



THE PROFESSIONAL ERGONOMIST

The Newsletter of the BCPE

Board of Certification in Professional Ergonomics • P.O. Box 2811 • Bellingham • Washington • USA • 98227-2811 •
Phone (360) 671-7601 • Fax (360) 671-7681 • e-mail: bcpehq@bcpe.org • http://www.bcpe.org
SUMMER 2001

VOLUME IX NUMBER 2

BCPE Web Site Redesign Underway

By Arnold M. Lund, PhD, CHFP, BCPE Director and Kris Alvord, BCPE Executive Administrator

BCPE is pleased to announce that after more than a year of planning and preparation, redesign of the web site is underway. Set to be launched this fall, the new site will showcase enhanced page design, improved site navigation, and increased services for both certificate holders and those interested in becoming certified. A number of features are being refined or added to the site. A "Certificate Holders-Only" section will provide certificate holders the ability to update their contact information, renew their maintenance fees, and access current and past issues of *The Professional Ergonomist*. An expanded "Search for Certificate Holders" section will allow for greater search capabilities, including such parameters as name, city, state, country, and areas of professional expertise. An online consultants directory will feature those certificate holders who work either full or part-time as consultants. An online job bank will assist employers in locating potential employees and vice versa. Additionally, the new site will be largely database-driven, so BCPE will be able to easily change or upgrade information as needed. A picture of the home page design is shown at right.

Preparation for the redesign initially began with listening to the concerns, comments, and advice expressed by certificate holders, as well as others who have visited the current site. Based upon this input, and BCPE's own desire to improve the site's appearance, usability, and functionality, a request for proposal (RFP) was drafted and distributed to solicit bids for creating the updated site. A small number of proposals were received and from these, BCPE selected a local web development company, Paige Data Management, to redesign the site. Since that time, Paige Data Management's lead programmer, Sydney McGrath, and BCPE's Executive Administrator, Kris Alvord, have been

working closely to iterate on the overall design with input from the Board of Directors. Oracle Corporation, thanks to the efforts of BCPE Director and Marketing Chair, Anna Wichansky, kindly supported a team of graphic designers who donated their time to create the page designs shown in this article.

The BCPE is excited about the redesign and strongly believes the new site, once completed, will better support and benefit certificate holders in their professional careers by assisting them in presenting their work to current and future employers; creating an increased demand for their services; and increasing the value companies place on those services. Should you have any comments, suggestions or recommendations for shaping the evolving site, please send them to either Arnie Lund, Web Site Chair, at alund@acm.org or to Kris Alvord, Executive Administrator, at bcpehq@bcpe.org. Any and all input is welcomed and appreciated.

The screenshot shows the BCPE website home page. At the top left is the BCPE logo. The main header reads "Board of Certification in Professional Ergonomics". On the right side, there is a navigation menu with links for "Home", "Contact Us", and "Help". Below the header, there are several content sections: "Who We Are" with a welcome message, "Join Us in Staying Healthy" with another welcome message, and a "Find Certificants" section with a search form. The search form includes a "Search by:" dropdown menu set to "Certification Level" and a "Search" button. Below the search form is a "Certificants Only" section with fields for "Name" and "Password", and a "Go" button. At the bottom of the page, there is a footer with the text "Last Modified: April 19, 2001 Copyright © BCPE 2001 Graphical Page Design Provided by Oracle".

Ergonomics in New Zealand

by Brian Peacock, PhD, CPE
Discipline Coordinator Science, NASA

What started out as a plan for a relaxing vacation with my wife ended as a superb vacation and the opportunity to meet almost the whole of the New Zealand ergonomics community. I would like to share some highlights of the trip with BCPE certificants. I took with me a slide show entitled "A Mission to Mars" – the human factors challenges of extended duration space flight. This space human factors thing is pretty broad and exciting – it covers the full spectrum of human factors challenges, except for those posed by gravity, until we go to Mars(g/3) or the Moon(g/6) again.

Our first professional stop was the Massey University Business School, Department of Management, where the human factors program is housed. The head of the Management Department is Tony Vitalis, who trained in ergonomics at Surrey in the UK. He is supported by Stephen Legg, head of the ergonomics program. Stephen has considerable experience in aviation physiology at the Royal Aeronautical Institute at Farnborough. The ergonomics faculty is completed by Ralph Sablein, an industrial psychologist. The Massey University ergonomics program is taught on various campuses, including Palmerston North, Wellington (the capital) and at the new Albany campus in Auckland. Also on campus is Graham Hunt, head of the Aviation Department and author of a book on aviation human factors.

Monday morning brought a tour of the robotics laboratory at the University of Canterbury. They demonstrated an innovative double tripod device that leapfrogged around the room carrying a load on the inner three legs. I can picture these devices hopping all over our warehouses. The controls challenge for uneven surfaces such as Mars would involve careful application of force feedback. The developers of this device scorned the inventors of the wheel.

The afternoon brought a meeting with Marion Edwin, president of the New Zealand Ergonomics Society. Marion is an enthusiastic occupational therapist who is pursuing graduate studies in ergonomics and ergonomics certification. The NZ Ergonomics Society is well established. It holds a conference once every 18 months and attracts both local and internationally recognized speakers. I was honored by being invited to present the plenary address at the November 2002 meeting. The NZ Ergonomics Society and their Certification Board are tightly connected. Marion saw no difficulty in the strong link between the professional society and the Certification Board. In any case, there are not many ergonomists in New Zealand and separation would be somewhat artificial and impractical.

Tuesday took us to Wellington where we had dinner with David Moore, next president of the New Zealand

Board of Ergonomics Certification. I learned that NZ has only twelve certified ergonomists – they are very selective!

Wednesday afternoon and Thursday morning took us to the Forestry Research Institute where the Center for Human Factors and Ergonomics (COHFE) is located. COHFE is a division of the NZ Government Forestry Research Institute. Historically, most of the work has been in the forestry domain, but the group is now being encouraged to apply their ergonomics knowledge to other areas including military, agriculture, fishery, manufacturing, service and transportation activities. Tim Bentley, Richard Parker, Liz Ashby, formed the nucleus of this outstanding ergonomics research group (check out their web site for details). Tim Bentley has a PhD in ergonomics from Loughborough and Liz and Richard also have connections with my alma mater – the birth place of ergonomics. Much of their work has been in the forestry industry – an industry marked by high danger, heavy physical work and heavy equipment, much of which is a familiar green color. Surprisingly, many of the problems stem from boredom and inattention, which can be an issue in the presence of chain saws. Thursday morning presented a second opportunity for the "Mission to Mars" presentation, which was again well received.

Our next stop was in Hamilton where we met with Sam Charlton, editor of the second edition of *Human Factors Test and Evaluation*. Sam works at Waikato University but lives on a farm with sheep, cows, horses, orange trees, massive oak trees and gum boots. Sam, who worked with the US Air Force and NASA for many years, waxed lyrical about the sight of Mir making its victory lap before missing the Taco Bell target.

Our final leg was to Auckland and the third presentation of "Mission to Mars" to the aviation and psychology students and faculty at the Albany Campus of Auckland University. Also at this site is the other branch of COHFE, where Tim Bentley, David Moore and David Tappin have their offices. David Tappin is the current president of the NZ Ergonomics Certification Board. These certified ergonomists also contribute to the training of Massey University students on all three campuses (Palmerston North, Wellington and Albany). I perused their course syllabus and material and was extremely impressed by its content. They use the book by Corlett and Wilson as their basic text, which reflects their British heritage.

The ergonomics certification process is similar to the European one (CREE) in that it requires academic training and supervised practice followed by documented experience. It differs from the US (BCPE) process in that it does not require a separate examination. My review of the NZ process indicates that their certification standards are as stringent as any in the world, and I would recommend that BCPE initiate discussions of reciprocity.

Online Resource Provides New Tool for Office Ergonomists

[Note from the BCPE Newsletter Editor: This press release is included in *The Professional Ergonomist* because it describes an especially useful web site developed by a multi-disciplinary group of recognized experts. We do not intend to routinely announce new web sites in *The Professional Ergonomist*.]

Office ergonomists have a new place to turn for reliable information, and a new tool to use when implementing an ergonomics program. HealthyComputing.com, a completely free resource whose founding advisory board includes Drs. Alan Hedge, Andy Imada, CPE, David Rempel, CPE, and Jeff Anshel, has been online since early April. The website contains comprehensive office ergonomics and health information, including tips and suggestions for workstation setup and usage, stretches and exercises, information about common MSDs, a section that provides common workstation causes of employee discomfort, and buyers' guides to virtually every office component.

"Our goal in developing the site was to finally provide an unbiased, comprehensive source for information about the prevention and treatment of computer-related health problems," said Dr. Alan Hedge. "We wanted a place where fulltime computer users, corporate ergonomists, health & safety personnel, and anyone who works in an office could turn for information critical to workplace comfort and health. This web site is dynamic, growing and expanding to give everyone access to the latest and best impartial computer ergonomics information," he added. To help keep the site current, HealthyComputing.com has formed an editorial board (which includes Dr. Anthony Andre, Don Morelli, CPE, physical therapist Jan Copeland, and author Deborah Quilter) and regularly features guest articles from accomplished experts and researchers.

Beyond being a great source for ergonomists to reference, many have found it to be a useful tool to integrate into their ergonomics program and materials. "We're finding that some ergonomists who are building or maintaining ergonomics training programs start by encouraging each trainee to spend some time on HealthyComputing.com to get acquainted with general principles and learn basic information like workstation setup and common hazards," said co-founder Michael Abramson. "This frees up a considerable amount of time for the professional to spend with employees, working one-on-one or doing evaluations where necessary."

To learn more, visit www.HealthyComputing.com. For ideas and suggestions about how you can integrate HealthyComputing.com into your training program, please contact Mr. Abramson at Michael@HealthyComputing.com.

BCPE to Host Seventh Annual Networking Reception

The BCPE together with Anacapa Sciences, Inc.; Ergoweb, Inc.; Liberty Mutual Research Center; Micro Analysis Design; Pacific Science and Engineering; and Steelcase, Inc. invites everyone to attend the seventh annual BCPE Networking Reception. To be held during the Annual Meeting of the Human Factors and Ergonomics Society (HFES) in Minneapolis, MN, the reception is scheduled for the evening of Tuesday, October 9, from 7-9 PM, in Ballroom Salon C of the Minneapolis Hilton. Dress is casual and the atmosphere friendly as colleagues and friends gather for conversation, food, and drink. Last year's event was well received with more than 150 professionals attending, so mark your calendar to join us in the Twin Cities. We hope to see you there!

BCPE Attends Intersociety Forum

BCPE participated in the annual meeting of the Intersociety Forum at the headquarters of the National Safety Council (NSC) on March 10, 2001. Created in 1974, the Forum provides organizations from the environmental, health and safety professions an opportunity to discuss and collaborate on matters of mutual interest and concern. Representing BCPE were Gary Orr and Kris Alvord, the BCPE Secretary and Executive Administrator, respectively. In addition to the BCPE and the NSC, attendees included staff executives and elected representatives from the American Board of Industrial Hygiene (ABIH), American Industrial Hygiene Association (AIHA), American Board for Occupational Health Nurses (ABOHN), American Association of Occupational Health Nurses (AAOHN), American Conference of Governmental Industrial Hygienists (ACGIH), Board of Certified Safety Professionals (BCSP), and National Society of Professional Engineers (NSPE).

Next year's Forum will be hosted by the American Conference of Governmental Industrial Hygienists at their headquarters in Cincinnati, OH, on March 8, 2002.

PSHFES Invites BCPE to Speak at Chapter Meeting

At the invitation of the HFES Puget Sound Chapter, BCPE Executive Administrator, Kris Alvord, presented information at PSHFES' June meeting on how to prepare for and achieve BCPE certification. Topics covered included an introduction to the BCPE, requirements for certification, and the benefits and value of becoming certified. A question and answer period followed, providing chapter members the opportunity to ask specific questions regarding application procedures and the written examination.

The BCPE extends a special thank you to the PSHFES for the opportunity to speak to its members about certification.

Highlights of BCPE Midyear Meeting

BCPE held its midyear meeting in Denver, CO, on April 27 and 28 of this year. Highlights of the meeting were:

- IEA Accreditation Guidelines were presented, and it was decided to put BCPE's package together and submit it for IEA professional certification endorsement. (Submitted June 30, 2001.)
- The Board adopted a 2001 Budget and approved renewal of the office lease for one year.
- The Board viewed and discussed the new page designs for the to-be-revised BCPE web site.
- Anna Wichansky demonstrated a new PowerPoint presentation for BCPE complete with video of CPEs and CHFPPs on the job.
- The Board endorsed the concept of the formation of the Dieter W. Jahns Foundation, but asked developers to provide more specificity in organizational framework and its technical products.

- Kris Alvord described BCPE's participation in the Entrepreneurial Studies Program from Western Washington University. BCPE's strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats were analyzed.
- The Board decided to make the newsletter an electronic publication.
- The Board directed BCPE Headquarters to move forward with development of an eligibility screening process.
- The Board supported developing an electronic directory for certificate holders to be downloadable from the "Certificants-Only" area of the web site.
- The Board continued refining re-certification concepts.
- The Board appointment of Steve Casey, CPE to the position of BCPE historian.

- The Board discussed finding sponsors for the yearly BCPE reception.
- Other items being worked on:
 - an ethics policy.
 - a policy to address links on the website.
 - refining the appeals process.
 - attempting to expand the pool of applicant evaluators and scorers.
 - a marketing brochure to potential employers of our constituents.
 - reciprocity with other HF/E certifying bodies.

Work Sessions were carried on by the Executive Committee, Marketing Committee, Exam Committee, and Nominations Committee.

The annual meeting was set for Minneapolis, MN, on Friday noon, October 12, 2001, and all day Saturday, October 13.

BCPE Congratulates Those Achieving Certification

Forty-one candidates successfully obtained certification so far this year. We congratulate these individuals on their achievement:

CPEs/CHFPPs

Magdy Akladios, PhD, CPE
Cindy R. Ching, MHS, CPE
*Brian N. Craig, PhD, CPE
*Martha P. Craig, MS, CPE
Michelle L. Cross, MS, CPE
Steven M. Davis, MEd, CPE
Cheryl R. Dudziak, MS, CPE
*Joshua R. Egbert, BS, CPE
Christopher S. Jackson, MS, CPE
*Sanjay T. Koli, MS, CPE
Roman G. Longoria, PhD, CPE
*James R. Mallon, MSc, CPE
Linda L. Martin, ME Des, CPE
Herbert E. Nwankwo, PhD, CPE
Brian C. Poggioli, MS, CPE
Dana L. Root, MS, CPE
Michael P. Roseman, MSIOE, CPE
Paul A. Schwab, BFA, CPE

Vesa P. Vannas, MSc, CPE
*Jessica Barlow Waller, MS, CPE
Benjamin R. Zavitz, BSc, CPE

*AEPs/AHFPPs transitioning to
CPE/CHFPP

AEPs/AHFPPs

Nazanin Dardashti, MA, AEP
Derek I. Dawson, BHK, AEP
Ted M. DesMarais, MS, AEP
Nathan B. Fethke, MSE, AEP
Catherine M. White, MSE, AEP
Kristianne Liebel, BS, AEP
Blake McGowan, BSc, AEP
Rhyne S. Rundell, MSIE, AEP
Antonio M. Silva, BSc, AEP

CEAs

Sam F. Bradbury, MA, CEA
Cynthia M. Burt, MS, CEA
Gloria M. Carter, BS, CEA
Suzanne M. Cresswell, BS, CEA

Karen B. DeChello, BS, CEA
Robert K. Lugenbeal, DC, CEA
Paul R. Reichert, BS, CEA

Those qualifying for associate certification by waiver of Part I of the examination are:

Robert C. Allen, PhD, AEP
Anthony B. Maronitis, MS, AEP
Kathryn K. Marshall, MS, AEP
Riley E. Splittstoesser, MS, AEP
Heather Starr, MIE, AEP
Rachel L. Ventra, MS, AEP
Jessica Barlow Waller, MS, AEP

No longer current in his certification is: Ram Bishu, PhD.

These changes bring BCPE's total number of currently certified to 936: 810 CPEs/CHFPPs, 87 AEPs/AHFPPs, and 39 CEAs.

The Professional Ergonomist Goes Electronic!

As you should already know, this edition of *The Professional Ergonomist (TPE)* ushers in a new era: the newsletter has gone electronic! Not totally, but it is in transition. Many of you are receiving this issue via email for the first time. This is only a first step in the plan to make the newsletter available online from the revised web site in a separate password-protected section.

For others visiting the site, there will be select *TPE* articles available in a 'public area,' and the opportunity to subscribe online to the newsletter.

As things do not happen with lightening speed in our mostly volunteer organization, *TPE's* present mode of .pdf attachment via email or paper via U.S. mail will likely continue for at least the next edition of *The Professional Ergonomist*. If you have not already done so, please notify us if you would like to receive the newsletter via email in .pdf format. Your feedback and comments are appreciated.

Upcoming Conferences

Safety of Modern Technical Systems, Saarbruecken, Germany, September 12-14, 2001. Visit the conference web site for more details (www.techsafe-2001.org).

Human Issues in Aviation Systems 2001, Toulouse, France, September 26-28, 2001. Visit the conference web site for more details (www.enac.fr/html/hias.htm).

2001 SELF-ACE Conference, Montreal, Oct. 3-5, 2001 (www.self-ace2001.org).

Society for Work Science, 5th Annual Conference, Marietta, GA, Nov. 5-6, 2001. Call Larry Aft for more information at (770) 528-7242.

National Ergonomics Conference & Exposition, Las Vegas, NV, Dec. 11-13, 2001. Visit the conference web site for more details (www.ergoexpo.com).

Annual Applied Ergonomics Conference, Baltimore, MD, March 12-14, 2002. Visit the conference web site for more details (www.appliedergo.org).

SID '02, Society for Information Display, Boston, MA, May 19-24, 2002. Abstracts due Dec. 1, 2001. For further information contact Evan Colgan, e-mail ecolan@us.ibm.com.

American Industrial Hygiene Conference and Exhibition, (AIHCE) 2002, San Diego, CA, June 1-6, 2002. (www.aiha.org/conf.html).

International Occupational Ergonomics and Safety Conference, Toronto, Ontario, June 10-13, 2002. For more details, see their web site (www.iso.es.org). Abstracts due November 29, 2001.

Application and Examination Statistics for 2000

Applications

Eligibility of an applicant to take the written examination is assessed through the submission of an application documenting the applicant's education, employment history, and work experience.

During 2000, BCPE received 96 applications: 45 CPE/CHFP applications; 3 AEP/AHFP to CPE/CHFP applications; 17 AEP/AHFP by examination applications; 10 AEP/AHFP by waiver of examination applications; and 21 CEA applications.

Examinations

Candidates for BCPE certification must pass a written examination on their knowledge, skills, and experience across the spectrum of the categories and topics of the Ergonomist Formation Model.

The table below summarizes the performance of candidates on the written examination for 2000.

Examination	No. of Examinees	No. Who Passed	% Who Passed
CPE/CHFP	30	27	90
AEP/AHFP to CPE/CHFP	7	7	100
AEP/AHFP	19	10	53
CEA	21	11	52

A Special Thanks to Exam Proctors

A special thank you goes out to the certificate holders volunteering this year to proctor the written examination. Proctors give not only their time, they also maintain exam confidentiality, ensure candidates are fair and ethical in completing the examination, and for particular offerings, provide the accommodations at which the examination is held.

Those who recently served as proctors are:

Mary O. Brophy, PhD, CPE
Joe R. Davis, PhD, CPE
Jack W. Stuster, PhD, CPE
William F. Cesearo, PhD, CPE
Hal W. Hendrick, PhD, CPE
Sheryl S. Ulin, PhD, CPE
Vincent M. Ciriello, ScD, CPE
Terry L. Morris, PhD, CPE
Scott A. Valorose, MS, CPE
Karen D. Cunningham, MS, CPE
Melvin H. Rudov, PhD, CPE
Chuck B. Woolley, PhD, CPE
Carol Stuart-Buttle, MS, CPE

THE PROFESSIONAL ERGONOMIST

The Newsletter of the BCPE

Summer 2001
Volume IX Number 2

Editor: Roger Jensen, PhD, CPE
Assoc. Editor: Norman Schwalm, PhD, CPE
Executive Administrator: Kris Alvord
Financial/Information Systems Manager: Karel Jahns

BCPE Directors:

Robert J. Smillie, PhD, CPE, President
David C. Alexander, MS, CPE, Vice President
Andrew S. Imada, PhD, CPE, Treasurer
Gary B. Orr, MSIE, CPE, Secretary
Steven L. Johnson, PhD, CPE
Arnold M. Lund, PhD, CHFP
James L. Smith, PhD, CPE
Carol Stuart-Buttle, MS, CPE
Anna M. Wichansky, PhD, CPE

Copyright ©2001, The Board of Certification in Professional Ergonomics (BCPE), PO Box 2811, Bellingham, WA 98227, USA; phone: 360-671-7601; fax: 360-671-7681; e-mail: bcpehq@bcpe.org; <http://www.bcpe.org>. Inquiries regarding editorial content, advertising, address changes and subscriptions may be directed to this address.

Board of Certification in
Professional Ergonomics
P.O. Box 2811
Bellingham, WA 98227-2811
USA

Upcoming BCPE Events

- | | |
|-----------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| October 7, 2001 | BCPE Exam in Minneapolis, MN, prior to the Annual Meeting of the Human Factors and Ergonomics Society. Deadline for application passed. |
| October 9, 2001 | BCPE Networking Reception, Minneapolis, MN. |
| October 12 & 13, 2001 | BCPE Annual Meeting, Minneapolis, MN. |
| December 10, 2001 | BCPE Exam in Las Vegas, NV, at the National Ergonomics Conference & Exposition. Postmark deadline for application: October 10, 2001. |
| March 11, 2002 | BCPE Exam in Baltimore, MD, at the Applied Ergonomics Conference. Postmark deadline for application: January 11, 2002. |
| April 8, 2002 | BCPE Exam at various locations throughout the United States and Canada. Postmark deadline for application: February 8, 2002. |
| June 2, 2002 | BCPE Exam in San Diego, CA, at the American Industrial Hygiene Conference & Exposition. Postmark deadline for application: April 2, 2002. |
| September 22, 2002 | BCPE Exam in Pittsburgh, PA, prior to the Annual Meeting of the Human Factors and Ergonomics Society. Postmark deadline for application: July 22, 2002. |