



THE PROFESSIONAL ERGONOMIST

Fall | Winter
2017

The Newsletter of the Board of Certification in Professional Ergonomics

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President's Message

by Cindy Whitehead MHS, CPE
President

The choice to pursue certification is a personal one. Certification is an investment in your career that shows to the outside world that you have demonstrated knowledge and practice in human factors/ ergonomics. The path to certification requires years of work and study, but what lies ahead once you have passed the exam?

Answering that question is the focus of my next year. Certified professionals provide a service to the public, industry, academia, and government. What service can we provide to each other? Your BCPE directors are working to bring more activities to the certification holder community. Whether you have just passed this year's exam or whether you were certified by portfolio review, we all have something to offer to each other. We have grown our careers in different ways, but continue to collect best practices and follow the latest trends and research. The Board is working on ways to strengthen our individual connections through



social media, mentorship, and outreach to professional groups and student chapters. We welcome your ideas, input, and involvement on working with each other and reaching out to potential applicants!

In addition to growing the brand, we must also protect the brand. You've worked hard to get certified so we are working hard to keep BCPE visible and relevant. Based on the increase in Job Postings on the BCPE website, employers are taking notice and requesting certified applicants! We are actively protecting our brand from organizations that represent themselves as providing ergonomics certification. We remain vigilant to those threats that degrade the value of your certification.

The Board continues to work towards providing validity, visibility, viability, and value in human factors/ergonomics certification. We put a lot of effort and hours into both the exam questions and the examination process. Maintaining the high standards required for accreditation with National Commission for Certifying Agencies (NCCA) requires a lot of work. To this end we have improved our practices to ensure business continuity. We have documented our policies and guidelines to be consistent and transparent. We stay fiscally responsible while also funding capital improvements. We incorporated your feedback from the certificant surveys to increase our presence online through our website, LinkedIn, and Facebook as well as in-person through conference attendance and student chapter presentations.

All this takes more than the energy and ideas of 11 volunteer directors. We need the help and energy of our 1300+ certificants to grow new ideas into successful, engaging programs. We welcome your involvement in mentoring, outreach to students and professionals, writing exam questions, and reviewing applications. This is how we as professionals give back. You also earn Continuance of Certification points for your volunteer activities to BCPE. Reach out to the BCPE office at bcpehq@bcpe.org if you can help!

Inspire others to choose the path to certification. Show them where the journey has taken you. Let's share our passion and experience with each other. Staying certified is a choice we continue to make. It's a community that we continue to grow. Contact me at cindy.whitehead@navy.mil with your suggestions and feedback. I look forward to meeting many of you in the next year!

Annual Meeting Highlights

The BCPE Board of Directors held their 2017 Annual Meeting in Austin, TX on October 13 and 14, towards the end of the Human Factors and Ergonomics Society Annual Meeting. The agenda for this meeting focused on thorough updating of all policies and procedures. The following summarizes the meeting reports and activities.



Left to right, top row: Robert Torres, Fadi Fathallah, Matt Pierce, Joe Cohen, Rachel Michael, Kari Babski-Reeves, James Rethaber, Mike Boggi, and Kris Rightmire.
Bottom row: Cynthia Rando, Jeff Kelley, Jennifer Law and Cindy Whitehead.

- From the beginning of the year to the meeting date, there were 62 applications: 18 Professional, 28 Associate and 11 transition applications.
- There was a discussion about improved information about the exam for the booth at conferences as well as other outreach opportunities to Professors and students.
- Joe Cohen presented an overview of the Strategic Plan (2014) to guide the meeting. Bob Torres discussed the concept of a balanced scorecard as a metrics method.
- Renewal of the Strategic Plan every 5 years was proposed.
- O*NET, the free Occupational Information Network online, sponsored by the US Department of Labor, reports a bright future for HFE professionals.
- BCPE LinkedIn continues to grow as certificants realize BCPE hosts their own page. This is fortunate since the BCPE LinkedIn page is an important communication forum for BCPE information, including job postings.
- The Board voted on the 2018 Executive Committee and made committee appointments.
- Board working sessions involved planning the Question Writer's Webinar and updating and aligning policies and procedures.

Activities at the 2017 HFES Austin TX Meeting

- BCPE hosted the Student Lounge for a day during the HFES Annual Meeting. Approximately 15 students stopped by to meet the Directors and learn about the BCPE. BCPE Director Fadi Fathallah gave an overview of the BCPE to students and held a Question and Answer session.
 - A BCPE booth was continuously staffed all week in the exhibitors' hall at the HFES conference due to the many certificants who generously volunteered their time. The booth drew many prospective candidates who were engaged in enthusiastic conversation by the volunteers.
- Thank you to all of you who gave your time to BCPE.**

- The Annual BCPE reception at the HFES Annual Conference was well attended. The catered networking event at the conference hotel welcomed all certificants and those interested in becoming certified. Thanks to all of you who came by.



During the reception, the Dieter W. Jahns Student Practitioner Award was presented to this year's winners by FPE President Bob Smillie and Karel Jahns, FPE Director and wife of late Dieter W. Jahns, one of the founders of BCPE.

Awards During Annual BCPE Reception

Dieter W. Jahns Student Practitioner Award

Congratulations to the Canadian research team from the University of Toronto, Carly Warren, Abeera Ali, David Gafni, Daipayan Guha, Mayan Murray, and Hendrik Ophardt. They are the winners of the 2017 Dieter W. Jahns Student Practitioner Award. The Foundation for Professional Ergonomics (FPE) sponsors this annual award named to honor Dieter Jahns, a lifelong advocate of the practice of ergonomics and a leader in ergonomics certification. The award was presented to Carly Warren and David Gafni by Dieter's wife, Karel, at the 2017 BCPE reception during the HFES Annual Meeting in Austin. The award included a \$200 check to each student and a complementary registration, provided by HFES, for the Annual Meeting.



Bob Smillie, PhD, CPE, President of FPE (right) with the recipients of the 2017 Dieter W. Jahns Award, Carly Warren and David Gafni.

The University of Toronto team are graduate students from various programs with a common interest in human factors engineering. The project began as an assignment for a Knowledge

Media Design course on human factors research methods in the Faculty of Information. Their project, “User-Centered Design Recommendations for Augmented Reality in Navigated Spinal Procedures” identified the components and cognitive steps required to carry out a navigated spinal instrumentation (NSI) procedure. The objective was to identify requirements for surgeons performing NSI procedures, to inform and direct the future design of a prototype augmented reality (AR) system; including the content to be displayed and the AR interaction techniques. Translation of these functionalities to a more efficient AR environment requires an understanding of the tools, cognitive steps and physical manipulations that are required to carry out an NSI procedure. The results define the best way to integrate an AR device into the surgical and training workflow, while providing useful and relevant information.

Carly Warren stated: “It was an honor to be presented with the Dieter W. Jahns Student Practitioner Award! It provided a great opportunity to meet experts in the field of ergonomics and to attend the HFES annual meeting.”

BCPE thanks Robert J. Smillie, PhD, CPE for providing this article.

Meet Our Directors

Incoming Directors

We welcome two new Directors to the BCPE board who started their term in the Fall of 2017, Jennifer Law, MS, CPE and James Rethaber, PhD, CPE.



JENNIFER LAW

Jennifer is Ergonomics Practice Leader and Sr. Loss control Consultant of Lockton Companies and has over 13 years of consulting and leadership experience in multiple industry sectors with an approach that emphasizes organizational culture, emerging risks, collaborative teams, workplace design, wellness and sustainability. She also serves as an advisor in product design and safety. Jennifer has a M.S. degree in Biological Engineering with a concentration in Industrial Engineering from North Carolina State University and a B.S. in Biology with a minor in Anthropology from UNC Charlotte. She also holds a Safety Management Specialist certification through the BCSP.

Jennifer has contributed to various industry speaking events, newsletters and publications, including a contributing editor for the National Safety Council’s Accident Prevention Manual for Business & Industry, 13th Ed. She is a member of standards committees for Business & Institutional Furniture Manufacturers Association (BIFMA), ASSE’s Women in Safety Engineering (WISE) Advisory Board, and is active in local child/youth ergonomics outreach initiatives.



JAMES RETHABER

James is the Director of the Ergonomics Division at Fit For Work in San Antonio, TX and also provides ergonomics consulting services for clients in various industrial settings. He has a BESS in Exercise Sports Science (Athletic Training), an MS in Exercise Physiology, an MS in Industrial Engineering, a Ph.D. in Human Performance Technology, and is currently working towards an MS in Applied Psychology. James is also a green belt in Six Sigma and Lean Design for Six Sigma and is a presenter at regional, national, and international ergonomics and engineering conferences, as well as a published researcher with research interests including performance and process improvement through ergonomics, ergonomic considerations for the aging population, anthropometrics in ergonomic design, and the physical demands analysis and job-specific post-offer test development.

James also serves on the industry advisory board at the Environmental & Occupational Health/Ergonomics Center at Texas A&M University – College Station, TX, and on the industry advisory board at the Ingram School of Engineering at Texas State University – San Marcos, TX.

Outgoing Directors

BCPE says farewell to Rachel Michael and Joe Cohen who each have served six years on the board. Both served as President during their terms and we are grateful for the service and leadership they provided. We are further thankful that at the moment both remain involved having rolled off the board; Rachel in Media outreach and Joe with the exam. Many thanks to both Rachel and Joe.



President Cindy Whitehead (L) thanking Past President Rachel Michael for her service on the Board.



President Cindy Whitehead thanking Joe Cohen, former BCPE President, for his service on the Board.

2018 BCPE Executive Committee

On October 14, 2017 at the annual meeting, the BCPE Directors elected the 2018 Executive Committee:

President	Cindy Whitehead, MHS, CPE
Vice President	Robert Torres, MS, CUXP
Secretary	Kari Babski-Reeves, PhD, CPE
Treasurer	Cynthia Rando, MS, MBA, CHFP

Certification and Exam Status

Certificant Totals

Through December 5, 2017 there were 1354 certificant:

908	Professional Certificants
208	Associate Certificants
184	Retired Certificants (Professional and CEA)
54	Certified Ergonomics Associates (CEA)

Examination

Exam questions are balanced across the core competencies based on the outcome of the importance and criticality of the topic as determined by the job analysis survey. The exam is equated with the previous exams so that it is no harder or easier than the previous exams. The BCPE exam reflects core knowledge and skills across the profession, which can be a challenge for candidates. The successful candidate is understandably proud to hold our professional designation.

Summary of fall exam session in 2017.

Applicant	# Candidates	# Passed	% Passed
Professional & Associate to Professional	37	12	32

The average pass rate for the two exams, Spring and Fall, in 2017 is 43% with a total of 29 candidates passing the exam in 2017. The lower percentage pass rate this fall was due to a high proportion of people retaking the exam during the fall sitting.

New Certificants

Congratulations to 12 candidates who successfully passed the fall exam and obtained Professional Certification. Since the last newsletter (6/23/17) to December 5, 2017, we welcome 21 new Associate Certificants.

New Professional Certificants:

Parag Bhojar, PhD, CPE
 Constance N. Brown, MS, CPE
 Lora A. Cavuoto, MS, CPE*
 Joshua D. Fick, MSc, CPE*
 Keri S. Harris, MS, CPE*
 Justin H. Joe, PhD, CPE
 Megan M. Kress, DrPH, CPE*
 Dan Nathan-Roberts, PhD, CHFP
 Ashley H. Pearce, MISE, CPE*
 Joseph N. Pratt, BS, CHFP*
 Joey Chung Yin So, PhD, CUXP
 Robert T. Ulrey, MS, CPE

* Associate to Professional transition

** Reinstated

New Associate Certificants:

Haleh Barmaki, MA, AEP
 Ryan J. Billich, DPT, AEP
 Nicolas N. Brown, BS, AEP
 Shawn E. Budden, MSc, AEP
 Li Cao, PhD, AEP
 Michael Clarke, MS, AHFP**
 Matthew S. Colenzo, BA, AUXP
 Brian J. Conder, MS, AEP
 Jonathan B. Eilenberg, BSc, AEP
 Jami Hatfield, MS, AEP
 Surabhi S. Kadam, BS, AEP
 Joshua T. Kersten, MS, AEP
 Peter P. Le, PhD, AEP
 William A. Luebke, BS, AEP
 Paul Makhoul, MSc, AEP
 Diana R. Mendoza, MS, AEP
 William S. Michelson, MS, AHFP
 Dan S. Moon, BA, AUXP
 Kendra L. Perdeaux, B.Eng, AEP
 Akash Shettannavar, MS, AEP
 Ryan J. Billich, DPT, AEP

Certificants No Longer Current (since last newsletter)

Colleen Britz
 David Housman

Rohith Nama
 Cal Orok

Les Wilder

Retired Status

BCPE offers a retired status for those certificate holders who no longer practice or who practice no more than 15 hours per month. Retired status is awarded upon approval of the certificate holder's statement of work plus payment of a one-time \$150 retired status fee.

Volunteering

BCPE is having a booth at a conference in the near future for which we seek volunteers:

Applied Ergonomics Conference (Atlanta, GA), March 26-29, 2018

Human Factors & Ergonomics in Health Care (Boston, MA) March 26-28, 2018

Please let us know if you are able to help us out. Those who are able to help with the booth may receive one CoC point for volunteer work. Email: bcpehq@bcpe.org

THANK YOU to the numerous certificant who have donated their time and talent to BCPE in the last year. We greatly appreciate your service to the organization and those seeking BCPE certification. If you are interested in volunteering, we welcome your involvement! We have standing committees related to **Communication & Media**, **Outreach** and **Certification** that would benefit from your assistance. If you would like more information about BCPE volunteer opportunities, please contact Kris Rightmire at bcpehq@bcpe.org.

FPE Student Award Submission Deadline

The Foundation for Professional Ergonomics has announced the 2018 deadline for the Dieter W. Jahns Student Practitioner Award. The award was created in honor of Dieter Jahns, a lifelong advocate of the practice of ergonomics and a leader in ergonomics certification. The submission deadline for the 2018 award is May 31. Notification of the winner will be sent by July 31, 2018.

The annual award is given to the student (or group of students) for a project that demonstrates the major practice areas of ergonomics: analysis, design, and evaluation. The purpose of the award is to advance professionalism in ergonomics by recognizing educational activities that demonstrate how professional ergonomists serve to make people's lives at work and at home healthier, safer, more productive, and more satisfying. The award is open to master's and doctoral students in ergonomics and ergonomics-related programs. Students who have completed their graduate degrees within one year of submitting are also eligible.

The award and cash prize of \$1,000 will be presented at the BCPE Reception, during the HFES Annual Meeting, October 1–5, 2018, in Philadelphia, PA.

As this is a practitioner award, the student (or students) should describe and document a research or intervention project that exhibits the following:

- The major practice areas of ergonomics: analysis, design, and evaluation
- Direct, practical application
- Final design recommendations or a description of how the resulting information can be applied to design.

Submissions can be made individually or as a group. They should provide adequate descriptions, illustrations or photos, and details that address the judging criteria. Entries will be judged by the FPE Board of Directors. Please go to www.ergofoundation.org for complete details on criteria and format.

Job Postings

Employers reach practitioners and Jobseekers find a job! Post available job openings at the BCPE Job Bank.

Why post in BCPE listing? Not all BCPE certificants belong to the professional societies or the same associations. By posting jobs at BCPE you reach all the certificants whom you know have gone the extra mile to distinguish themselves and become certified. By posting at BCPE, you are also demonstrating support for BCPE certification. Please continue to send your Job Ads!

Job Postings at BCPE are FREE. In addition, we draw attention to the job by posting on LinkedIn sites including BCPE LinkedIn.

Checkout the Job Postings at www.bcpe.org for posted positions.

Calendar of Events

BCPE 2018 Calendar of Events

April 1 - May 31, 2018	Spring 2018 Certification Examination Offering.
April 30, 2018	Application Deadline for Fall 2018 Certification Examination.
May 4-5, 2018	BCPE Mid-Year Business Meeting, Dallas, TX.
Sept 1 - Oct 31, 2018	Fall 2018 Certification Examination Offering.
October 2, 2018	BCPE Annual Networking Reception, Philadelphia, PA.
October 5 - 6, 2018	BCPE Annual Business Meeting, Philadelphia, PA.
Nov 30, 2018	Application Deadline for Spring 2019 Certification Examination

Professional Development Opportunities

The following lists of conferences, short courses, exam prep courses and webinars, as well as educational resources are provided as convenience to certificants. They are not reviewed or endorsed by BCPE. The Professional Development Opportunities are on the BCPE website under a tab '[Resources](#)' and regularly updated.

Conferences

2018

January [ICAHFE 2018](#): International Conference on Applied Human Factors and Ergonomics, **January 18-19**, London, UK.

- February [SeminarFest 2018](#): American Society of Safety Engineers, **Feb 1-8**, Las Vegas, NV, USA.
- [3rd Human Factors Engineering & Usability Studies Summit](#): **Feb 12-13**, San Francisco, CA, USA.
- March [ACM IUI 2018](#): Conference on Intelligent User Interfaces, **Mar 7-11**, Tokyo, Japan.
- [CHIIR 2018](#): Conference on Human Information Interaction and Retrieval, **Mar 11-15**, New Brunswick, NJ, USA.
- [iConference](#), **Mar 25-28**, Sheffield, UK.
- [HFES 2018 Human Factors and Ergonomics in Health Care](#): **Mar 26-28**, Boston, MA, USA.
- [AEC 2018](#): Applied Ergonomics Conference, **Mar 26-29**, Atlanta, GA, USA.
- April [2018 Safe Patient Handling and Mobility Conference](#), **April 16-20**, Orlando, FL, USA.
- [EHF 2018](#): Annual conference of Chartered Institute of Ergonomics and Human Factors, **Apr 23-25**, Birmingham, UK.
- May [AIHce 2018](#): – American Industrial Hygiene Conference and Expo, **May 21-23**, Philadelphia, PA, USA.
- [CHI 2018](#): Human Factors in Computing Systems, **Apr 21-26**, Montreal, Canada.
- June [Safety 2018](#): ASSE Professional Development Conference & Exposition, **Jun 3-6**, San Antonio, TX, USA.
- [UXPA 2018](#): User Experience Professionals Association Conference, **Jun 26-28**, Rio Grande, Puerto Rico.
- July [HCI 2018](#): Human-Computer Interaction International, **Jul 15-20**, Las Vegas, NV, USA.
- [AHFE 2018](#): 9th International Conference on Applied Human Factors and Ergonomics. **Jul 22-26**, Orlando, FL, USA.
- August [ICHFE 2018](#): 20th International Conference on Human Factors and Ergonomics, **Aug 6-7**, Amsterdam, The Netherlands.

[NECE](#): 2018 National Ergonomics Conference & ErgoExpo®, **Aug 21-24**, Las Vegas, NV, USA.

[IEA 2018](#): 20th Triennial Congress of the International Ergonomics Association, **Aug 26-30**, Florence, Italy.

September [MobileHCI 2018](#): 19th International Conference on Human-Computer Interaction with Mobile Devices and Services, **Sep 3-6**, Barcelona, Spain.

[IOHA 2018](#): The 11th International Occupational Hygiene Association International Scientific Conference, **Sep 24-26**, Washington DC, USA.

October [NordiCHI '18](#): Nordic Conference on Human-Computer Interaction, (Biennial), **Oct 1-3**, Oslo, Norway.

[HFES 2018](#): Human Factors and Ergonomics Society Conference, **Oct 1-5**, Philadelphia, PA, USA.

[NSC Congress & Expo](#): 2018 National Safety Council, **Oct 20-26**, Houston, TX, USA

Short Courses, 2018

April [Ergonomic Principles for Workplace Assessment and Design](#): **Apr 4-5**, University of Michigan, Grand Rapids, MI, USA.

[Work, Health, and Well-being](#): Framework Evidence and Applications **Apr 18-20**, Harvard T. H. Chan School of Public Health, Boston MA, USA.

May [Spring Ergonomics Short Course](#): - Putting Ergonomics into Practice, **Date to be determined**, Ohio State University, Columbus, OH, USA.

[Using the Three Dimensional Static Strength Prediction Program™](#), **May 8-9**, Center for Occupational Health and Safety Engineering. The University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI, USA.

July [U of M Week 1](#) Annual Human Factors Short Course (2018): Designing Systems, Products and Services to Make them Easier, Safer and More Effective for Human Use. **Jul 23-28** Center for Occupational Health and Safety Engineering. The University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI, USA.

[U of M Week 2](#) Annual Human Factors Short Course (2018): Designing Systems, Products and Services to Make them Easier, Safer and More Effective for Human Use. **Jul 30-Aug 3**, Center for Occupational Health and Safety Engineering. The University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI.

October [Fall Ergonomics Short Course](#): - Putting Ergonomics into Practice, **Date to be Determined**, Ohio State University, Columbus, OH, USA.

Exam Preparation Courses

[Ergo-Online Academy](#) A preparation course for the BCPE exam, offered online.

[CPEprep](#): Version 2, DataChem Software. For purchase.

Webinars

[UCLA Ergonomics Online Webinar Series](#), 2018, UCLA/ UC Irvine – Southern California Educational and Research Center, CA.

[HFES Webinar Series](#): Human Factors and Ergonomics Society.
Current webinars are open to public. Webinar recordings are available to members.

[Ergo Expo Webinar Series](#): produced by NECE. Free 60 minute webinars.

[IISE Webinars](#): Institute of Industrial and Systems Engineers.

Educational Resources

[HFES Educational Resource Listing](#), Human Factors and Ergonomics Society – a listing of educational opportunities of varying formats (degree, certificate, distance and short course) maintained by HFES.

[Environmental Health & Safety Courses](#), University of California, Davis - listing of Environmental, Health & Safety continuing and professional education course.

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Executive Administrator: Kris Rightmire, BS

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Kari Babski-Reeves, PhD, CPE, Secretary
Cynthia Rando, MS, CHFP, Treasurer

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Fadi Fathallah, PhD, CPE
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