchange of ideas between practitioners and researchers in the design and analysis of safe human work systems.*

On behalf of the Executive Committee, I hope you take the time to consider these statements and provide feedback relative to accepting them as part of the Society's Constitution and By-Laws. I believe these reaffirm our uniqueness and help convey the message that our Society is on the move.

There is still time to act quickly and join us for the Annual Meeting in Phoenix. I hope you can truly appreciate that we have made every attempt to keep expenses to a minimum compatible with a quality, international meeting by hosting in a "hub city" and at a hotel with free shuttles, and various complementary services. Our similar attempts in the past two conferences lead to a very interactive meeting with unrivaled opportunities to network both practice and research issues.

Finally, the time has come to elect 2010-11 Executive Committee members. Please look for the election Ballot in an e-mail towards the end of April.

Best wishes to all of you and I hope to see you in Phoenix!

Robert Marley, President

**XXIInd Annual International Occupational Ergonomics and Safety Conference**  
**June 10-11, 2010**  
**Fiesta Resort Hotel, Tempe, Arizona, USA**

**Open Call for Contributed Papers**

Please e-mail an abstract of about 300 words stating the topic area to: [isoes@ifa-inc.com](mailto:isoes@ifa-inc.com). All abstracts and papers submitted for publication in the Conference proceedings will be reviewed by the International Program Advisory Committee. All final papers will be published in CD format and available to Conference attendees. In addition, the proceedings will be accessible through the WorldCat database, available at leading libraries throughout the world.

**Full papers and conference registration will be due by April 30, 2010.**

**Areas of Interest:**

**Workplace Safety and Health**

- Design for health and safety
- Applications of engineering anthropometry, biomechanics, and work physiology
- Human factors in work measurement
- Manual materials handling
- Cumulative Trauma Disorders

**Management Issues**

- Standards development
- International ergonomic issues
- Accident prevention strategies
- Participatory ergonomics
- Performance/Personnel testing Training
- Educational programs
- Ergonomics curricula development
- Macro-ergonomics
- Decision making

**Cognitive Ergonomics**

- Human reliability
- Human-centered design
- Situational awareness

**Technology Development**

- Human-computer interaction
- Computer-aided ergonomics
- New evaluation tools

**New and Expanding Areas of Application**

- Construction
- Military
- Transportation
- Health care

More information is available at the conference website at:

<http://isoes.info/conference.htm>