

Professional Growth and Development for Human Factors/Ergonomics Professionals

The mission of the Human Factors and Ergonomics Society is to serve and represent its members as the premier scientific, engineering, and professional practice organization for the human factors/ergonomics (HF/E) discipline. The local and international chapters of HFES allow for the fulfillment of goals by fostering collaboration, education, skill-building, and networking among professionals in a geographical area.

HFES chapters (and the Society in general) have a multidisciplinary membership that includes engineers, designers, scientists, researchers, educators, and HF/E specialists. They work in diverse business environments worldwide. Together they promote the discovery and exchange of knowledge concerning the characteristics of human beings that are applicable to the design of systems and devices

of all kinds.

Value of Chapter Membership

Today's complex human factors environment is greatly affected by legislation, education, and political issues. A forum where you can participate, voice your opinion, and make a difference is an important and necessary vehicle for every (HF/E) professional. HFES chapters provide that vehicle.

When you become a member of an HFES chapter, you are investing in your future. HFES chapters provide the opportunity to interact with peers, to exchange information, and to improve personal and leadership skills. Regional and local meetings, symposia, civic/community activities, and educational programs are the means by which members can enhance their professional expertise.

Professional Development

An important role for any professional society is to support the professional development of its members. In meetings and newsletters, the chapter can provide a forum for discussion and presentation of research, services, and products.

Some chapters offer symposia and workshops to educate members about aspects of the HF/E field and the people who work in it. Chapters often invite recognized experts and leaders to speak on a variety of topics, organize tours of local facilities, and provide opportunities for members with special expertise to share their knowledge at chapter events.

Chapters can collaborate with HFES and other organizations to afford practitioners, researchers, and academics forums for participation in cross-disciplinary professional meetings.

Promoting the Human Factors/ Ergonomics Profession

Chapters engage in programs for members to participate in their communities to foster HF/E activities in their local areas. These activities can include promoting HF/E courses in local colleges and universities, judging at science fairs, and representing the field at career days. Chapters can also help raise the awareness of the local business community about the benefits to be gained by considering HF/E in their products, services, and workplaces.

Networking

Meet HF/E and other professionals who live and practice in your area and participate in social and civic activities. Chapter members put you in touch with colleagues who are involved in different areas of the discipline.

Develop Leadership Skills

The leadership opportunities in chapters are a key stepping-stone for moving to the national and international arena, to be recognized and to make a difference on critical issues on a larger scale. This involvement also creates a pathway to enhance career prospects and build a career portfolio.



The Society and Its Chapters

Chapters are an integral part of the Society's visibility, success, and strategic plan. HFES supports chapters through the following activities:

- HFES provides the necessary documents to develop a viable organizational structure for its chapters.
- HFES facilitates the dissemination of chapter communications through a chapter president's list server and the sponsoring of an annual meeting of chapter presidents.
- HFES has a Chapter Affairs Committee that maintains regular communications with chapter leaders to help address challenges and opportunities.

- HFES can help chapters identify volunteer speakers.

- HFES staff assist with local chapter membership marketing to ensure the chapter's growth and influence.

Support your professional growth and development, and establish valuable and long lasting relationships through active participation in the largest multidisciplinary human factors/ergonomics organization in the world. Invest in your future! Join an HFES Chapter today.

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