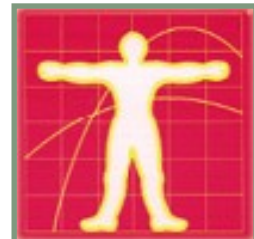


ISOES Newsletter

Fall 2017



International Society for Occupational Ergonomics and Safety

Fall 2017

Letter from the President



ISOES President
Ashish Nimbarde, PhD
West Virginia University
Morgantown, WV

It is both an honor and a privilege to serve as the President of ISOES for 2017-2018 term. My association with ISOES goes way back in the time. I still remember my first ISOES conference that I attended in 2004 in Houston, Texas - a graduate student from India presenting his paper for the first time at an International Conference. Back then ISOES conferences used to be big with several papers and researchers from academia in US and abroad attending the conferences. But times were different back then, those were the “haydays of physical ergonomics”. In the recent years as the funding landscapes for academia is changing ergonomist are branching out and looking for opportunities into various oth-

er disciplines for collaboration. Going forward, I think ISOES need to diversify its outlook and must consider connecting with researchers various disciplines who are engaged in ergonomics/human factors research in the emerging areas of human machine/computer interaction, data /energy visualization, big data analytics, Sustainability through Usability, etc.

Last ISOES conference was a great success – many thanks to our past president Dr. Ram Maikala. Dr. Maikala adopted a new model where a selected number of vendors were invited to attend and serve as the conference sponsors. The vendors were promoting their new occupational ergonomics interventions/products, making them absolutely relevant with the interests of the conference attendees. The vendor presence certainly helped to kindle the importance of “Research to Practice”, which was levitated and to some extent satiated by a panel discussion on “Research to Practice to Research” conducted on the day one of the conference.

As for the operational activities, the regular election of

the society was held on time, and another dedicated group of members were selected for carrying on the division ahead. At the organizational level we are always challenged with maintaining our membership number and an active dialog between the membership and the executive committee. To address some of these issues a new ad hoc committee on membership and communication is recently formed. This committee will work closely with the ISOES Executive committee to undertaken activities such as re-vamping division’s social media presence, promoting ISOES to student organizations, scheduling of webinars addressing new and emerging issues in ergonomics and safety. I would like to encourage the members to participate in the division’s activities by proposing topics for the webinar, sending articles for newsletter and most importantly submitting their work for the upcoming ISOES conferenced scheduled on June 7-8 in Pittsburgh. The call for paper is scheduled to come out very soon and we welcome your submission!

Please remember to pay your 2018 membership dues:
<http://isoes.info/membership.html>

Special points of interest:

- THE 2018 CONFERENCE IS JUNE 7-8 IN PITTSBURGH
- STUDENT AWARD RECIPIENT HOSSEIN MOTABAR REPORTS ON THE 2017 CONFERENCE
- FREE MEMBERSHIP FOR STUDENTS GRADUATING THIS YEAR
- PLEASE REMEMBER TO RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP!

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Letter from the Outgoing President

Dear ISOES Members:
Greetings!

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for attending the XXIXth International Society for Occupational Ergonomics & Safety Annual Conference, held June 1st and 2nd at Four Points by Sheraton Seattle Airport South, Des Moines, WA. We had a total of 72 in attendance, including seven gracious exhibitors.

On June 1st, we had two keynote addresses. The first Keynote, by Dr. Anita Vasavada, Associate Professor, Washing-

ton State University, Pullman, WA was entitled "Neck Biomechanics for Ergonomics: Lessons Learned and Challenges Ahead". Dr. Vasavada enlightened us on the importance of understanding biomechanical consequences of flexed head and neck postures, one of the identified risk factors for neck pain. Using biomechanical models and experimental data, Dr. Vasavada also discussed future directions for neck biomechanics research in ergonomics, emphasizing the importance of utilizing both empirical and mechanistic approaches in providing the scientific foundation for evidence-based guidelines, interventions and technologies to reduce the incidence of neck pain.

Dr. Leslie Pickett, World Wide Senior Manager of Occupational Health, Amazon, Seattle, WA delivered the Dinner Keynote. She took us on the journey of her career path from patient handling to materials handling. Dr Pickett shared the differences as well as similarities that she discovered in shifting fields from Healthcare Ergonomics to Global Industrial Ergonomics. She highlighted the importance of identifying and implementing best practices that we always strive for at the workplace.

This year, we introduced a dedicated panel discussion on "Research to Practice and Practice to Research", chaired by Dr Sang Choi (University of Wisconsin-Whitewater, WI) and Jim Borchardt (Construction Ergonomics LLC, Bettendorf, IA). The distinguished panel consisted of: Dr

Jim Lin (SHARP, Dept. of L & I, Olympia, WA); Dr Robert Fox (General Motors, Warren, MI); Dr Jay Kim (Oregon State University); Dr Dianne McMullin (Boeing Company, WA); and Gwen Malone (General Motors, Warren, MI). In addition to presenting their work, the panelists discussed the importance of translating research into real world applications, and vice versa.



Rammohan Maikala
PhD
Providence Strategic & Management Services
Everett, WA



Dr Anita Vasavada

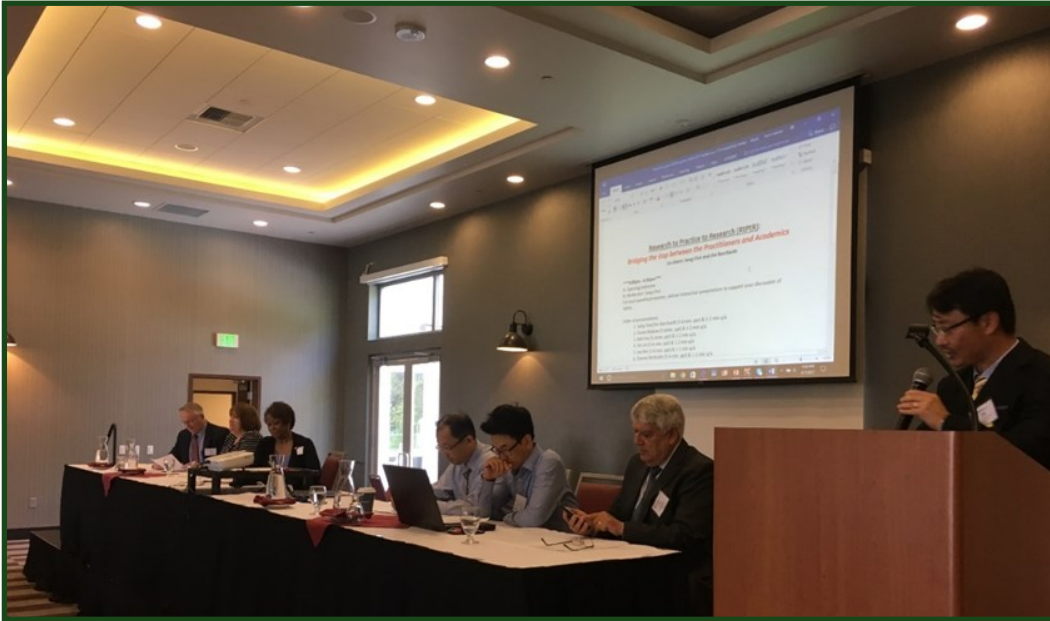
On June 2nd, the day started with a Morning Address by Dr. Jeff Fernandez, past President of The Board of Certification in Professional Ergonomics (2015-2016). Dr. Fernandez underscored the importance of having a professional certification in Human Factors/Ergonomics, and shared the nuances of the process for certification and examination with the attendees.

Additionally, we had 12 breakout sessions covering a wide variety of ergonomics and safety topics. Out of these 12 sessions, two were dedicated to student presentations that resulted in three outstanding papers. The best

paper was awarded to Mr. Hossein Motabar (West Virginia University, Morgantown, WV) for the paper, entitled "Gender Differences in Safe Loading Thresholds for Rotator Cuff Muscles". The first runner-up was Ms. Madiha Ahmed (University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, WI) for the paper, entitled "Injury-Specific Novel Safety Training Helps to Reduce Injuries in the Renewable Energy Generation Sector"; and the second runner-up was Ms. Hope Archer (Murray State University, Murray, KY) for the paper, entitled "Identifying Ergonomic Risk in Marching Percussion". Special thanks to Kinesis Corporation and Goldtouch for sponsoring

**"... WE HAD
TOP QUALITY
RESEARCH AND
PRACTITIONER
PRESENTATIONS
OVER 1.5
DAYS."**

Letter from the Outgoing President (continued)



Research to Practice and Practice to Research Panel



Dr Jeff Fernandez

prizes for the first and second runner-ups, respectively. I would like to thank the judges for evaluating the best paper (s): Dr. Bob Fox (General Motors, Warren, MI); Mr. Jim Borchardt (Construction Ergonomics LLC, Bettendorf, IA) and Dr. Divya Srinivasan (Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, VA).

For the first time, we experimented with two virtual presentations – one from Canada and one from the U.S. We would like to explore this option for future conferences as well. Overall, we had top quality research and practitioner presentations over 1.5 days. Thank you to all of the session chairs for a job very well done.

More importantly, I would like to take this opportunity to thank eight exhibitors (Platinum sponsors: Office Master; Alpha Modalities, LLC; Saturn Ergonomics Consulting, Erqo Squad; Bronze Sponsors: ErgoFit Consulting,

Inc.; ergoCentric; The Creative Office; Ergotron, Inc.). The conference program was structured for the attendees to have ample time to view and interact with exhibitors. My sincere appreciation also goes to an incredible group of student volunteers (Frank Ryou, University of Washington, Seattle, WA; Madiha Ahmed, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, WI; Kiana Kia, Oregon State University, Corvallis, OR; Dawn Ryan, University of Washington, Seattle, WA). Last but not least, a big thanks to the Executive Committee who worked tirelessly to make sure the conference was successful.

Well, now it time for me to pass the torch to Dr Ashish Nimbarde of West Virginia University, the current President and Conference Chair. See you in Pittsburgh in 2018.



Dr Leslie Pickett



Best Student Paper

First Runner-Up

Second Runner-Up

2017 ASSE Personal Development Conference

ISOES again promoted its Vision: “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” by exhibiting at the American Society of Safety Engineers’ Professional Development Conference in Denver, CO June 2017. The Sponsors of 2017 ISOES Conference held in Seattle, WA were prominently displayed on the back curtain. copies of all national/international ISOES

papers and student papers were displayed on the center table along with the winning student’s photo, Hossein Motobar (left) and ISOES Key Note Speaker, Jeff Fernandez (right). To highlight the international scope of ISOES’ Conferences, Jeanne Guerin’s Webinar was played periodically in both English and French. Many of the 5,500 ASSE attendees who stopped by our booth were impressed with contributions ISOES is making toward its Vision.



“I HIGHLY ENCOURAGE STUDENTS WHO ARE ACTIVE IN SAFETY, ERGONOMICS, HUMAN FACTORS AND BIOMECHANICS TO ATTEND AND SHARE THEIR STUDY AT THIS CONFERENCE...”

Letter from the Student Award Recipient

Hossein Motabar
Department of Industrial and Management System Engineering,
West Virginia University
Morgantown, West Virginia

I am an industrial engineering PhD student in the Human factors and Ergonomics laboratory at West Virginia University (WVU). In our laboratory, we work on the etiology and prevention methods for musculoskeletal disorders. We study the musculoskeletal risk factors and develop preventive guidelines with the use of biomechanical modeling techniques as well as electromyography, strength measurement and motion monitoring systems, that can be used in scientific research and occupational settings.

I attended the ISOES conference for the second time in 2017 and presented a study on shoulder muscles. In this study, we looked at rotator cuff muscles’ behavior under different levels of force. Our goal was to identify a safe loading threshold for each muscle based on the trend of fatigue development. We also looked at gender differences in terms of muscle strength, endurance and fatigue.

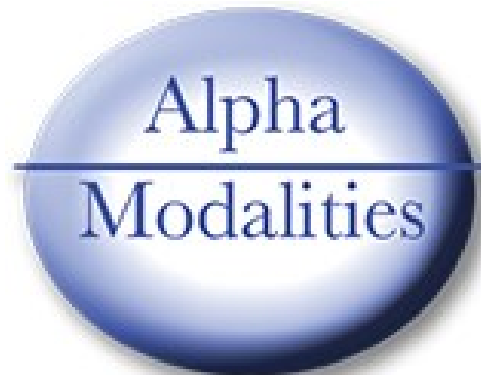
The ISOES conference gave me a wonderful opportunity to share this study with other peers and colleagues working in this field in both academia and industry. Invaluable feedbacks and suggestions from the audience showed the strength and improvable as-

pects of this study and gave me many ideas for future research. The professional and friendly environment of the conference allowed me to communicate and learn from experienced fellows and acknowledge the ongoing projects and studies in the field.

I highly encourage students who are active in Safety, ergonomics, human factors and biomechanics to attend and share their study at this conference to expand their knowledge of ergonomics. Lastly, I would like to thank my advisor and current president of ISOES, Dr. Ashish Nimbarde who has been a wonderful mentor and advisor throughout my PhD at WVU.

Thank You to our 2017 Conference Sponsors!

Platinum Sponsors



Bronze Sponsors

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XXX Annual International Conference International Society for Occupational Ergonomics & Safety

Call for Abstracts

Date & Venue **June 7-8, 2018**
Sheraton Pittsburgh Airport Hotel, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, USA

Deadlines

Abstract Submission (350 Words): Feb 28, 2018
Acceptance Notification: March 15, 2018
Final Abstract/Paper Submission: March 30, 2018

- **Extended Abstract** (maximum of 2 pages)
- **Full length Paper** (maximum of 6 pages)

Check www.iso.es/info/ for additional information

Submission Email iso.es2018conference@gmail.com

Industry	Topics	
Health Care	Distraction and Inattention	Mental Health at Workplace
Aerospace	Environmental Safety	Wearable Technology
Construction	Home Safety	Stress and Fatigue
Mining	Behavior-Based Safety	Patient Handling & Patient Safety
Transportation	Enterprise Risk Management	Aging
Manufacturing	Systems Safety	Obesity
Defense	Safety Climate	Built Environment and Health
Agriculture	High Reliability & Just Culture	Computer Input Devices
Fishing	Safety Excellence	Sit-Stand issues
Automotive	Automated vehicles and safety	Participatory Ergonomics
Utilities	Augmented Reality and	Remote Working
Warehousing	Workplace Safety	Employee Health and Wellness
Oil and Gas	Big Data Analytics for Safety	Return-to-Work
Forestry and Other	Other Safety issues	Other Emerging Topics

Student Award

- ISOES selects one student each year to receive a merit-scholarship waiver.
- Scholarship includes free conference registration, two nights at the conference hotel, & airfare to Pittsburgh (up to a maximum of \$400).
- Candidates must be currently enrolled in an accredited university pursuing an undergraduate or graduate degree with an ergonomics or safety focus.
- The scholarship recipient will be expected to attend the annual conference and present his/her research.

Virtual Sessions • **International Participants Only**

Final Abstract/Paper Submission Details

- **Extended Abstract** (maximum of 2 pages)
- **Full length Paper** (maximum of 6 pages)

ISOES Executive Committee

Dr. Ashish Nimbarte (President), James G. Borchardt, Dr. Marc Christian, Dr. Sang D. Choi, Steve Fleming, Murray Gibson, Dr. Rammohan Maikala, Dr. Anand Subramanian

Abstracts/Papers will be published in the conference proceedings.

Digital Conference Proceedings on USB will be available to all conference participants.