

# ISOES NEWS

# INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR OCCUPATIONAL ERGONOMICS & SAFETY

Fall 2015

Volume 17, Issue 1

#### **ISOES Officers:**

Anand Subramanian, PhD President

Rammohan Maikala, PhD President elect

Richard Wyatt, PhD Past President

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Ashish Nimbarte, PhD Newsletter Editor

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#### In This Issue

President's Message	1
Outgoing President's Message	2
Conference Announcement	3
2015 Conference Report	4
Call for Membership	4
Website Update	5
Membership Announce- ments	5
Scholarship Recipient Statement	6
General Body Meeting Minutes	7
Calendar of Upcoming Events	8-10

President's Message

## Anand Subramanian, PhD

JFAssociates, Inc., Vienna, VA, USA

### Friends and Colleagues:

It is a great honor and pleasure to serve as ISOES President during the ongoing year 2015-2016. I joined ISOES almost twelve years ago as a graduate student and I still enjoy my membership, and profit from the many doors it opens, just as much as I did in my early years. Thank you.

It is quite unbelievable to think that the year has almost flown by and we are already looking down the barrel of 2015! We have had an



eventful and successful past year at the ISOES. An excellent annual conference organized by our past president Richard Wyatt and the executive committee members — thank you!

Our current executive committee, comprising of Richard Wyatt (past-president), Rammohan Maikala (president-elect), Sang Choi (secretary), Brandy Farris Ware (treasurer), Ashish Nimbarte (newsletter editor), Peggy Ross and James Borchardt (Member at Large) is ready to begin implementing our Strategic Plan.

Our vision statement reads "To be the world's leading forum for the exchange of ideas between practitioners and researchers in the design and analysis of safe human work systems" and we as a group are doing our best to provide value to our membership. One of the most important activities at our conferences is, of course, the informal socializing and networking that takes places between the sessions and during the (very delectable) banquet, and I was delighted to see so many of you deeply engaged in conversations with old and new friends. It is a special pleasure to welcome students and members from other countries to the annual meeting and I hope we will continue to serve the next generations and grow in many interesting and unexpected ways. But, we definitely have our work cut out for us!

In this vein, our 2016 Annual Conference will held on June 9 and 10 in Chicago at the Radisson Hotel Chicago O'Hare. The entire executive committee would like to take this opportunity to welcome all your suggestions and submissions and hope for enthusiastic participation at the conference. More information is posted at our newly designed website <a href="https://www.isoes.info">www.isoes.info</a>.

Best wishes for a prosperous and eventful year ahead. We look forward to greeting you in Chicago!

## Outgoing President's Message Richard Wyatt, PhD

Aon Risk Solutions, Huntsville, AL

Another year has passed us by and it is been an honor to serve as the President of the International Society of Occupational Ergonomics and Safety for the 2014-2015 year. We had a wonderful conference in Nashville, Tennessee, which is commonly called music city for a reason, but is also a hub for healthcare and automotive industries. Our goals for the year were to increase membership, both for the society as whole, and for the annual conference. The executive committee worked hard not only to retain members, but also to gain new members. At our annual conference, we met some new faces, which we now know as new friends and collogues.



Ergonomics remains at the forefront of Safety and Health management. Organizations, across the world still struggle with occupational injury and illness. I believe our organization brings together a blend of both practitioners and researchers and this allows our group to effectively dialogue on issues that affect both the science and application of safety and ergonomics. The organization has recently added new members to the Executive Committee, and that addition brings new ideas to the organization. Our most recent additions Ms. Peggy Ross and Mr. Jim Borchardt bring a wealth of industry experience to the group and they have both been a pleasure to work with both personally and professionally. Peggy is the Corporate Environmental Safety and Health Manager for at Baxter Healthcare in Round Lake, Illinois and Jim is a Managing Consultant in Construction Ergonomics in Bettendorf, Iowa. Both Peggy and Jim bring over 30 years of Safety and Ergonomic experience to our organization and have been a welcome addition to the Executive Committee.

Looking back on this year, interacting with the students at the conference is most rewarding. Our student scholarship winner was Suman Chowdhury, a graduate student at West Virginia University. Mr. Chowdhury's graduate studies so peaked the interest of one of our conference attendees that they have stayed in touch and collaborated on putting research into practice. We also had conference attendees from India, Turkey, and Mexico, with some really interesting topics of interest in Safety, Health, and Ergonomics.

I welcome our new President, Dr. Anand Subramanian, of JF Associates for our 2015-2016 year. It has been an honor to serve with Dr. Subramanian and the rest of the Executive Committee and I look forward to seeing everyone next year in Chicago.

## XXVIII<sup>TH</sup> Annual International Occupational Ergonomics and Safety Conference

The International Society for Occupational Ergonomics and Safety (ISOES) will be holding its XXVIII<sup>TH</sup> Annual International Conference on June 9-10, 2016 at the <u>Radisson Hotel Chicago O'Hare</u>.

Join practitioners, researchers and students for the 2016 ISOES Conference in Chicago, Illinois. Conference attendees includes global professionals from various industries and academic settings. Keynote presentations are featured as well as break-out sessions to fit the needs of those responsible for ergonomics and the safety of their workforce. Participants receive peer-reviewed publications that includes the latest research presented at the conference.

## CALL FOR CONTRIBUTED PAPERS

Individuals interested in presenting their research/case study can submit an abstract of no more than 350-words in English to: Dr. Anand Subramanian at <a href="mailto:conference@isoes.info">conference@isoes.info</a> before March 4, 2016.

All abstracts submitted for publication in the Conference proceedings will be peer-reviewed by the International Program Advisory Committee. Authors will be notified of acceptance by **March 15, 2016**.

Full papers or extended abstracts and conference registration will be due by April 15, 2016. Papers for the conference will be pub-

## FOCUS AREAS

#### ♦ Case Studies

- Forensics
- Accidents
- Any area of related application

#### Cognitive Ergonomics

- Human reliability
- Human-centered design
- Situational awareness

#### **♦ Construction**

- Design for Construction Safety
- Construction Safety
- Industrial Safety
- Construction Productivity

#### Management Issues

- Standards development
- International ergonomic issues
- Accident prevention strategies

- Participatory ergonomics
- Performance/Personnel testing

### New and Expanding Areas of Application

- Military
- Transportation
- Health care
- Aging populations
- Research methods
- User-experienced designers

#### **♦** Training

- Educational programs
- Ergonomics curricula development
- Macro-ergonomics
- Decision making

#### **♦ Technology Development**

• Human-computer interaction

- Computer-aided ergonomics
- New evaluation tools

#### **♦ 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

#### Usability & Product Design

- User Experience (UX) design
- Leading UX teams
- Universal usability
- Design research and concept evaluations

## STUDENT PAPER SCHOLARSHIP

ISOES selects one student each year to receive a merit-scholarship waiver. The scholarship includes <u>free conference registration</u>, <u>two-nights at the conference hotel</u>, <u>and airfare to Chicago (up to a maximum of \$400)</u>. Candidates must be currently enrolled in an accredited university pursuing a degree with an ergonomics/safety focus. Selection decisions are made by the ISOES Executive Committee and are based on information provided in the ISOES Scholarship Application. The scholarship recipient will be expected to attend the ISOES conference and present their research. Undergraduate and Graduate students can apply to receive the student scholarship. For further information please visit us at <u>www.isoes.info</u>

#### 2015 XXVIIth Annual Conference Report

The XXVIIIth Annual International Occupational Ergonomics and Safety Conference was held at the Holiday Inn Express – Opryland in Nashville, Tennessee from May 28-29, 2015. There were 30 papers that were selected to be presented over 7 sessions. The conference was attended by over 30 individuals representing academia, industry, research institutions, consulting companies, and government agencies. We had individuals representing India, Mexico, Turkey, and the United States of America. The conference started with the opening



welcome session by Dr. Richard Wyatt who was the outgoing president for the year 2014-2015. He welcomed all the participants and introduced the outgoing executive committee. He then introduced and welcomed the incoming president for the year 2015-2016, Dr. Anand Subramanian.

Suman Kanti Chowdhury who is a doctoral student at the West Virginia University under the guidance of Dr. Ashish Nimbarte was presented with the Annual Conference Scholarship for his research work titled "ation of Concavity Compression Mechanism as a Possible Predictor of Shoulder Muscle Fatigue During Dynamic Exertions". The welcome session was immediately followed by the keynote speech. Tim Davidson, who is the Assistant Vice President of Loss Prevention, Safety and Security at IASIS Healthcare, Risk Management & Insurance Department was the keynote speaker and was introduced by Dr. Richard Wyatt. Tim has over 25 years of industry experience, working extensively in the risk consulting field. His previous leadership role as Senior Vice President with Marsh had him leading new consulting sales for the Southeast and prior to that, developing Marsh's Healthcare consulting practice. Prior to joining Marsh in 1998, he worked for the Yasuda Fire & Marine Insurance Company, Ltd. as their foreign operations (U.S.), Ergonomics Specialist and domestic business development leader. His keynote speech was titled "A System's Approach for Evaluating and Managing Patient Transfer in a Large Hospital".

The breakout sessions immediately followed the keynote session and numerous interesting papers were presented on topics such as occupational ergonomics, safety, occupational biomechanics, ergonomics in the construction industry, etc. The conference also hosted its annual dinner and all attendees were treated to sumptuous entrees and desserts at the dinner banquet.

The conference was adjourned on May 29, 2015.

## **Call for New & Renewed Membership**

The success of the mission and vision of ISOES depends on you, the members. We are collectively committed to the goal of increasing our membership, maintaining our current members, and expanding our international diversity. To be successful, we need your help. You can help advance the goals of ISOES by:

- 1. Recruiting new members.
- 2. Sharing our information and newsletter.
- 3. Attending conferences.
- 4. Submitting manuscripts to our Conference call for papers.
- 5. Sharing your input and expertise with the society, especially the Executive Committee, who is committed to ensuring that the design of our organization matches the needs of its members.
- 6. Joining

Go to http://isoes.info/member.htm to get your membership form!

## **Conference Website Update**



#### Dear ISOES members:

I am happy to announce that our ISOES presence on the web has a new chic look. The website now offers a wealth of information on our Society, including its mission, officers, events and activities, history, and so on. We are improving our presence on the social media and taking some steps to increase our visibility. Please take a minute to join our LinkedIn group and we plan to launch a Facebook page soon. These groups will allow better communication between members and provide a vehicle for professional collaboration. Please explore and participate as much as you please, spread the word and if you ever have any comment or suggestion do not hesitate to email me.

I would like to thank Dr. Marc Christian, who is one of our members, for his time and help in designing the website.

Anand Subramanian, PhD, CPE, CSSBB

ISOES President 2015-2016

# Free Membership Announcement

ISOES is pleased to announce free annual membership for qualified students graduating in the academic year 2015-16. Membership benefits include access to ISOES publications and it is a great addition to your resume for free!

Visit our membership page (http://www.isoes.info/membership.html) to get your membership form. Please submit your application with proof of graduation to Brandy Ware (bw@ifa-inc.com).

# XXVIIth ISOES Annual Conference Scholarship Recipient Statement

Suman Kanti Chowdhury
PhD Student
Department of Industrial and Management System Engineering,
West Virginia University
Morgantown, West Virginia

My name is Suman Kanti Chowdhury. I am a PhD student in the department of Industrial and Management System Engineering of West Virginia University. My research interest includes ergonomics and prevention of occupational musculoskeletal injuries.

I am honored to be the recipient of the ISOES 2015 Student Scholarship. Receiving this scholarship helped me to attend and to present my research in this conference. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the ISOES executive committee for this scholarship.

The ISOES conference is an exceptional gathering of ergonomic and safety researchers, practitioners, and entrepreneurs. Attending this conference provided me a unique opportunity to meet with many ergonomic practitioners and entrepreneurs. They talked about their current and future ergonomic projects. I came to learn a variety of applied ergonomic topics from them. I also had an opportunity of networking with these amazing practitioners and entrepreneurs.

I spent my days in the conference by attending many sessions. All the sessions were very interesting and I have encountered several new ergonomic methods and applications in the industry. The presentations were also diverse in the practice and implementation of the ergonomic techniques.

I also met with ergonomic and safety graduate students of other universities. We had a friendly discussion on our current and future research works. We have exchanged our ideas and views on varieties of ergonomic topics.

This was the first time that I have attended ISEOS conference. I felt little apprehension in preparing myself on the day of my presentation. However, I was pleasantly surprised to see the friendliness of the attendees. At the dinner table, I met with some very friendly and kind people.

Finally, attending this conference helped me to explore different aspects of ergonomic applications. I sincerely hope to be able to attend and participate in the future editions of the ISOES conference.

## **General Body Meeting Minutes**

Richard Wyatt presented president's report. He specifically mentioned that several efforts were carried out to market the ISOES conference. But most of these efforts did not yield satisfactory outcomes and more needs to be done. He asked for suggestions from the audience. The following suggestions were made:

Put educational stuff on the ISOES website

Conduct joint-meetings with other large organizations at attractive travel destinations

Peer-reviewed journal papers are important for academia and most of the universities do not support conference travel as they do not produce peer-reviewed journal papers

To attract participation from practitioners consider making the conference announcement sooner than later

Paper presentation using Skype like technology (response: something like this would require early communication and logistics management since most of the hotels may not be equipped with the required IT resources)

Consider having a Webinar to promote ISOES and the conference. Content of the webinar could be a paper from previous conference or other highly recognized ergonomics material.

Provide fellowships to recognize existing members

Richard then introduced the upcoming president – Anand Subramanian

Anand reported that the election was conducted using online ballots and the following new members elected:

President elect2015 - Rammohan Maikala, PhD

Members at Large - James G. Borchardt, CPE

Anand presented his vision as the new ISOES president. Highlights of his presentations include:

Anand also presented treasure's report

Finally, Anand invited suggestions from the audience towards understanding members' expectations from ISOES. The following suggestions were made:

improve opportunities for networking and professional development reward for attending and presenting at the conference., i.e., implement a model similar to "ergocup"

provide certification or continuing education opportunities invite presentations on tested solutions and best practices success stories invite presentations on translational research or research to practice

## **Calendar of Upcoming Events**

## November 2015

November 4-6, 2015

10<sup>th</sup> Annual Southeastern US Mine Safety & Health Conference

Ross Bridge Hotel/Conference Center

Birmingham, Alabama

November 16-18, 2015

4th International Conference and Exhibition on Biometrics & Biostatistics

Hilton San Antonio Airport,

San Antonio, USA

Sponsor: JMP Life Science

Contact: Jessie Rose Phone: (650) 268-9744

Email: biostatistics2014@omicsgroup.us

November 17-20, 2015

National Ergonomics Conference & Ergo Expo

http://ergoexpo.com/register.html

Caesars Palace, Las Vegas Contact: Lenore Higgins Phone: 1-800-287-0257 Email: lhiggins@lrp.com

### December 2015

December 5 - 9, 2015

AIOH 33<sup>rd</sup> Annual Conference & Exhibition

Crown Perth,

Great Eastern Highway

Perth, Western Australia

Australia

Phone: 03 9529 4300

## **Calendar of Upcoming Events**

December 6 - 9, 2015

27<sup>th</sup> Annual National Forum on Quality Improvement in Health Care

World Center Marriott 8701 World Center Drive Orlando, FL, USA

## January 2016

January 16 – 20, 2016

**IMSH 2016** 

San Diego Convention Center

333 W Harbor Dr,

San Diego, California, USA

Sponsor: Society for Simulation in Healthcare

## February 2016

February 1 - 3, 2016

Work, Health, and Well-being: Integrating Wellness and Occupational health and Safety in the Work-

place

Harvard School of Public Health

677 Huntington Ave. Boston, MA 02115, USA

Sponsor: Harvard School of Public Health

Contact: Peter J. Bretton Phone: (617) 432-2100

Email: contedu@hsph.harvard.edu

February 17-19, 2016

<u>Healthcare Systems Process Improvement Conference 2016</u>

Hilton Americas-Houston Houston, Texas 77010 Contact: Doug Long

Phone: (770) 349-1109 Email: dlong@iienet.org

## **Calendar of Upcoming Events**

February 23-26, 2016

Public Agency Risk Managers Association 2016 Conference

Renaissance Indian Wells Resort & Spa

44400 Indian Wells lane Indian Wells, CA 92210 Contact: Brenda Johnson Phone: (888) 907-2762 Email: exhibit@parma.com

February 29 – March 4, 2016

<u>Healthcare Information and Management Systems Society (HIMSS) Annual Conference & Exhibition</u> 2016

33 West Monroe Street, Suite 1700, IL 60603-5616

Phone: (312) 664-4467

Email: himss@compusystems.com

## **March 2016**

March 7-10, 2016

Analyzing Risk: Principles, Concepts, and Applications

Harvard School of Public Health

677 Huntington Ave. Boston, MA 02115, USA

Sponsor: Harvard School of Public Health

Contact: Peter J. Bretton Phone: (617) 432-2041

Email: pbretton@hsph.harvard.edu

March 20-24, 2016

ASA's Annual Aging in America Conference

2660 Woodley Road, NW

Washington DC

Phone: (202) 328-2000 Contact: Jutka Mandoki

## **ISEOS Officers - Contact Information**

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